

Identity on the Web

Project Higgins – the foundation for establishing new business to consumer relationships

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Agenda

- . Why?
- . What problem are we trying to solve?
- . Seven Laws of Identity
- . How does it work?
- . Current status
- . Higgins and InfoCard
- . Where next

Why?

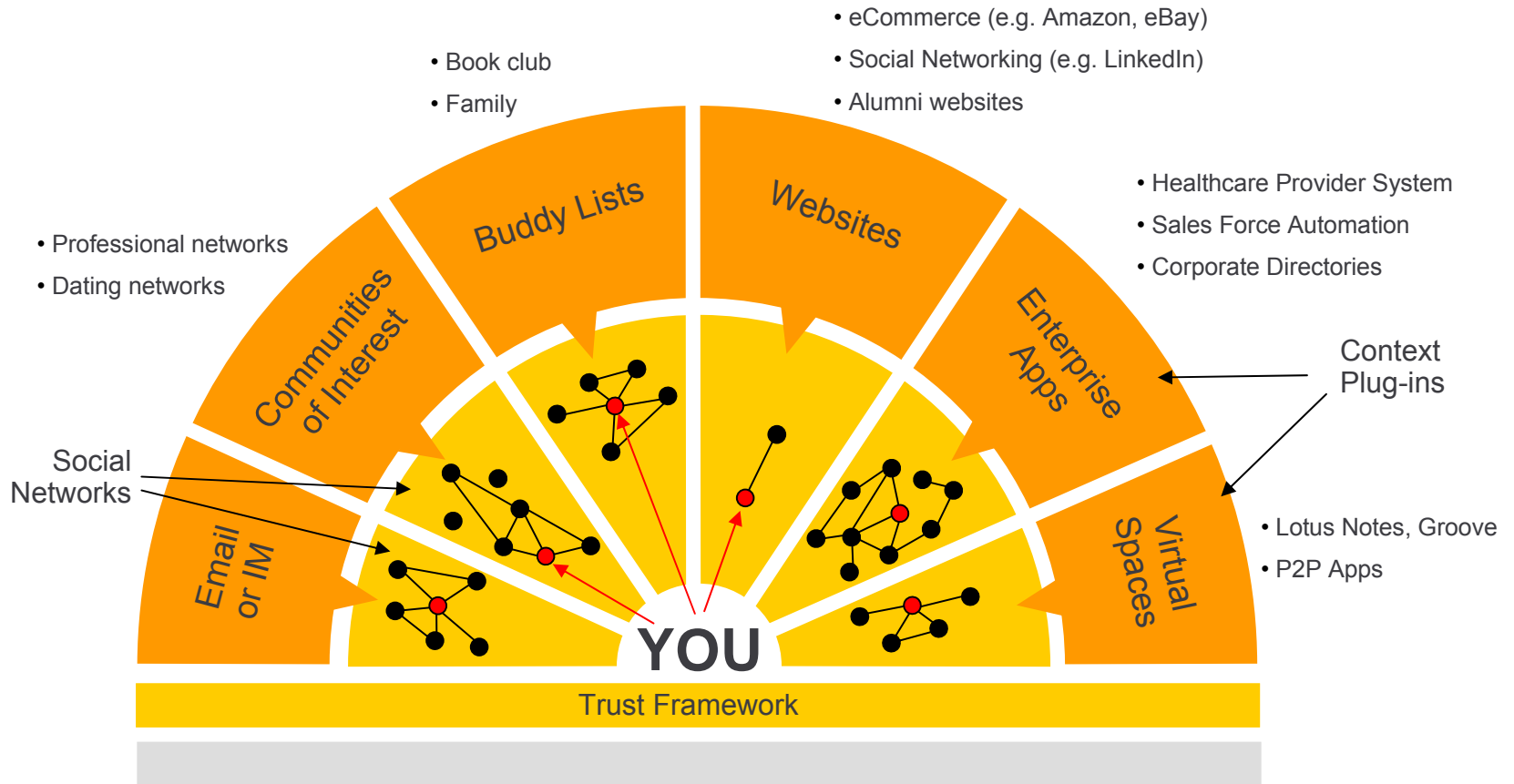
- In a recent survey , three times the number of respondents are more concerned about a cyber attack (i.e., attacked through networked devices such as computers, ATMs, mobile phones, PDAs, etc.) than a physical attack.
- 37 % of respondents indicated they will not provide credit card and financial information online.
- 43 % of respondents' top concern was identity theft. Other reported reasons include loss of money (24 %) and harm to credit rating (13 %).

