

THE FBMS EXPRESS

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THE FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (FBMS)

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FBMS EVENTS AND MILESTONES:

- Deployment 3 (D3) Business Blueprinting is complete
- D3 Realization Phase kicks-off

THE BOTTOM LINE

By David Shearer
FBMS Project Director

During the past month, the FBMS project team has been busy conducting support activities for Deployment 2 (D2) users as well as completing blueprinting workshops for Deployment 3 (D3.)

While most FBMS D2 transactions are running smoothly, we are still working to resolve some outstanding D2 issues that were identified after the D2 go-live. Fixing these issues in a time efficient fashion is important to the PMO and to the FBMS team in general. The D2 issues primarily have to do with the automation of some of the FBMS interfaces.

Those of us within the Project Management Office (PMO) have been holding daily calls with the D2 bureaus, NBC help-

desk and the FBMS project team to help bring these items to resolution.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the dedicated MMS and OSM bureau employees who have worked hard to achieve successful month-end closes and assist with the resolution of the D2 issues. The assistance that these individuals provided has been nothing less than outstanding.

While Deployment 2 issues are being resolved, the project team has been concluding Deployment 3 blueprinting activities. The D3 blueprinting workshops have provided the business process team with a clear, high-level understanding of D3 bureau requirements. The understanding developers gained during blueprinting will help them to leverage FBMS func-

tionality to optimize the D3 system for end-users.

We are now entering into the D3 "Realization Phase", when the FBMS system will be developed and refined for D3 bureaus, which include MMS, OSM and GovWorks. During this time, there are still details that need to be worked out so that developers can configure the system appropriately. During the Realization Phase, D3 bureau representatives will play an important role in clarifying their business process requirements for developers and eventually in testing the system.

Please continue to stay tuned to the *FBMS Express* for the most recent project news and information. As always, thank you for your interest and support of the FBMS project!

WHAT IS THE "REALIZATION" PHASE?

The deployment phase that follows "blueprinting" is called "realization." The realization phase is when the project team is able to "realize" or build the system to match the future state vision that was outlined during D3 blueprinting.

If the term "blueprinting" reminds you of an architect de-

signing a building, the metaphor is also useful when thinking about the realization phase, which is when the actual construction begins. This is the phase where the development begins and the D3 blueprint document is transformed into system functionality.

Since the D2 version FBMS

already exists, in D3 developers will build upon and refine existing D2 system functionality to meet the requirements of D3 bureaus. As the realization phase ramps up, the business process team will be communicating with Deployment 3 bureau representatives to ensure

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We are on the web!

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

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the system will meet their business requirements. While blue-printing provided a high-level idea of what the system will look like, there are still more detailed items that need to be clarified with end-users as the system is being developed and configured. Configuration is a term that describes the process of selecting the options in FBMS that will refine how transactions cater to business requirements. Configuration workshops that occur during realization will help developers to further understand D3 business requirements and decide how they can be addressed through FBMS system specifications.

Building FBMS to meet the needs of DOI as a whole as well as each bureau means striking the right balance between structure and flexibility. The

software technology that FBMS is based on provides a recommended structure for business process flows while configuration allows developers to leverage the technology to meet user-defined requirements. To ensure that the system is built optimally, extensive testing will occur during the realization phase. This includes “unit” testing that verifies the functional components separately as well as “integration” testing which verifies that information flows as it should between the different parts of the system. End-users will also test system functionality during “user acceptance testing.” There is no shortage of realization activities, all of which are designed to ensure that the D3 FBMS solution performs well for all future end-users.

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



HAPPENS IN REALIZATION

What activities occur in the Realization Phase ?

- System Configuration & Documentation
- Extensive System Testing
- Data Mapping from legacy systems to FBMS
- Data Requirements are Defined

Who is involved?

- Basis Team (System Security/ Authorizations)
- Functional and Technical Teams
- Key D3 Subject Matter Experts

When is this phase complete?

- 2/22/07 – 7/20/07

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

The FBMS February Spotlight Employee is Kym Kuoni. Kym has been detailed to the FBMS project for the last six months. She is returning to her position at NBC. Kym has been instrumental to our success in so many ways. Kym helped in the move from 625 Herndon Parkway to the old IBM building. She made the move seem seamless to many of us on the project. We are very appreciative of NBC for allowing the extended detail for Kym and want to wish her the best of luck in the future!



D3 BUREAU EMPLOYEES ASSIST WITH “REALIZATION” ACTIVITIES

How will DOI Deployment 3 bureau employees be involved in the Realization Phase?

The FBMS project team has already begun involving the Deployment 3 bureaus in the project during the blueprinting process, where D3 bureau representatives outlined their current business processes. As we progress into realization, the project team continues to involve D3 bureaus in the project. D3 bureau employees will be instrumental with helping to resolve any questions that arise as the system is built and tested. D3 bureau employees will also continue to help to develop and refine documentation. Those employees with expertise in the various functional areas that are being implemented may be asked to answer specific business process-related questions so that the system is developed in a way that meets end-user needs. Another area that employees will be asked to help with is performing data cleansing for existing systems and databases to prepare for the conversion of this data into FBMS.

Since FBMS is supported at the highest level of DOI, supervisors and managers will be sensitive to these time commitments and allow employees the time they need to perform realization activities. The input and assistance that future D3 end-users provide to the project team is critical to realizing a successful FBMS deployment.

“Realization Phase” Terminology

- 1) **Realization Phase**— The purpose of this phase is to build, configure, test and refine the D3 system.
- 2) **Configuration**— Configuration involves selecting options in implementing the FBMS software that will refine how transactions cater to business requirements.
- 3) **Customization**—A customization is any additional coding that needs to be done in order to meet business user requirements that are outside of the software’s delivered functionality. Examples of customization objects include Reports, Interfaces, Enhancements and Conversions.
- 4) **Authorizations**—In FBMS each user has an authorization (or security) profile that is based on his/her role. Authorizations allow users to run transactions and view data.
- 5) **“To-be”** - A term used to describe the new system and its revised processes once changes have been implemented.