I. DEFINITION

Client software, application used to interface with the World Wide Web, services, and applications.

II. RATIONALE

A standard browser minimizes requirements and resources for support, training, and application development.

III. APPROVED STANDARD(S)

World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) Standards

IV. APPROVED PRODUCT(S)

Microsoft Internet Explorer vendor supported version(s)
Microsoft Edge vendor supported Chromium version(s)
Google Chrome vendor supported version(s)
V. JUSTIFICATION

The full integration of browser technology into the functionality of the approved office suite indicates the adoption of a fully compatible product.

VI. TECHNICAL AND IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS

Web designers and developers should be cognizant of end users and not implement proprietary browser features, especially since many web services are offered to the public and are not limited to State government. Only vendor-supported browsers that are designated as compatible will be used with agency applications.

VII. EMERGING TRENDS AND ARCHITECTURAL DIRECTIONS

Microsoft Edge or Google Chrome are the standard browsers to be used within the State Agencies. If employees are authorized to use another browser (Firefox, Safari, or other browsers) they should be at the latest major release and must be patched regularly.

Agencies should consider moving to Microsoft Edge or Google Chrome to take advantage of the additional security and feature enhancements. Prior to this transition, agencies should test all critical applications and ensure compatibility with this new version. Furthermore, agencies should test and update their web pages to render properly in Microsoft Edge or Google Chrome.

VIII. PROCEDURE REFERENCE

There are no procedure references for this standard.

IX. REVIEW CYCLE

Six (6) Months

X. CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information, contact the ITA Staff at (208) 605-4064.

REVISION HISTORY

02/16/2021 – Removed Internet Explorer and added Microsoft Edge and Google Chrome as recommended browsers.
12/19/2017 – Updated Section IV. Approved Products.

07/01/2013 – Changed “ITRMC” to “ITA”.

04/02/2013 – Removed version 6, added version 8, 9 and 10 as approved and modified the emerging trends to acknowledge the use of other browsers but no support for them.

06/16/2009 – Added Procedure Reference and deleted Timeline.

01/23/2007 – Updated Approved Standard to include IE7 and updated Emerging Trends and Architectural Directions section.

09/13/2006 – Updated emerging trends to reflect the upcoming release of IE7.

04/25/2005 – Updated emerging trends to reflect current market position and to emphasize need for patch and update management.

08/25/2004 – Updated emerging trends to acknowledge security improvements available with future Microsoft Windows XP service packs.

Effective Date: October 2, 2001