



## National Address Management Framework (NAMF)

**AIM: One address = one location**

### Why addresses are important?

Correct addresses (mailing addresses or location-based addresses) benefit everyone in the community; whether public or private sector organisations, small to medium enterprises, industry associations, not-for-profit organisations or individuals.

The use of correct address information improves efficiency, reduces costs and increases the likelihood of preserving life and property.

**In March 2009, the West Australian Public Sector Commission and Landgate invited 28 agencies to participate in an address data quality survey. The 20 survey responses received identified the critical nature of address information to public sector entities: street and postal address were identified as fundamental to a citizen's ability to interact with Government. (Public Sector Commission, 2010)<sup>1</sup>**

**The New South Wales Addressing Working Group surveyed the needs of major stakeholders in their use of addresses: 40 targeted users from all levels of Government and the private sector participated in the survey. Over 75% of those surveyed believed that correct addresses were "business critical" to their organisation, with 54% stating that problems relating to addresses frequently affect the delivery of their organisations products and services. Just over 45% believed that these problems resulted in "high" costs for their organisation. (NAWG, 2010)<sup>2</sup>**

Anyone who needs to contact a member of the community to provide a product or service needs to be working with accurate address data. These services could include:

- Disaster response and emergency dispatch
- Natural resource management
- Health and human services
- Electoral services
- Managing urban congestion and intelligent transport planning
- Utility and communications services
- Law enforcement
- The delivery of purchases made online

<sup>1</sup> Source: [www.publicsector.wa.gov.au/.../Address%20Management%20Policy.pdf](http://www.publicsector.wa.gov.au/.../Address%20Management%20Policy.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Source: *Current Addressing Practices in Australia, NAWG Discussion Paper: 2010-01*



## How can the National Address Management Framework help?

NAMF is a national, coordinated approach to address management.

It is a consistent, standards-based framework that guides the process for verifying addresses and provides a standard for exchange of address data.

NAMF provides a reliable and consistent interpretation of Australian geo-coded, location-based and postal addresses through the application of national guidelines that produces a greater degree of accuracy than is possible with current address validation systems.

NAMF is a technical framework – a federated model – that delivers standards to improve the interoperability of address information.

NAMF links to a number of different data sets that form a single authoritative data source, which is used to validate the accuracy of addresses.

This authoritative data source forms the single point of truth for users of a NAMF-compliant framework to validate addresses.

**The ultimate aim of this nationally-consistent, standards-based framework is to provide a unique address where one address = one location.**

The technical framework for NAMF consists of a [single authoritative address data set](#), [address data interchange standard](#) and [web services specification](#). The single authoritative address data set consists of:

- For **location address** operations and functions including address validation – the Geo-coded National Address File (G-NAF) from PSMA Australia.
- For **postal delivery** operations and functions - the Postal Address File (PAF) from Australia Post which is provided by accredited Address Matching Approval System (AMAS) providers for Australia.

G-NAF and PAF provide complementary location and postal address services and together provide a complete and authoritative source of addressing data.

The address data interchange is based on AS4590-2006 and covers the interchange of client information and the compliant xml schema for interchange of names and addresses (xml schema [available from ANZLIC](#)).



The web services specifications covers the standards and specifications for web services to support core address management and operational functions. A [web developer's guide](#) is also available.

**It should be noted that:** Australia Post maintains and distributes the PAF through a set of third party providers. Access to this data is for the purposes of validating a customer postal delivery address and ultimately supplying a Delivery Point Identifier (DPID). The ability to print a DPID on mail gives the customer access to postage discounts. The use of the PAF is essential for government agencies wanting to provide efficient postal operations.

The PAF is an authoritative source of postal delivery addresses for Australia. Only AMAS certified matching software is allowed to allocate DPIDs. Australia Post controls the allocation and use of DPIDs. The Australia Post data set:

- is the only source of DPIDs;
- is concerned with postal delivery address only;
- has well developed, understood and documented postal delivery address validation processes.

### Endorsement of NAMF

The Ministerial Online and Communications Council (a Ministerial Council of the Council of Australian Governments) endorsed the NAMF at its meeting on 12 December 2008. This means that NAMF is to be implemented by the Commonwealth Government and the Governments of all States and Territories.

### Compliance with NAMF

ANZLIC, the Spatial Information Council, commissioned the development of a NAMF compliance framework to enable users to ensure their location address validation services are compliant with NAMF. As it is the location address for which G-NAF is the authoritative data set, the PAF (which is used for postal delivery addresses) is not included in the compliance framework. The NAMF compliance framework has been developed and is available now.

### Glossary of Terms

A [glossary of terms](#) specifies the standardised and agreed language used in the framework.