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## ARC Monthly Bulletin – July 2010

### *Valuable information for ARC's customers*

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1. ARC Exhibit at FMS Conference

ARC will be participating as an exhibitor at the Financial Management Services (FMS) 20th Annual Government Financial Management Conference on August 3 and August 4, 2010, in Washington, DC. If you plan to attend and would like to discuss ARC's services in detail, we encourage you to schedule an appointment with Jason Hill at 304-480-7227 or [jason.hill@bpd.treas.gov](mailto:jason.hill@bpd.treas.gov). Additional conference information can be found on the FMS website at <https://www.fmsinc.org/>.

2. Discoverer Training Scheduled for August

ARC provides periodic Discoverer refresher training to assist our customers in their efforts to effectively transition newly hired staff and meet other potential training needs. This training is provided to our customers at no charge. We will be conducting Discoverer Plus and Discoverer Viewer training August 11 and August 12, 2010, in Silver Spring, MD. Active Discoverer users have received training details via email. For more information, please contact Oracle Support at 304-480-8000 (Option 3) or [oraclesupportteam@bpd.treas.gov](mailto:oraclesupportteam@bpd.treas.gov).

Date:	Class Title:	Time:	Place:
August 11	Discoverer Plus	9 am - 4 pm	EI Communications
August 12	Discoverer Viewer Session #1	9 am - 12 pm	EI Communications
August 12	Discoverer Viewer Session #2	1 pm - 4 pm	EI Communications

Please note the Discoverer Viewer courses are identical and users need only register for one of them.

### 3. TIC Designation

In an effort to reduce the number of internet connection points and enhance security government-wide, OMB (via memo M-08-05) mandated all external network communication traverse a DHS-approved Trusted Internet Connection (TIC). After months of careful planning and implementation, we received official approval from DHS on June 4, 2010, to operate two of only 64 TICs government-wide. This designation greatly enhances the position of our IT hosting services. Efforts are now underway to migrate all customer applications and connectivity hosted by ARC to our TIC infrastructure, with expected completion by this September. For additional information, contact Brian Beverage at 304-480-6456 or [brian.beverage@bpd.treas.gov](mailto:brian.beverage@bpd.treas.gov).

### 4. New Regulations Issued to Modify Definition of "Family Member"

On June 14, 2010, the Office of Personnel Management issued final regulations that more explicitly define the terms "family member" and "immediate relative" for the purposes of sick leave, funeral leave, leave transfer, and leave bank. These changes implement the President's Memorandum on Federal Benefits and Non-Discrimination and help ensure that agencies consider the needs of a diverse workforce. While the previous definitions included "anyone related by blood or affinity whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of a family relationship," the new regulations provide more examples of relationships that are covered under this phrase. Specifically, the expanded definitions now include grandparents, grandchildren, same-sex and opposite-sex domestic partners, stepparents, stepchildren, foster children, guardianship, and similar relationships. The new regulations are effective July 14, 2010, and do not apply to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), which defines "family member" much more narrowly as a spouse, son, daughter, or parent.

ARC is currently working to update the leave information on our customer web pages with this new information. To review the new regulations, go to <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2010-06-14/pdf/2010-14252.pdf>. For more information, contact your servicing pay and leave specialist at 304-480-8400 or [payroll@bpd.treas.gov](mailto:payroll@bpd.treas.gov).

### 5. SF 133 Changes to Impact FY 2011 System Controls

Due to the changes made to the presentation of the SF 133 (Report on Budget Execution and Budgetary Resources), ARC will be implementing new system controls in FY 2011 that will impact multi-year and no-year appropriations. The revised SF 133 presents disbursements from current year authority versus disbursements from prior year authority, and this breakdown is driven by the budget fiscal year that is associated with the obligation. For multi-year accounts, a cross validation rule will be established that will require obligations occurring after the first year to be recorded in the first budget fiscal year of the appropriation. For no-year accounts, funds control settings will be reviewed and possibly modified and cross validation rules will be established as appropriate so that obligations are recorded in the budget fiscal year(s) where funding is available.

ARC will be contacting each affected customer's accounting and/or budget office to discuss the FY 2011 changes to system controls and will be able to address any questions or concerns. Guidance concerning the SF 133 format is available in OMB Circular A-11 (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/a11.pdf>). For general inquiries, you may contact Lisa Pennington at 304-480-7064 or [lisa.pennington@bpd.treas.gov](mailto:lisa.pennington@bpd.treas.gov).

### 6. ARC Awards New BPAs for Relocation Home Sale Services

ARC's end-to-end relocation services include home sale services (e.g. guaranteed home sale) for those customers who offer this discretionary allowance. ARC obtains these services from third party vendors on the GSA Schedule via a blanket purchase agreement (BPA).

On May 24, 2010, ARC awarded new BPAs for relocation home sales services to Prudential Relocation and TRC Global Solutions. Prudential Relocation will provide all home sale services of GSA Schedule 48

SIN 653-1, SIN 653-4, and SIN 653-5, except for property management. TRC Global Solutions will provide the property management services.

We are currently in the process of transitioning to the two new vendors. During this implementation process, we will continue to initiate orders to our exiting vendor, Primacy Relocation, until the implementation is complete. ARC will notify customer contacts of the effective date of the new vendor and pricing. The effective date will be no later than August 31, 2010, with a much earlier date anticipated. For more information, please contact Lee Buckingham at 304-480-8420 or [lee.buckingham@bpd.treas.gov](mailto:lee.buckingham@bpd.treas.gov).

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