FAST is Making Strides in 2020

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the work completed by the FHIR at Scale Taskforce (FAST) between January and July 2020.

Despite COVID-19, FAST members continued with the plan presented in January, specifically to obtain additional industry subject matter expert (SME) input to further refine the taskforce proposed solutions to FHIR scalability challenges. The feedback received through these SME Sessions will be advancing the taskforce proposed solutions into recommended solutions and support the development of the FAST Action Plan. The FAST Action Plan, with an initial draft targeted for September, is intended to chart the next steps for the FAST solutions and to communicate the taskforce recommendations to the industry.

Key Accomplishments Mid-Year 2020

The timeline below details the work and accomplishments to date. The level of effort ramped up dramatically April-July with coordination efforts to finalize the v2 proposed solutions, plan, schedule and execute on the 3-hour SME Panel Sessions and the additional preparatory work. The level of work required additional support staff and time.
Where Are We in the FAST Solution Development Process?

As reflected in the FAST solutions development process, the taskforce continued with the collaborative and iterative approach, engaging a select and representative group of industry experts through a series of five guided discussion panels.
Subject Matter Expert Panel: Planning, Scheduling and Execution

The SME Panel Sessions are a key component in the FAST solutions process. SMEs were invited to provide their individual expert opinion and guidance on feasibility, unintended consequences, stronger alternate approaches and best implementation path forward for the FAST proposed solutions.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic impact on priorities, workloads and schedules, the taskforce members continued to dedicate a large amount of time to solution revisions and content development, to better highlight the proposed solutions scope and goals and to support focused discussion with the SMEs. Version 2 of the taskforce proposed solutions were leveraged in preparing the SME panels presentation content, discussion items and feedback request. Previously collected input, through the Fall 2019 Technical Learning Community (TLC) webinar series, continued to be reviewed by the Tiger Teams and incorporated in the version 2 of the FAST-proposed solutions. This process entailed many hours of collaboration, refinement and work to gain consensus.

In addition, a large amount of time and effort on the side of the FAST Chief Architects, Tiger Team leads, ONC staff, and the Point-of-Care Partners (POCP) contractor team, was dedicated to nominating, deliberating and coordinating with chosen SMEs to plan, schedule, prepare and deliver the expert panel sessions.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 149 SMEs were nominated
- 84 SMEs were invited to participate
- 315+ slides were developed
  - 13 proposed solutions
- SMEs, in total, contributed 362 hours of their expertise
  - 5 SME Prep Sessions
  - 8 SME Sessions
- 1,262 contractor hours between Jan-June were used
- The Chief Architects and Tiger Team volunteer members ramped up their work spending countless hours preparing for and attending SME Sessions
Process for Executing SME Sessions

SME Nominations

- SMEs were nominated based on their background and expertise with input from the FAST Executive Committee members, FAST Coordinating Committee members, FAST Chief Architects, Tiger Team leads and FAST ONC project leads

Key Considerations for SME Selection

- The following criteria were considered:
  - Individuals were not involved in the initial solution creation but known to have in-depth knowledge of the challenges being addressed and the technical and/or policy considerations to solve them
  - Being an industry decision maker able to bring a fresh perspective, sometimes outside of healthcare, on ways to strengthen the solutions

Scheduling Prep & SME Sessions for Each of the FAST Focus Areas

Selected SMEs were invited to attend:

- One-hour preparatory session (FAST overall goals and approach, overview of the solution, introductions)
- Three-hour discussion session (Tiger Team led solution overview & discussion)
- Two-hour follow on sessions to continue the discussion, when necessary

SME Session Format & Materials Development

- The SME Panel Sessions were *by-invite only*, seeking expert opinion without attribution to any one person or organization, allowing for a free conversation and quality feedback
- FAST Tiger Teams and POCP contract staff, streamlined the presentation content to effectively communicate the technical barriers being considered and the proposed solutions in a manner that would support discussions and feedback
- Each session’s scope and goals targeted to but not limited to:
  - Reach consensus
  - Identify potential alternative approaches
  - Identify approaches, barriers and requirements to implementation
- SME feedback captured during each session through detailed note-taking by the contract staff will support solutions refinement moving forward
SME Panel Sessions Rosters

Convened by ONC, the five expert panel sessions were facilitated by the FAST Chief Architects, Patrick Murta and Paul Oates together with the Tiger Team Leads and key Tiger Team members for each focus area. Tiger Team members, other industry professionals and ONC representatives observed the sessions.

