WBSCM Update

Providing nutritious food through a seamless, efficient, Web Based Supply Chain

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Building an SAP Knowledge Foundation

The previous newsletter addressed how the SRA Team will continue to identify various types of learning and education activities to facilitate the successful transition from PCIMS to the SAP implementation of WBSCM.

In this newsletter, the project team identifies learning and education activities to help make the transition to WBSCM successful for all USDA participants. The transition process involves more than participating in working sessions with the functional and technical teams and receiving formal classroom training.

Building a solid SAP knowledge foundation through readily available online learning and education activities can contribute to the successful transition to WBSCM which will compliment the formal training program.

Examples of different types of readily available 24/7 online learning and education activities that will help build a SAP knowledge foundation include access to online communities and chat forums, web seminars, terminology guides, published reading material, books, and formal events*.

SAP Online Community

The SAP online community provides a powerful information and expertise network via discussion forums, blogs (Web logs), message boards, Webcasts, and weekly e-newsletters. Members of the SAP online community can benefit from networking opportunities, exchange insight and ideas, address problems, and share real-world learning experiences and solution ideas.

There are four distinct SAP online groups: SAP Business Community, SAP Developer Network, User Groups Community and Business Process Expert Community all accessible at **www7.sap.com/communities**.

SAP Business Community

The SAP Business Community allows SAP experts, customers and business leaders to gather online to share their ideas and exchange insight. Members learn about the latest SAP solutions offered, interact with others, and have access to SAP documentation.

Membership to the SAP Business Community is free through a basic registration process accessible at **www7.sap.com/community**.

Once registered, the following free resources are available to members:
- Access to executive blogs
- Access to best-practices interviews
- Subscriptions to weekly e-newsletters
- Access to online events and Webcasts
- The ability to download presentation slides
- The ability to download online demos and brochures

SAP Developer Network (SDN)

The SAP Developer Network allows SAP developers, consultants, integrators, and business analysts to gather online to gain and share technical knowledge about ABAP (the SAP programming language), Java, .NET, Service Oriented Architecture (SOA), and other technologies.

Membership to the SAP Developer Network is free through a basic registration process accessible at **www.sdn.sap.com/irj/sdn**.

Once registered, the following free resources are available for members:
- Access to expert blogs and discussion forums
- The ability to download software and code samples
- Access to eLearning courses
- Access to training material
- Access to a robust technical library containing articles and documents
- Subscriptions to informative e-newsletters

User Groups Community

The User Groups Community joins SAP customers, partners, analysts, thought leaders and SAP integrators to influence SAP's product releases and customer-centric strategy and direction. The User Groups Community contains six distinct groups: America's SAP Users Group (ASUG), German-Speaking SAP User Group (DSAG), Dutch-Speaking User Group (VNSG), SAP Australian User Group (SAUG), SAP UK & Ireland User Group, and the SAP Configuration Workgroup all accessible at **www7.sap.com/communities/usergroups.epx**.

America's SAP Users Group (ASUG)

ASUG is a collaborative forum to educate members, facilitate networking among colleagues and SAP professionals, and thus in turn influence future SAP product and

service direction.

Membership to ASUG is available for a yearly fee through a basic registration process accessible at **www.asug.com** .

Once registered, the following free resources are available to members:
- Access to technical blogs
- Access to discussion forums
- Access to eLearning courses, Webcasts, and Podcasts
- Access to a library containing articles and documents
- Notices to upcoming events

Business Process Expert (BPX) Community

The Business Process Expert (BPX) Community joins process consultants, analysts, business architects, and SAP integrators to bridge the gap between business and IT through business process innovation.

Membership to the BPX Community is free through a basic registration process accessible at **www.sdn.sap.com/irj/sdn/bpx** .