• Source IBM, 2006

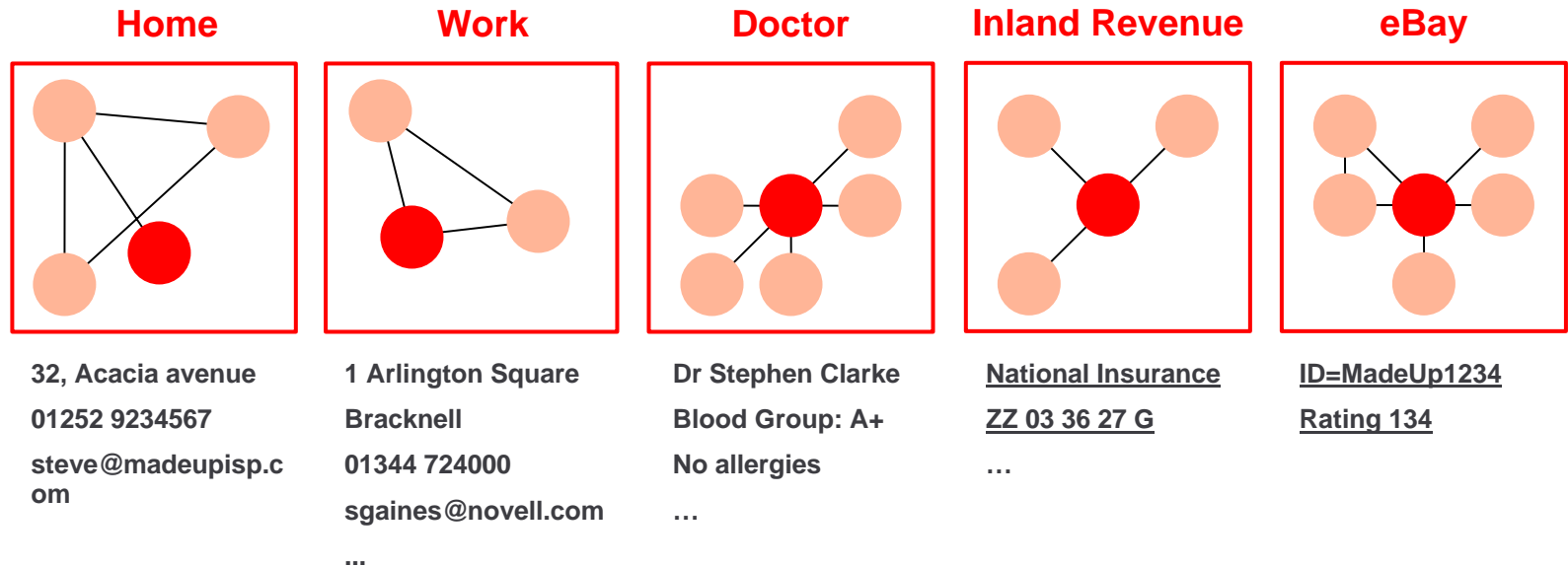
What problem are we trying to solve?

- *Identity theft is now a public concern and headline news*
- *Users dont manage multiple identities well*
- *Businesses want new ways to interact with their customers.*
- *Consumer Identity shouldnt be owned by a corporation*
- *Addressing the needs of 'The Long Tail'*

Multiple Contexts



Different attributes for every context



This enables what you do want: *the right people to find you, have what's appropriate be visible, etc.*

Seven Laws of Identity

- . 1. User Control and Consent
- . 2. Minimal Disclosure
- . 3. Justifiable Parties
- . 4. Directed Identity
- . 5. Pluralism of Operators and Technologies
- . 6. Human Integration
- . 7. Consistent Experience

The SocialPhysics project

The goal of SocialPhysics is to give people more control over their digital identities

Affiliated with the Berkman Center for Internet & Society at the Harvard Law School

Higgins is part of the SocialPhysics work

Sponsored by Parity Communications.

Higgins Trust Framework

A mouse with a long tail...



