



**UFMS NEWSFLASH: March 1, 2003**

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**1. CDC: Leading the Way in UFMS**

The UFMS Implementation Plan established last year that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention would be the UFMS pilot site. However, the CDC's role goes beyond simply being the first agency to implement UFMS. The CDC is providing support to the UFMS global team during the design, configuration and testing of the system. For example, the CDC's technical team is now assisting the global team in the development of the first Conference Room Pilot that is scheduled to take place in late summer 2003. This pilot will be hosted by the CDC, but will test both the global (Department-wide) and CDC-unique requirements that were gathered and documented over the past year. The CDC's business analysis and transformation teams continue to coordinate with the global UFMS teams to ensure that the site implementation and HHS-wide activities are coordinated.

**2. What's the Relationship Between HIGLAS and UFMS?**

Due to the sheer size of the Medicare program (around \$250 billion in annual outlays) and the related volume of financial transactions and systems' load, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services need their own component of the unified financial system. Therefore, UFMS will consist of two major components: 1) CMS's Healthcare Integrated General Ledger Accounting System (HIGLAS) and 2) a system for the rest of the Department, including NIH's new business system (NBRSS). Although UFMS has these different pieces, the program teams are working cooperatively to help ensure that the components will interact, in order to fulfill the ultimate goal of providing reliable information for decision-making and cost-effective business operations at the Department level.

**3. Oracle Federal Financials: A Who's Who List**

HHS is not alone in applying Oracle Federal Financials as the software package to revolutionize their financial management system. HHS joins the Department of Education, the Department of Energy, the Social Security Administration, the Department of Transportation and the Department of Veterans Affairs in implementing Oracle applications. The private sector list of Oracle users includes such organizations as BellSouth, UPS, Motorola and General Electric. HHS has been in touch with many of these organizations to gather and leverage their "lessons learned" to ensure that the UFMS implementation proceeds smoothly and successfully.

**4. UFMS Communications Survey – How are we doing?**

We'd like to know if our communication efforts have been helpful and if there is additional material you would like to see covered.



Please take a moment to reply to this survey. Include the letter of your response in the subject line and any comments in the body of the email.

- a. Yes, your communications are helpful and worthwhile - please keep them coming!
- b. I believe that some, but not all, of the communications are helpful and worthwhile.
- c. I believe the UFMS communications are needed, but don't find the newsflash emails helpful or worthwhile.
- d. I do not need communications about UFMS.