Once registered, the following free resources are available to members:
- Access to expert blogs and discussion forums
- The ability to download software
- Access to eLearning courses
- Access to training material
- Access to a robust technical library containing articles and documents
- Subscriptions to informative e-newsletters
- Notices to upcoming events

SAP Glossary

Other online resources specific to the WBSCM program such as the SAP glossary are available to USDA agency users. The SAP Glossary posted to the AGNISX share point site at **https://agnisx.ams.usda.gov/default.aspx** contains the latest terminology from SAP.com (see Figure 1 below). As SAP.com makes changes to the glossary, those changes are reflected real-time on the AGNISX site. Once logged in to AGNISX, select the SAP Glossary option from the left menu, and it will load in a new Internet browser window.
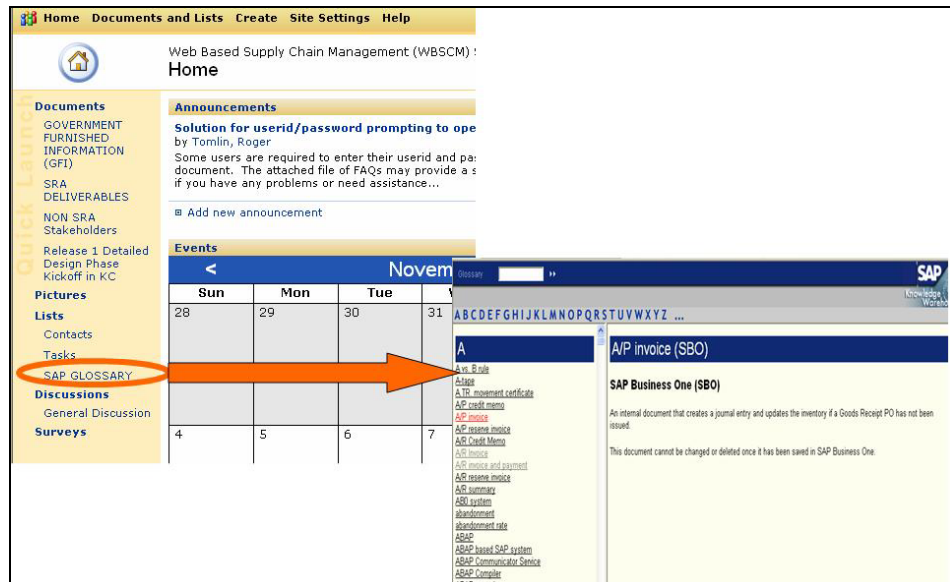
Figure 1. SAP Glossary on AGNISX Web Site

SAP PRESS

Another online resource is SAP PRESS accessible at **www.sap-press.com**. SAP PRESS (see Figure 2 below) is a publisher of technical and strategic books for the SAP community. Books can be ordered online from SAP PRESS and include a wide range of topics on SAP technology and applications. Some suggested readings found on SAP PRESS and other sites include the following:

- mySAP ERP For Dummies *by Andreas Vogel, Ian Kimbell (***www.dummies.com***)*
- mySAP NetWeaver For Dummies *by Dan Woods, Jeffrey Word* (**www.dummies.com**)
- mySAP CRM *by Rudiger Buck-Emden and Peter Zencke*
- mySAP ERP Roadmap *by Frank Forndron, Thilo Liebermann, Marcus Thurner, and Dr. Peter Widmayer*
- Sales and Inventory Planning with SAP APO *by Marc Hoppe*
- SAP Enterprise Portal: Technology and Programming *by Arnd Goebel and Dirk Ritthaler*
- SAP NetWeaver Roadmap *by Steffen Karch and Loren Heilig*
- Enhancing Supplier Relationship Management Using SAP SRM *by Sachin Sethi*

Figure 2. SAP PRESS Web Site

SAP Events

SAP frequently hosts events and conferences to promote in-person discussions, interactive idea exchanges, and product exhibitions and demonstrations. The following SAP events and conferences are available for 2008:

- SAPPHIRE 2008 (SAP's premier educational and networking event)
  http://www1.sapsapphire.com/usa2008/index.epx

- SAP TechEd 07 (Enterprise Service Oriented Architecture)
  https://www.sdn.sap.com/irj/sdn/sapteched

- Logistics and Supply Chain Management (SCM) 2008
  http://www.sapscm2008.com

- Customer Relationship Management (CRM) 2008
  http://www.sapcrm2008.com

- Financials 2008
  http://www.sapfinancials2008.com

- Governance, Risk and Compliance (GRC) 2008
  http://www.sapgrc2008.com

- Annual ASUG Conference
  http://www.asug.com/Education/UpcomingEvents/tabid/72/Default.aspx

- SAP World Tour, Technology Tour, and "SAP Is Open" Road Show have already had their 2007 tours, 2008 tour schedules and information may be posted at a future date on **http://www.sap.com/about/events/index.epx**

* All SAP related information is referenced from SAP.com

Contact Us

Please email all WBSCM questions or suggestions to us directly:

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