

HMOS: Her Majesty's Orthography Service

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Ministry of Truth
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As multimedia computing becomes pervasive throughout the land we are faced with an ever-darkening national tragedy. Our precious pristine bandwidth is being sullied by examples of poor spelling, abysmal layout, muddy images, and noisy music. So battered are our bytes that, without prompt and effective remedial action by the Government, our nation risks becoming a laughingstock amongst the cyberati.

Moreover, our precious national resources are being wasted. In the timeless search for correct spelling alone consider that there are at least 10^7 personal computers in the UK, that each of these personal computers has at least one English dictionary, and that each English dictionary occupies perhaps 2×10^5 bytes of rotating storage. So in aggregate at least 2×10^{12} bytes of dictionary are spinning around in the UK at any one time. These dictionaries are redundant, incomplete, and obsolete. They also contribute to the nation's angular momentum and therefore to global warming.

To address these problems, and others, we are pleased to announce the formation of HMOS: Her Majesty's Orthography Service. HMOS is connected via high-capacity routers to the national Internet backbone. HMOS offers data filtering and correction services to all comers, and often entirely free of charge.

Here is how HMOS works. Users send Raw Data Objects to HMOS either by default routing (in which case HMOS services are free) or manually (in which case there is a small charge). HMOS's modern operations center in Router-on-Thames is staffed 24 hours a day, every day of the year, by teams of lexicographers, editors, fact checkers, linguists, graphics artists, imagery experts, recording engineers, and analysts. These trained experts inspect and massage the Raw Data Objects, removing spelling errors, spacing anomalies, errors of fact, background noise, unwanted echoes, and so forth. By the time they are done, and they work very quickly, the Raw Data Object has been transformed into a Thing of Beauty. This Thing of Beauty is digitally signed with HMOS's private key and returned to the user for approval.

The user may then send the signed Thing of Beauty to its intended recipient. HMOS's signature on the Thing of Beauty acts as a seal of approval. It ensures preferential routing through the national information infrastructure. As an added benefit we guarantee that messages carrying HMOS's digital signature will forever be exempt from any key escrow requirement.

So clean up your act. Avoid embarrassing gaffes. Get better networking service. Try HMOS, where our motto is "New Bytes for Old." To sign up complete the application in triplicate at <http://www.hmos.gov.uk>.