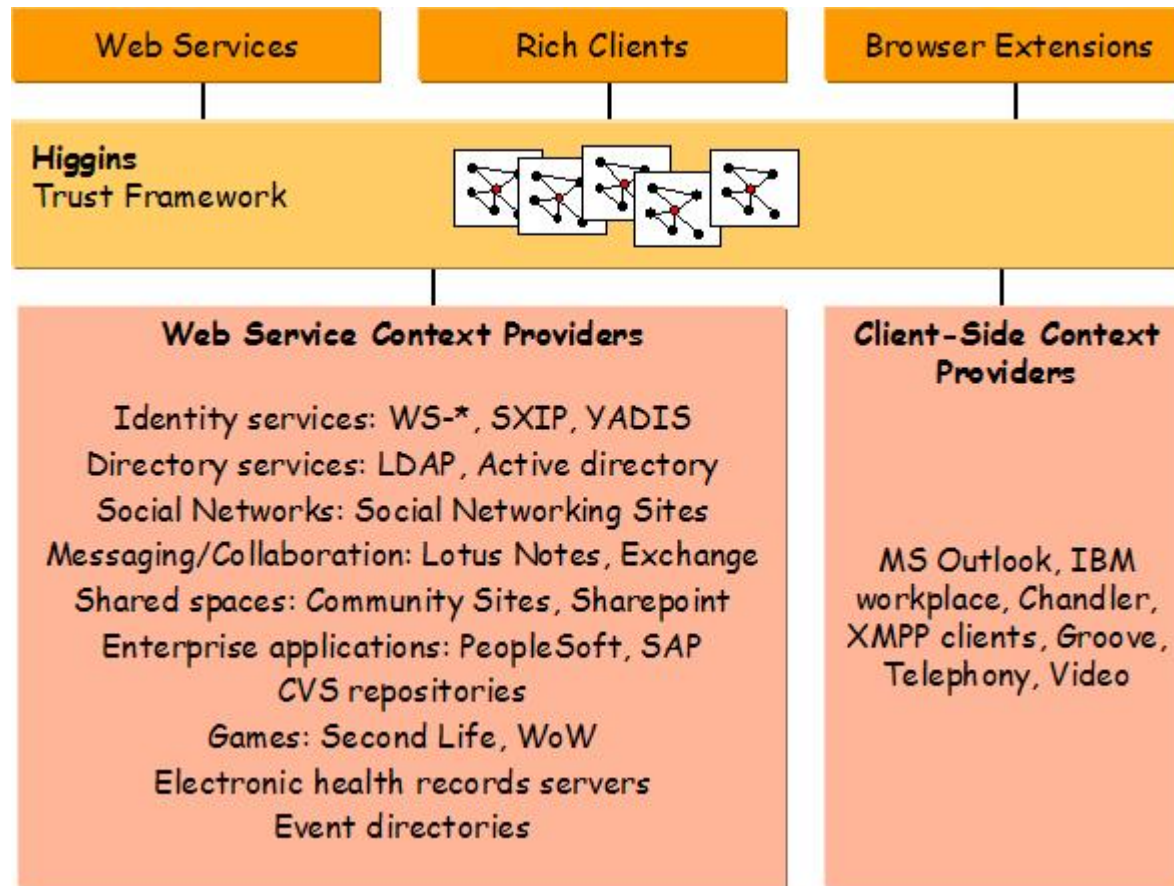
What is Higgins?

- Higgins is a software framework that integrates
 - *identity* data
 - *profile* data
 - *relationship* data
- within and across multiple systems
- Applications written to the Higgins API can virtually integrate the identity, profile, and relationship information across these heterogeneous systems
- Using context providers, systems (e.g. Microsoft/IBM WS-*, LDAP, email, IM, etc.) can be plugged into the Higgins framework

What can it be used for?

- To insulate yourself from the complexities of multiple identity management systems
- To create a virtual integration (federation) of identity, profile and/or relationship information across heterogeneous systems
- Projects we are collaborating with/leveraging
 - Equinox
 - ECF
 - EMFT

How it works..



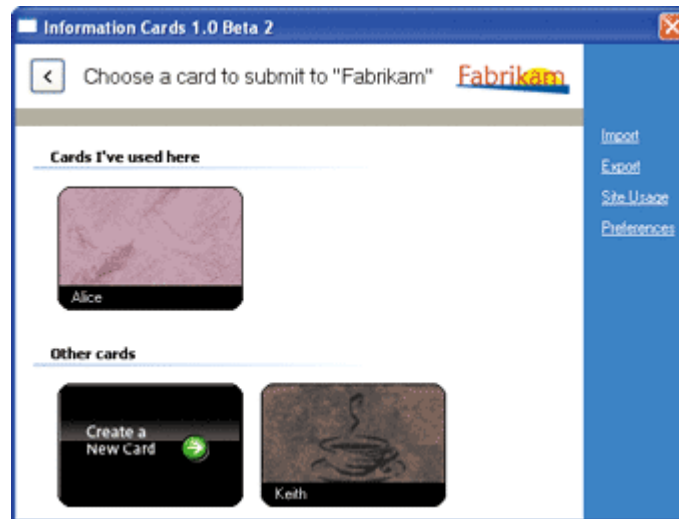
How it works (contd).

- Higgins breaks up users' identity information into appropriate pieces
- Enables them to determine who can access what parts of their identity information
- People will be able to make pieces of their identity information available as they choose

User-centric Identity Management

- Can integrate identity, profile and relationship data across contexts
- Can maintain privacy and anonymity
- “Open Source Initiative to Give People More Control Over Their Personal Online Information”

What about InfoCard?



Higgins Project Summary

- Open source framework with Java Reference implementation
- Introduces a high level Context abstraction
- Consistent, high level API integrates across heterogeneous systems and multiple identity systems
- Unifies directories, social networks, and collaboration spaces
- Makes it easy to manage identity, profile, reputation, and relationships across contexts
- Extensible through plug-ins
- Check us out at www.eclipse.org/higgins

Summary

- Identities should be owned by individuals, not corporations
 - Open Source is a great vehicle for this
- Widespread industry support including Novell, IBM
 - Microsoft part of the discussion
- The goal?
 - Simplifying and securing the Web for users



Questions

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