THE FBMS EXPRESS

INTERIOR FBMS

COMING IN MAY:

- Mock conversion testing
- Change Agent Network coming to an office near you
- Redesigned FBMS Web site

THE BOTTOM LINE

By David Shearer

FBMS Project Director

The FBMS project team has made considerable progress this month in moving ahead with Deployment 3 (D3) activities. Business Process Procedure documents, which detail the end-to-end workflow of business processes supported by FBMS, are being finalized. The team is also working on the FBMS portal, which is the Web-based "doorway" into the system.

After a series of discussions among DOI FBMS leadership, bureaus, and Team IBM, a decision was made to defer the implementation of e-invoicing and e-commerce to a future deployment. This functionality would have required a substantial amount of custom development in order to tailor the system to meet the requirements identified during the Blueprint Phase.

In the future, we anticipate being able to take advantage of functionality that will become available with system upgrades and enhancements that will require less customization. This decision means that the solicitation process through FedBizOps remains as is for OSM, MMS, and GovWorks and that vendors will not have access to FBMS for invoicing. We are confident that deferring this functionality for now will result in delivering a better system in the future.

The project team also continues to work on addressing D2 production support issues. In anticipation of the FBMS system freeze at the end of April, representatives from NBC and BEMS met to devise and execute an action plan for closing as many priority Help Desk tickets as possible this month.

This is important because the project team wants to minimize the amount of work being done in the system while the developers are implementing new features for D3. During the freeze period, which lasts through Go Live, only work associated with solving problems or issues for Severity 1 open tickets will be done in the system.

Like doing electrical work in your house, you would not want to install a new light fixture without cutting off the power first. FBMS, however, will continue to be available for current end users – but the developers need to rely on a stable, unchanging system for the work they need to do in preparation for Go Live.

Thank you for your continued interest in FBMS!

FBMS GOAL: INCREASE EFFICIENCIES

When implementation is completed in 2012, FBMS will bring a number of changes that will result in increased efficiencies in how work is done across the department. As processes are integrated and standardized, DOI employees can expect to see improvements such as:

- Increased data integrity

- Enhanced department wide and bureau-specific reporting capabilities

- Reduction of double entry of data in multiple systems and manual paper processing as legacy systems are sunset

The specific impacts encountered by each bureau (i.e. the types and scale of efficiencies gained) will depend on how their current business processes compare to the future or

Where are we on today on the road to FBMS Deployment 3?

to-be environment.

With each deployment cycle, the FBMS Organizational Change Management team works with leadership from deploying bureaus to understand their current environment and conduct an organizational impact analysis. The purpose is to help the bureaus understand how FBMS implementation will affect their current operations in order to prepare their end users for Go Live.

With the implementation of Core Financials in Deployment 2 (D2), the organizational impact analysis revealed several impacts related to increasing efficiencies at the bureau level and department level.

Funds Management: A common list of fund types with the same definition and code for bureaus with similar processes and USSGL account postings is managed at the department level. This resulted in less work at the bureau level in creating and maintaining fund types and increased reporting visibility across the department.

Accounts Payable: Invoices are electronically routed and immediately available for audit purposes. Also, payments are automatically processed on their due dates.

For the bureaus, this resulted in reducing the cycle time from receipt of invoice, to approval, and then to posting, which means that vendors are paid more promptly and accurately. Additionally, the need for photocopies and mailing was reduced.

General Ledger: FBMS provides automatic traceability from GL summary postings to support detailed transactions stored in BW. This automated a process that was previously manual for some bureaus.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Mock Conversion Testing

Mock conversion testing activities are an important part of Realization Phase. This process ensures that when DOI employees log in to FBMS, they have access to the data they need to do their jobs – such as processing invoices, setting up contracts, and issuing payroll. Before all of the data is permanently moved from where it resides now, the project team performs a series of tests with sample data files to make sure data is not lost in the conversion and that it is accurate and in the required format. Bureaus help with data anomalies, data reconciliation, and data cleansing tasks where necessary.

Change Agent Network

The Change Agent Network is comprised of employees from various bureau locations, job roles, and job levels who deliver FBMS information and updates to their colleagues in the field. In D3, FBMS will have an impact on a very dispersed population of DOI employees, resulting in an increased need for communications. Each deploying bureau will set up its own Network, which will serve as a critical part of the FBMS communications strategy by providing employees in the field with receiving timely, accurate information and answering questions about the program.

A NOTE ABOUT THE EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT SERIES:

FBMS Express readers can look forward to learning more about employees from the deploying bureaus who are involved with FBMS. In the coming months, be sure to check out the Employee Spotlight to find out how Change Agent Network participants, Subject Matter Experts, and others from GovWorks, MMS, and OSM are supporting D3 activities.