



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SERVICE
HYATTSVILLE, MD 20782

January 20, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS

FROM:

Judith R. Tillman
JUDITH R. TILLMAN
ACTING ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

SUBJECT:

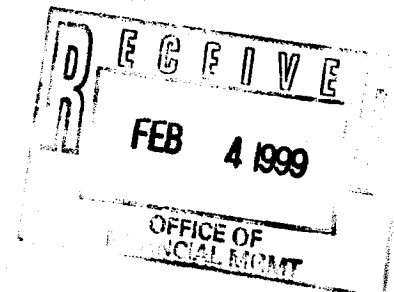
Support for the Simplified Intergovernmental Billing And Collection (SIBAC) and Original On-line Payment And Collection (OPAC) Applications

On December 8, 1998, the Financial Management Service (FMS) held an agency Year 2000 conference to provide agencies with the current status of FMS' Y2K systems efforts. During the discussion of the Government On-line Accounting Link System (GOALS) we announced that FMS was not planning on making the SIBAC and original OPAC applications Year 2000 compliant. This memorandum is to formally communicate this decision to our customers and to offer assistance in converting to current OPAC or EDIPAC applications.

FMS developed the OPAC application in 1985 with the intent of automating the paper-intensive 1080 and 1081 processes and to allow agencies to collect their receivables in an automated, timely fashion. When OPAC was implemented, the SIBAC system began to interface with the OPAC system in order to have an automated intragovernmental billing system. These systems allow agencies to pay and collect from other agencies by providing Agency Location Code (ALC) dollar amount and an optional description field.

In 1994, at the request of agencies, FMS redesigned the OPAC system to allow agencies the ability to provide additional descriptive data fields, i.e., invoice number, purchase order number, quantity, unit price, payment type, etc., that would assist in the reconciliation problems agencies were experiencing.

On November 19, 1996, FMS announced an initiative to improve the OPAC application by incorporating Electronic Data Interchange technology, EDIPAC (see attachment 1). This move allows billing and paying agencies to transfer large volumes of detailed data electronically with their transaction. Also at that time, FMS notified our users that with the implementation of EDIPAC, some older billing systems would be phased out. These systems: the Old OPAC on-line prompter; OPAC Dbase III off-line; and the Simplified Inter governmental Billing And Collection (SIBAC) would no longer be supported by FMS once EDIPAC was implemented.



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In January 1998, FMS implemented the EDIPAC application. EDIPAC allows Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) capable users to conduct business with their trading partners using standard formats that provide supplemental detail information and a direct interface into their accounting systems. Currently, the Department of Energy and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) are using the EDIPAC system for intragovernmental transactions. Federal Prison Industries (FPI) and Social Security Administration (SSA) are expected to become the next users of EDIPAC and begin testing sometime in early 1999. We are continuing to work with other agencies expressing interest in EDIPAC, such as, OPM, GPO and Postal Service. The revised OPAC was designed to ensure that OPAC agencies would be able to interface with EDI capable agencies.

Recent GAO audit findings and agencies' inability to receive clean audit opinions further support FMS' decision to no longer support the SIBAC and original OPAC systems. In May 1998, FMS conducted a survey of the CFO agencies to determine the impact of discontinuing SIBAC and the original OPAC. In the survey, we requested a timeframe for when agencies would be able to convert to new OPAC or EDIPAC. Though we did not receive responses from all of the CFO agencies, all respondents with the exception of one stated they could convert by January 2000.

Beginning January 1, 2000, the SIBAC and original OPAC systems will no longer be supported with an interface to OPAC. Agencies will need to convert to the current OPAC application or EDIPAC in order to process their intragovernmental transactions. We will be contacting the SIBAC and old OPAC users to set up individual meetings to assist them in their conversion to the new processing methods.

Please take this opportunity to evaluate your intragovernmental payment and collection processes. If you have questions concerning the transition from the original OPAC and SIBAC applications to current OPAC or EDIPAC, please direct them to Michael Norman, Manager, GOALS Marketing Staff, on (202) 874-8788. Thank you for your support and cooperation in this effort.

Attachment



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NOV 19 1996

NOTICE TO ALL AGENCIES

RE: Electronic Data Interchange On-Line Payment and Collection (EDIPAC) System

The Financial Management Service (FMS) has initiated an effort to develop an Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) application, a computer to computer exchange of routine business information and financial data in an agreed upon standard format, which will interface with the present On-Line Payment and Collection (OPAC) system. This new application, Electronic Data Interchange Payment and Collection (EDIPAC), via the Government On-Line Accounting Link System (GOALS) will provide an intra-governmental funds transfer system using OPAC functionality integrated with EDI technology. The ANSI X12 Standards were selected as the format to be applied in this application. This application will allow agencies to send and receive support documentation electronically.

With the implementation of EDIPAC, several changes will impact the OPAC user community. Simplified Interagency Billing and Collection (SIBAC) agencies who migrate to EDIPAC will now be able to send large volumes of data electronically using Translator software incorporating transactions sets; 810/Invoice for Collections, 820/Payment Order/Remittance Advice for Payments and 812/Debit/Credit Adjustment for Adjustments. This will eliminate the need for "Documentation to Follow". These agencies would be considered EDI capable.

Agencies using OPAC only would receive support data from EDI capable agencies through a Reporting and Fiche Subsystem, Oracle Server. In order to retrieve this data from the Server, the agencies will have to obtain a Web Browser Software package which would allow them to download the information. FMS is working with the Contractor to determine several software options. Some agencies may presently have software which can be used with the server. Regular OPAC users will continue to use the present OPAC system as designed, with exception to required fields that must be entered on the OPAC screens when doing business with an EDI capable agency.

Once EDIPAC is implemented, the following systems will be discontinued: Old OPAC On-Line Prompter and the D-Base III Off-Line. SIBAC will be phased out. Due to the limited detail provided through SIBAC, SIBAC users will no longer be able to bill EDI capable agencies via the SIBAC system. SIBAC users will have to bill agencies using OPAC On-Line,

GATEWAY, or EDIPAC. If this creates a problem for you, please notify us immediately. Estimated implementation date for EDIPAC is approximately December 1996. Any questions may be directed to GOALS Marketing, Elaine Donald or Lori Makle on (202)874-8270. Attached is a diagram of EDIPAC System.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Norman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Michael Norman, Manager
GOALS Marketing Staff**

Attachment