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WBSCM Web Site Launch

The USDA WBSCM Team is proud to introduce the launch of its Web site. The WBSCM Web site features project progress to date, plans for the next phase of work, related topics, links, and contact information (see Figure 1). To access the WBSCM Web site, go to www.fsa.usda.gov, select Commodity Operations from the left menu, and then go to the Related Topics menu on the right and select "Web Based Supply Chain Management".

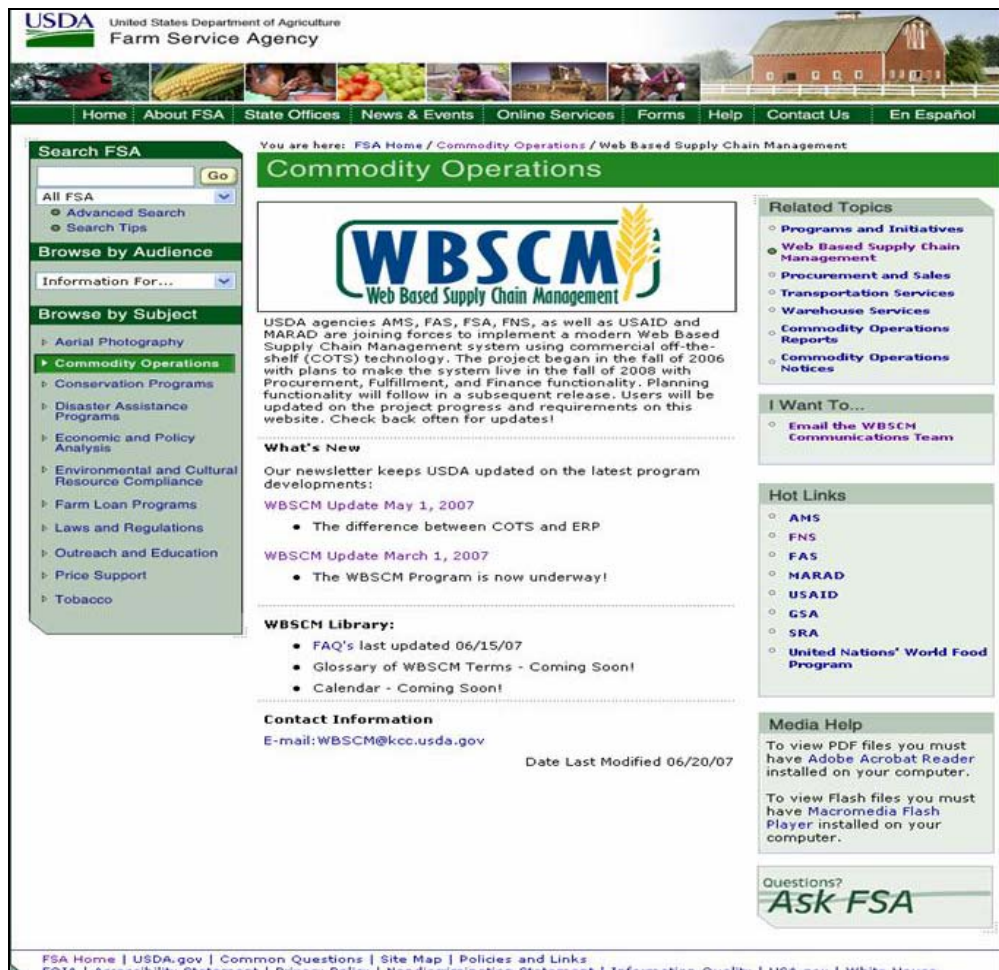


Figure 1 USDA WBSCM Web Site

The Web site is designed for easy navigation and quick access to WBSCM solution information. The center area contains a **What's New** section which will feature the latest program developments including access to all the WBSCM Update newsletters in PDF format. The **WBSCM Library** features the latest Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), a Glossary of Terms, and a Calendar of Events (Glossary of Terms and Calendar of Events are coming soon).

Do you have questions, comments, or suggestions about the WBSCM solution? E-mail the WBSCM Communications Team by selecting the e-mail option under the **I Want To...** right menu.

The **Hot Links** section contains links to the government agencies impacted directly and indirectly by the WBSCM program.

In the future, important updates, event notices, presentations from WBSCM events, training information, and more details about the team will also be posted. With this foundation established, we can now post information as it becomes available, so check back often for updates!

Progress to Date

The output of the commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) product Recommendation Phase is four documents in which the SRA Team analyzes the fit of the vendor's proposed solution to the system requirements identified by the team. These documents are under USDA review and not available for release. These deliverables are the:

1. COTS Recommendation Report
2. Requirements Gap Analysis Report
3. Hardware Recommendation Report
4. Requirements Traceability Matrix

The **COTS Recommendation Report (CRR)** recommends a software solution and elaborates on the rationale for choosing it. The CRR includes a definition of the selection process including the criteria and scoring used. It also summarizes the vendors' capabilities, the functional and technical fits to the business requirements, and a high-level review of the gap analysis. It discusses other evaluation areas including 508 compliance, ease of implementation and maintenance, industry analysts' assessments, references, and customer support.

The **Requirements Gap Analysis Report (RGR)** summarizes the USDA system requirements for the recommended solution. The RGR investigates the fit between what the system needs to do in each functional and technical area, how the software meets (or does not meet) that need, and proposes solutions for any gaps that exist via a work around, further developmental effort, or a third-party software solution.

The **Hardware Recommendation Report (HRR)** recommends the hardware solution for the COTS WBSCM solution. The HRR includes detailed system sizing, user populations, transaction volumes and technical requirements. It also lists the steps and activities involved in the selection process along with the anticipated environments needed for the implementation of the WBSCM solution: sandbox, development, testing, system integration, production and disaster recovery.

The **Requirements Traceability Matrix (RTM)** summarizes requirements traceability throughout the WBSCM solution's System Development Life Cycle (SDLC). The RTM describes how all the WBSCM requirements will be traced. It will also discuss the requirements' association to WBSCM deliverables and other traceable objects.

The next phase of WBSCM activities includes software installation and configuration. The remaining SDLC processes include: WBSCM solution designing, building, testing, training, deploying, and ultimately, operating and maintaining (O&M).

Contact Information

If you have any questions or suggestions for WBSCM, please e-mail us directly: WBSCM@kcc.usda.gov