A National Solution for FHIR
Endpoint Discovery

Alix Goss, ONC FAST Tiger Team Lead
Bob Dieterle, ONC FAST Tiger Team Lead
Celine Lefebvre, American Medical Association
Dr. Steven Waldren, American Academy of Family Physicians
Terry Cunningham, American Hospital Association
Dave Cassel, Carequality
Didi Davis, Sequoia
Paul Wilder, Commonwell
Scott Stuewe, DirectTrust

Rim Cothren, California Association of Health Information Exchanges / eHealth Exchange
Dan Chaput, HHS I ONC
Alexandra Mugge, HHS I CMS
Steven Lane, Sutterhealth
Matt Schuller, Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
Hans Buitendijk, Cerner & Commonwell
Ron Urwongse, Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare, Inc

Individual Identity Management

Meena Jambulingam, ONC FAST Tiger Team Lead
Carmen Smiley, ONC FAST Tiger Team Lead
Mary Beth Kurilo, American Immunization Registry Association (AIRA)
Lauren Riplinger, American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA)
Jason Vogt, CommonWell
Eric Heflin, eHealthExchange
Marisa Bass, CLEAR
Scott Schumacher, IBM
Joaquim Neto, Verato
Colin Wallis, Kantara
Blake Hall, ID.me
Josh Mandel, Microsoft Healthcare
Stan Huff, MD, Intermountain Healthcare
Ricky Bloomfield, Apple
Dan Sanders, Anthem
Matt Doyle, Epic
Drew Torres, Cerner
Shaun Grannis, MD, Regenstrief
Abel Kho, MD, Northwestern University
Karly Rowe, Experian Health

Scalable Security Solutions

Luis Maas, ONC FAST Tiger Team Lead
Brett Stringham, ONC FAST Tiger Team Lead
Matt Randall, Cerner
Jason Vogt, CommonWell
Mark Scrimshire, NewWave
Calvin E Beebe, Mayo Clinic

Joshua Mandel, Microsoft Healthcare
Catherine Schulten, AllClear ID
Avinash Shanbhag, HHS I ONC
Aman Raheja, Humana
Mike Donnelly, Epic
Scott Stuewe, DirectTrust

FHIR Testing & Certification

Lee Barrett, ONC FAST Tiger Team Lead
Sandy Vance, ONC FAST Tiger Team Lead
Wayne Kubick, HL7
Robert Bowman, CAQH
Vik Sachdev, EDIFECs
Mario Hyland, AEGIS
Lesley Berkeyheiser, EHNAC

Matthew Rahn, HHS/ONC
John Snyder, HHS I ONC
Tim Dunnington, Healthcare HCA
Hans Buitendijk, Cerner
Sharon Muscatell, SHIEC
Scott Stuewe, DirectTrust
Didi Davis, Sequoia
Dave Cassel, Carequality

Reliable Transaction Exchange

Durwin Day, ONC FAST Tiger Team Lead
Patrick Murta, ONC FAST Chief Architect
Henry Meyne, Availity
Beth Clapper, Change Healthcare
Robert Bowman, CAQH
Jason Vogt, CommonWell/Meditech
Eric Heflin, eHealth Exchange
John Kelly, EDIFECs
Alix Goss, Imprado
Alex Kontur, HHS I ONC
Mike Cabral, HHS I CMS
Amit Shah, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida
Michael Gould, Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
Matt Doyle, Epic
David Turvey, Cerner
Mary Kay McDaniels, Cognosante
FAST Community Engagement Continues!

While we finalized V2 of the FAST proposed solutions and prepared and executed on the SME Panel Sessions, we continued to engage with the industry.

2020 January to June FAST Community Engagement

(Click links below to go to event pages)

- EPIC User Group
- EHRA Monthly General Membership Meeting
- HIMSS Interoperability & HIE Community Roundtable
- Health Datapalooza
- HIMSS Presentations (held virtually in light of HIMSS cancellation)
- National Interoperability Collaborative Webinar
- AHIP Work Group Session
- Small group, closed meetings (with organizations like Carequality, Commonwell and FAST leads) on select topics, potential collaborations and validation

What’s Next?

The FAST Team will be synthesizing feedback from each of the SME Sessions into a summary report which will be distributed to participating SMEs and posted on the SME Panel Session page on confluence. Tiger Teams will be analyzing the feedback and incorporating it into Version 3 solutions documents in parallel to the development of the FAST Action Plan. The Action Plan will outline recommended solutions and the path forward.

The FAST Team looks forward to providing you with updates along the way!