Islands of Automation

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Systems Work Well Internally

- Organizations automate their own forms, workflows, rules, and decisions
- Systems use locally selected Data Models, Vocabularies, platforms, and technologies
- Governance reflects the requirements and Authority of each Domain
- Individual implementations become optimized for their immediate mission

Federation Remains Difficult

- Equivalent information uses different Structures and Vocabularies
- Identical terms may represent different concepts
- Different terms may represent the same concept
- Interpretation rules remain embedded in implementation-specific software
- Interfaces and mappings require repeated bilateral negotiation
- Human intervention remains necessary at organizational and System boundaries

Operational Consequences

- Integration costs increase as the number of participating Systems grows
- Changes in one System can invalidate established mappings
- Provenance and Interpretive Authority become difficult to trace
- Results may change without a visible change to the exchanged Data
- Each new federation risks becoming another custom implementation

Local automation does not automatically produce federated interoperability.

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