

# THE FBMS EXPRESS

JULY 2006  
THE FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (FBMS)

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**THE BOTTOM LINE** 1

**FBMS: THE TALK OF THE TOWN** 1

**FBMS EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT** 2

**FBMS NEWSFLASH** 2

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS** 2



## UPCOMING FBMS EVENTS AND MILESTONES:

- Testing begins in August
- MMS Roadshows kickoff in late July
- OSM Roadshows coming in August
- Stay tuned for dates of future Town Halls

## THE BOTTOM LINE

By David Shearer  
FBMS Project Director

It has been four fast-paced months since the new FBMS DOI/IBM team began development of a first-rate financial and business management system for DOI. We have accomplished a great deal in this time and I am pleased to share this information with you in this first issue of our monthly newsletter, *The FBMS Express*.

*The FBMS Express* will provide you with the latest in FBMS project news and information. Each month you will receive updates on key events, project milestones, and information about the new system's functionality.

We are currently developing the

Deployment 2 (D2) Core Financials functionality to deploy to the Office of Surface Mining (OSM) and Minerals Management Service (MMS) in the fall.

The project team recently achieved a major project milestone in passing the Deployment 2 Preliminary Design Review (PDR.) The PDR is conducted after the Preliminary Design efforts to closely examine the system's hardware and software design.

Now that we have completed the D2 design work, we are building and configuring the system in preparation for integration testing.

I want to personally thank OSM, MMS, and everyone else who has been working hard to make

this fall's deployment a reality. Their strong dedication and support have been critical to the project success thus far.

I encourage you to stay tuned to *The FBMS Express* for the latest in project news and information.

You can also access project information on our FBMS website at <http://www.doi.gov/fbms>.



## FBMS: THE TALK OF THE TOWN

The Financial and Business Management System (FBMS) Project Management Office took the show on the road, hosting two Town Hall meetings for all interested DOI employees. The first was held on May 2nd in Washington DC followed by another session in Denver, CO on May 9th.

These meetings were just the

first in a series of Town Halls that will occur throughout the course of the FBMS project to educate and update employees on the status of the FBMS implementation.

The FBMS leadership presented the vision, the new deployment approach and timeline and an update on the status of the project to the

Town Hall attendees.

During the question and answer session that followed, employees had the opportunity to receive answers to a wide range of questions, express their concerns and learn more about the project. The Q&A session also provided the FBMS team with a valuable opportunity to gain insight into DOI employee per-

We are on the web!

<http://www.doi.gov/fbms>

**FBMS**  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

(FBMS Town Hall cont'd)

ceptions of the transition to a single integrated financial system.

The next series of FBMS Town Hall meetings is just around the corner. Stay tuned to find out the dates of these upcoming events.



FBMS Town Hall in Washington DC

## FBMS EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

FBMS 's July feature employee is Bernice Bailes. Bernice works on FBMS budget formulation, which is scheduled to come up in Deployment 4. This functionality is currently in the planning phase. Bernice also helps to develop and review functional requirements for FBMS portal development.

Bernice is from DOI's Office of Budget.



## FBMS NEWSFLASH

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) and Office of Surface Mining (OSM) are currently preparing for the transition from their accounting system (ABACIS) to FBMS in the fall of 2006, when they will deploy Core Financials functionality.

In preparation, bureau staff have been working on "Role-to-Position" mapping. This is the process of mapping authorization roles based on business functions to DOI positions. They have also been busy reviewing and refining functional design specifications.

## Overheard at the WATER COOLER

### What DOI employees are saying about FBMS...

"The need for FBMS is certainly clear based upon multiple-use systems."

"We are of the mind that we'll believe it when we see it—Good Luck!"

### "What is SAP?"

SAP (pronounced S-A-P) is the software that the financial system will run on. It is also the name of the German software company which developed the product. The acronym stands for:

"Systems Applications Products"

## FBMS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Q1:** The timeline indicates that the FBMS implementation will be complete by 2011, is that correct?

**A1:** That is correct. The DOI-wide implementation will occur over a five-year period, scheduled to end in 2011, with bureau deployments scheduled at various stages during this time frame.

**Q2:** Why is DOI undertaking and investing in FBMS?

The FBMS initiative aligns with DOI's overall strategy of modernization, integration, accountability, and the creation of customer value. Implement-

ing FBMS will enable DOI to incorporate its financial and business process management into one single solution that will eliminate the need for over 80 DOI and bureau systems.

**Q3:** Will you provide training and a user friendly manual?

**A3:** Yes, training support and user guides will be available for everyone. Training is a critical component of a successful implementation.

**Q4:** I heard the term "portal" mentioned. Is it truly a web-based portal?

**A4:** Yes, the FBMS user interface will be a web-based portal.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

Beginning in August, the FBMS team will conduct "Test Readiness Review" or TRR before testing the integrated system. Below is a brief definition:

### Test Readiness Review (TRR):

Following the integration of the hardware and software components, the Test Readiness Review (TRR) is held to verify that the system is ready to be tested. During TRR, the system is evaluated in accordance with specific, documented procedures and processes. Once any discrepancies have been identified and corrected, testing of the system will commence.

### "What is 'Master Data'?"

Master Data is the SAP term for a collection of information about a person or an "object", (a cost object, vendor, customer etc.) For example, a vendor master record may include items such as the vendor's name and address as well as purchase order-related information.

### "What is a 'portal'?"

A systems portal provides users with a user-friendly, Web-based view or "doorway" into the system. Look for more information on this topic in upcoming newsletters.