

THE FBMS EXPRESS

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THE FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (FBMS)

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COMING IN JANUARY:

1/15:
Executive Steering
Committee Meeting

D3 GO-LIVE: THE FIRST 30 DAYS

Overall, the first 30 days following D3 Go-Live have gone very well. The system is functioning properly, and the number of critical defects has been minimal.

After working through some security and user access issues, users from MMS and OSM have been in the system and using it to complete their day-to-day job duties.

Because there were so few major issues, the project team and



bureaus decided to scale back the frequency of the production support calls from daily to twice a week by the beginning of December (more than two weeks ahead of schedule).

Additionally, the November

month-end close was completed on schedule and did not require any changes to standard operating procedures.

Despite these wins, the project team has identified several areas that can be improved and will be documenting lessons learned that can be incorporated in future deployments. Early feedback suggests that D4 should focus more on security, role mapping/user account management, and testing.

END-USER TRAINING RECEIVES HIGH MARKS



As of November 30, 2007, a total of 322 students from MMS and OSM have participated in 27 courses during the first four weeks of D3 training. Course evaluations completed to date indicate that training about new FBMS acquisition functionality is meeting users' needs and has incorporated les-

sons learned from D2.

Students gave the overall training experience an average score of 4.2 out of 5, reporting that the courses were effective, useful, and applicable to their day-to-day work. On average, students rated the course content a 4.15 out of 5, highlighting their satisfaction with the balance of lecture and hands-on activities, as well as the fact that the course objectives were appropriate and met successfully.

Students also had positive

feedback about the instructors, giving them an average score of 4.36 out of 5. They were responsive to questions, demonstrated knowledge of the topic area(s), and clearly presented the training objectives and expectations.

D3 training concluded on December 14.

We are on the web!

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

FBMS
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Where are we today on the road to FBMS?



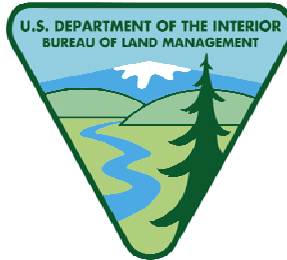
PROJECT SPONSOR WELCOMES BLM TO FBMS

On December 5, 2007, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) was formally welcomed to the FBMS project during kick-off events in Denver, Colorado hosted by the Nina Rose Hatfield, the FBMS Project Sponsor.

The morning event was held in BLM's National Operations Center and was attended by more than 100 BLM managers and subject matter experts.

The afternoon event was a video conference with 22 BLM state offices and centers from across the country participating.

Both events consisted of presentations by Nina Rose Hatfield, John Stabler, FBMS Project Manager, Mike Ferguson, BLM Representative on the FBMS Executive Steering Committee, and a panel questions and answers session.



Nina Rose Hatfield's presentation highlighted the Department of Interior's (DOI) vision for the FBMS Project, the long-term FBMS benefits, and the current status of the project.

John Stabler's presentation provided an overview of the methodology and timeline that would be used to deploy FBMS to BLM.

Mike Ferguson's presentation provided insights on what BLM employees should expect during the FBMS deployment, described BLM's plan for deploying FBMS, and identified the key leaders and organizations in DOI and BLM responsible for the system's deployment.

During the panel questions and answers sessions, senior DOI and BLM leaders candidly responded to a variety of funding, system integration and standardization, and workforce training questions.

D4 Realization Phase Begins

The Blueprint workshops, which the bureaus participated in during the fall, culminated in a two-day walkthrough of the D4 end-to-end business processes on December 10-11 in Denver, CO.

Hosted by the project team, the session highlighted the integration points among the various FBMS functional components, including new fleet and property management capabilities that will be introduced in D4. Presenters also noted areas where the project team still needs to develop solutions within FBMS to address bureau requirements, as well as policies that need to be decided by DOI.



The information presented during the walkthroughs was an input into the Preliminary Design Review (PDR), which DOI approved on December 14. This gate review gave DOI an opportunity to validate that the project team is ready to begin detailed design development and understands the business processes to be built. It also ensures there is agreement between bureaus and the project team about the requirements and proposed gap resolutions.

PDR approval marks the official start of the Realization phase (in which FBMS is built, configured, and tested) which will last through mid-September 2008.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: TAMMY COBLE, BLM

Tammy Coble is used to the fast pace of the FBMS project, having been a functional lead and now serving as a Subject Matter Expert for BLM. "When I came back to the bureau this past February, I understood how tough the implementation would be. With limited resources, it can be challenging to keep up with your day-to-day responsibilities, in addition to dedicating the time and effort FBMS requires," Tammy explained.

Tammy sees benefits and drawbacks to implementing FBMS. She explained that losing control of systems and processes is painful for some people. They are apprehensive about needing to rely on others who are outside of their control. However, she

believes that bringing DOI into the 21st century and transitioning away from old ways of doing business are good things overall.

"Being able to provide reports to Congress with good data and in a consistent format without bureau data calls will be an improvement," Tammy said.

"Although employees are worried about job changes and learning new ways of doing things, the integration FBMS brings will eventually make our jobs easier."

Based on her project team and bureau experience, Tammy suggested that the out-year bureaus consider detailing employees from other bureaus to support the deployment process.

"Employees from FWS and NBC have been working with BLM during D4. In turn, we will reciprocate and detail some of our employees to those bureaus when it's their time to deploy FBMS," she said.

Tammy explained that this type of arrangement is a win-win for the bureaus. Not only does BLM benefit from having additional resources on staff to assist with their deployment efforts, but the employees from FWS and NBC will also be able to contribute their knowledge and understanding of FBMS processes and terminology to their home bureaus.