
ARC Monthly Bulletin – October 2012

Valuable information for ARC's customers

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1. Hurricane Sandy

For those of you impacted by Hurricane Sandy, our thoughts are with you during this blast of Mother Nature. If there is any assistance we can provide, during or after, please let us know.

For additional information, contact Michael Satterfield at 304-480-5527 or Michael.Satterfield@bpd.treas.gov.

2. Oracle Release 12 Migration Project Update

The Oracle Release 12 (R12) Migration Project is approaching the end of the deployment phase, which will continue through December 2012. Remaining customer agencies are being phased in at the beginning of each month. Agencies migrating November 1 include Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation, Financial Management Service, Office of Government Ethics and Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Customer agencies will use a new accounting flexfield (AFF) structure on all transactional documents entered in Oracle, PRISM, and systems that feed into Oracle, upon migration. The expanded structure conforms to Common Government-Wide Account Classification requirements and provides the increased flexibility requested by customer agencies to better support their diverse business practices. More information is available on the R12 website, <https://arc.fiscal.treasury.gov/app-support/oracle-r12/oracle-r12-quick-reference/>.

Customers need to evaluate all non-ARC systems (e.g., time and attendance, revenue/billing, etc.) they use or administer to determine what changes can or should be made to those systems to accommodate the new AFF structure. Feeder systems supported by ARC have been updated to support this change.

R12 initiated multiple changes to Discoverer and PRISM. Agencies are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the R12 training opportunities offered during the month leading up to their migration.

For additional information, contact us at R12Communication@bpd.treas.gov.

3. PRISM Training Scheduled for November

ARC provides quarterly PRISM refresher training at no additional charge to our customers to assist customers in their efforts to effectively integrate newly hired staff and meet other potential training needs. The PRISM Support Team will be conducting requisitioner training November 13-15 in Washington, D.C. Primary PRISM contacts will receive training details via email.

For additional information, contact PRISM Support at <mailto:prismsupport@bpd.treas.gov> 304-480-8000 (Option 2) or Prismsupport@bpd.treas.gov.

4. 2012 Federal Benefits Open Season

The 2012 Federal Benefits Open Season runs from November 12 through December 10, 2012. The annual open season allows eligible federal employees to elect or make changes to Federal Employees Health Benefits coverage, Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program coverage, and Flexible Spending Account contributions. The 2013 brochures, plan comparison tools, and other open season resource materials will be available on the Office of Personnel Management's website (www.opm.gov/insure).

For additional information, contact our Employee Benefits Branch at 304-480-8275 or Benefits@bpd.treas.gov.

5. TSP Contribution Limit Reminder

Employees covered by the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) who hit the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) annual contribution limit before the end of the tax year will miss out on agency matching contributions. The contribution limit for the 2012 tax year is \$17,000.

TSP contributions, including agency matching contributions, for FERS-covered employees will stop when the annual limit is reached. To maximize receipt of agency contributions, FERS employees should continue investing at least five percent of salary—the amount that produces the maximum agency contribution—during every pay period of the tax year. Employees covered by the Civil Service Retirement System receive no agency contributions to TSP and are not affected by this issue.

TSP's "[How Much Can I Contribute](#)" calculator can assist you in calculating the remaining TSP biweekly contributions needed to maximize agency contributions. You can also read more about the TSP annual contribution limit at <https://www.tsp.gov/making-contributions/contribution-limits/>. If you wish to change your TSP contribution amount, access the Employee Personal Page (<https://www.nfc.usda.gov/personal/>) or complete a new TSP-1 (<https://www.tsp.gov/PDF/formspubs/tsp-1.pdf>). TSP-1s should be emailed to Benefits@bpd.treas.gov or faxed to 304-480-8019.

For additional information, contact our Employee Benefits Branch at 304-480-8275 or Benefits@bpd.treas.gov.

6. DC Pensions Parkersburg Site Visit for Training

On September 18 and 19, representatives from DC Pensions and Booz Allen Hamilton were in Parkersburg to conduct training with the IT Services DC Pensions staff. The training was related to the new Hewlett Packard tools that were recently installed at Public Debt to be used by the DC Pensions

staff. The tools are: Application Lifecycle Management Quality Center and Unified Functional Tester (formerly known as Quick Test Pro).

For additional information contact Patrick Greer at 304-480-6926 or Patrick.Greer@bpd.treas.gov.

7. Veteran Affairs Public Key Infrastructure Key Generation Successful

On July 24, Public Debt IT Services signed an agreement with Veterans Affairs (VA) to host their new “best of breed” Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) for Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD-12). On August 28, VA was on-site to be a part of their key generation ceremony for their new PKI. This was a major milestone for Treasury, Public Debt, and VA. Previously, the process to stand up a new PKI was never short of three months.

IT Services designed this PKI to meet U.S. Federal Common policy and standards requirements while providing the same high level of technology and services that have positioned Treasury as a well-known and trusted “brand” in the Federal PKI community. Public Debt IT staff is also working closely with VA as they deploy their Personal Identification Cards to meet HSPD-12.

The Public Debt IT Services hosted VA PKI is the fourth federal PKI that Treasury has built under its Shared Service Provider (SSP) program since achieving that status under the General Services Administration (GSA)-managed Federal Information Processing Standards 201 Evaluation Program in July 2006. The addition of VA to our customer base leverages the sharable infrastructure we have in place, driving down operational costs across the SSP customer community.

For additional information, contact Orlando Yaconis at 304-480-8698 or Orlando.Yaconis@bpd.treas.gov.

8. ETS2 Update

The U.S. Government Accountability Office has denied the ETS-2 protest filed on June 15, 2012. GSA announcement to award the E-Gov Travel service to Concur Technologies remains.

We will be moving forward in the transition process as soon as possible. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.

For additional information, contact Diana Bonnell at 304-480-5573 or Diana.Bonnell@bpd.treas.gov.

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