
ARC Monthly Bulletin – July 2009

Valuable information for ARC's customers

Article headlines appear below. Scroll down for full stories.

HEADLINES

General

1. ARC Welcomes FHFA
2. Continuity of Operations Exercise Completed
3. ARC Presenting at FMS Conference

Procurement Services

4. Procurement Cut Off Dates 2009-2010

Information Technology Services

5. ARC Adopting ITIL

Human Resources Services

6. Elimination of TSP Waiting Period

Accounting Services

7. What's New in the FY09 A-136 Revision
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FULL STORIES

1. ARC Welcomes FHFA

ARC is pleased to welcome our newest customer, the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA). On July 1, 2009, ARC began providing full service accounting and travel services to FHFA. With this accomplishment, FHFA became our newest customer to utilize our integrated accounting, travel, and procurement systems. FHFA released a statement regarding this accomplishment, which can be found at http://www.fhfa.gov/webfiles/14167/Accounting_system_7_8_09.pdf. For more information, please contact Michelle Yanok at 304-480-7236 or michelle.yanok@bpd.treas.gov.

2. Continuity of Operations Exercise Completed

On June 17, 2009, ARC senior executives and emergency preparedness staff participated in the annual Eagle Horizon Exercise. This year it was a Department of Treasury continuity exercise that included all Treasury bureaus. One of the primary objectives of the exercise was to assess our ability to perform essential functions during various emergency scenarios, and identify areas for improvement. As a result of participating in these annual exercises, ARC continues to improve upon its ability to handle any situation that may result in a disruption of normal operations. For more information, contact Amy Miller at 304-480-7257 or amy.miller@bpd.treas.gov.

3. ARC Presenting at FMS Conference

ARC will be presenting and exhibiting at the Government Financial Management Conference, hosted by the Financial Management Service (FMS). The conference will take place at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC, on August 4 and 5,

2009. Along with the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, we will discuss Internet Payment Platform (IPP), a web-based information portal for all U.S. government agencies and their suppliers. For more information, please contact Michelle Yanok at 304-480-7236 or michelle.yanok@bpd.treas.gov.

4. Procurement Cut Off Dates 2009-2010

To better serve the needs of our procurement customers, ARC requested preliminary information regarding year-end needs as well as the procurement request packages. We appreciate the response we received to our request. If you have not submitted your forecast and/or procurement requests or anticipate additional requirements, please contact us so that we can assess the projected workload and staffing levels. Additional information is posted on your customer access pages at https://arc.publicdebt.treas.gov/customer_access_pages.htm under Cut Off Dates 2009-2010. Please note that option renewal packages are due no later than 45 days before the first day of the option period. For more information, contact your procurement support team leader at 304-480-7137.

5. ARC Adopting ITIL

ARC is in the process of aligning our approach to delivering IT services with the concepts in ITIL - the Information Technology Infrastructure Library. ITIL is a collection of best practices that represent the world-wide "gold standard" for managing IT operations. ARC will leverage ITIL processes to improve the quality of our IT service delivery and support in a cost effective manner. Full ITIL implementation will take time - our current phased approach spans four years. To learn more about ITIL in general, see <http://www.itil-officialsite.com>. For more information on ARC's ITIL efforts, please contact Joe Gribble at 304-480-7608 or joe.gribble@bpd.treas.gov.

6. Elimination of TSP Waiting Period

The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Enhancement Act of 2009 was signed into law on June 22, 2009. The Act eliminates the waiting period certain Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS)-covered employees must meet to receive Agency Automatic one percent and Agency Matching Contributions in their TSP accounts. The two groups who are positively impacted by this change are newly hired or rehired FERS employees, and FERS employees who are currently in their waiting period. Payroll providers, including the National Finance Center, have until the first full pay period in August 2009 to fully implement the change.

ARC's Employee Benefits Branch (EBB) is closely monitoring changes to the TSP Program and will provide additional information as it is received. If you have questions about the elimination of the TSP waiting period, you may access the TSP website (<http://www.tsp.gov>) or contact Jennifer Thompson at 304-480-8275 or by email at benefits@bpd.treas.gov.

7. What's New in the FY09 A-136 Revision

On June 10, 2009, the Office of Management and Budget issued revisions to Circular A-136. The requirements streamlined and clarified the audit report and draft Performance Accountability Report/Agency Financial Report. The revision updated key dates for FY 2009 year-end reporting and the Financial Report of the U.S. Government. The update also provided advance notice of reporting changes in Circular A-127 for FY 2010, and made Recovery Act guidance available. Finally, there were additional directions given on the Statement of Budgetary Resources reconciliation that are effective for FY 2010. ARC accounting staff will implement these revisions during year-end.

You can review the revised financial reporting requirements of OMB Circular A-136 at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/agencyinformation_circulars_federalfinancial_pdf/a136_revised_2009.pdf. For more information, please contact Mark Price at 304-480-7115 or mark.price@bpd.treas.gov.

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