
ARC Monthly Bulletin – February 2011

Valuable information for ARC's customers

Article headlines appear below. Scroll down for full stories.

HEADLINES

Division of Franchise Services

1. Oracle Release 12 Program Update
2. Annual Customer Conference
3. Fiscal Year 2012 Customer Agreements

Human Resources Services

4. POWER Initiative Targets Workers' Compensation Claim Costs
5. NFC Migration to Treasury Payment Application Modernization

Travel Services

6. FTR Being Amended To Add Domestic Partner

Procurement Services

7. New Administration Branch

Financial Management Services

8. Reorganization
-

FULL STORIES

1. Oracle Release 12 Program Update

We have concluded the Requirements phase of the Oracle R12 Migration project and are proceeding into the Design & Development phase. Design and development is expected to continue through most of calendar year 2011 and will be followed by system testing. We are currently working to formulate the remainder of the project schedule, including the roll-out timeline.

We will provide the impact and expected benefits of the R12 Solution through the monthly ARC bulletins, direct communications, and regular customer contact channels in the service lines as we proceed through these remaining phases.

For more information, contact one of the projects Managing Sponsors Jackie Pettit at jackie.pettit@bpd.treas.gov or Tammy Saiko at tamela.saiko@bpd.treas.gov or the R12 Project Manager Okey Bess okey.bess@bpd.treas.gov.

2. Annual Customer Conference

We are in the planning stages of our annual customer conference. Given the current budget situation, we would like your thoughts and opinions. We are discussing various ways that we can hold the conference and ensure we get the crucial information across to our customers. Currently, we are looking at a traditional (in-person) conference, a virtual conference, or recorded presentations that will allow you to view as you have the opportunity.

If your agency has any ideas or a particular desire for this year's conference style, please contact Michelle Hickman at 304-480-7234 or ida.hickman@bpd.treas.gov.

3. Fiscal Year 2012 Customer Agreements

We are beginning work on fiscal year 2012 annual agreements. We are reviewing feedback received on agreement language through the past years and migrating to the OMB standard Interagency Agreement Form, and with close consideration for the government budget cuts. We are planning to distribute customer agreements by May 31, 2011. Lastly, we will be providing pricing for fiscal years 2012 and 2013. We believe this information is valuable for your agencies out year budget planning.

For more information, contact Shaun Willison at 304-480-7286 or shaun.willison@bpd.treas.gov.

4. POWER Initiative Targets Workers' Compensation Claim Costs

In 2009, Federal workers' compensation claim costs totaled nearly \$1.6 billion (excluding the United States Postal Service). On July 19, 2010, a 4-year initiative, established by President Obama, extended previous safety and health efforts by setting more aggressive targets to combat this cost. Under the Protecting Our Workers and Ensuring Re-Employment (POWER) initiative, each executive department and agency is expected to improve performance in seven areas: reduce total injury and illness rates; reduce lost time claims; analyze lost time data; increase timely filing of injury claims; increase timely filing of compensation claims; reduce lost production days; and expedite return to work time for employees with serious injury or illness claims.

We are working with our customer's Safety and Health Offices to meet DOL's POWER criteria. Our staff promptly files all workers' compensation injury and wage loss claims plus we provide customer support and guidance in the return to work process and aggressively manages claims to promote minimal lost time claims.

To learn more about this initiative, please visit the Department of Labor's website, <http://www.dol.gov/owcp/dfec/share/perform.htm> or e-mail workerscomp@bpd.treas.gov in the Pay and Leave Services Branch.

5. NFC Migration to Treasury Payment Application Modernization

The National Finance Center (NFC) has migrated the electronic transmission of salary related payment voucher files to Treasury's Financial Management Service's (FMS) new front-end Payment Application Modernization (PAM) application. NFC was one of the first agencies to transition to PAM and the work was completed during Pay Period 01, 2011.

With this enhancement, FMS is now able to suppress the Social Security Number field prior to releasing payment files through the Automated Clearing House Network, and only the last 4-digits are part of payment transactions as they flow to financial institutions. As a result, financial institutions can no longer print Personally Identifiable Information data as part of transaction postings on individual bank statements, a concern expressed by many individuals in the past.

For more information, contact the Pay and Leave Services Branch at payroll@bpd.treas.gov.

6. FTR Being Amended To Add Domestic Partner

The Federal Travel Regulation (FTR) is being amended to extend certain relocation and travel benefits to same-sex domestic partners and their dependents. The planned effective date is March 3, 2011. For customers who have adopted the ARC Relocation Guide, we are in the process of updating that policy guidance document. You will be notified once it is published in the Federal Register and we will provide further details as we obtain more information.

For more information, contact, Lee Buckingham at 304-480-8420 or lee.buckingham@bpd.treas.gov.

7. New Administration Branch

We have completed a minor reorganization to create an "Administration Branch" within our Procurement Service Division. This branch will assume all responsibility for post-award administration of contracts, BPAs, task and delivery orders, and purchase orders. Going forward, our structure will include two purchasing branches (Procurement Services Branches 1 and 3) and the Administration Branch. Some employee work assignments have changed along with some purchasing branch customer assignments. Information on the new organization is being communicated directly to customers from our service line leadership. Unless otherwise directed, customers are asked to send post-award correspondence to the contractadministration@bpd.treas.gov mailbox.

For more information on the reorganization, please contact your team leader.

8. Reorganization

We have completed a reorganization in our Accounting Services Branch that focuses our staff toward centralization and customer service. With the increased use of Financial Management System's Internet Payment Platform (IPP) to process accounts payable invoices, we have decided to centralize accounts payable processes. Additionally, our service line managers have been assigned primary responsibility for customer service for our full-service financial management customers. Key customer agency financial management personnel have recently been contacted by the respective service line manager to provide more specific details on staffing changes.

For more information regarding the service line manager assigned to your agency, contact Dana Morr at 304-480-7071 or dana.morr@bpd.treas.gov.

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