



WBSCM

July 2009 WBSCM Update

The WBSCM application is currently in the final stage of development. In June, representatives from AMS, FNS, FSA, FAS, and USAID reviewed some of the key business processes with the contractor. Additional functionality is being reviewed as it is being completed with all development expected to be complete in July. Concurrently, documents and business processes are being developed and/or updated to support the commodity programs and the upcoming training activities.

Preparation Activities

• System Preparation

Those organizations that have their own systems that interface with ECOS today, should be reviewing and making adjustments to their systems based on the new data fields and updated data fields that will be a part of WBSCM. The latest data mapping information is available on the ECOS and FDD websites. If you have any questions, please contact one of the FNS POCs. Access to WBSCM will be through the Internet similar to how ECOS is accessed today. It is highly recommended that you use Internet Explorer version 6 or 7 as your browser. At this time SAP (the software that WBSCM is built on) does not support IE 8.0.

• User Preparation

Users should review their individual profiles in ECOS to ensure they contain current addresses, phone numbers, and email information. This information will be converted to WBSCM and used to register users in the application. Administrators should review their users and delete inactive users currently in ECOS.

• Training Preparation

As training is scheduled, users may be required to complete eLearning basic preparation courses to help prepare for their training activities. There will be two basic courses available: WBSCM High Level Process Overview and WBSCM Basic Navigation. Both these courses are going to be available the end of July for FNS training. Subsequently, these classes will be posted on ECOS and FDD websites for general review. Additional eLearning classes in support of external users will be available in September.

Testing

Internal System Integration Testing (SIT) has begun on some functionality. Interface testing is expected to begin in August and continue until November. As States with their own systems are ready to test their downloads and uploads, they should contact the Todd Griffith for interface format questions or Janice Fitzgerald for test scheduling, test data or test results. Users who will be involved in User Acceptance Testing (UAT) will be determined and contacted in August?

Training

Training on WBSCM will begin with Subject Matter Expert (SME) Pilot training in August for FNS designated internal individuals along with representatives from each regional office. Starting in September, training for all users will begin and continue until the end of the year. Training will be based on "roles" that each individual has been assigned in the application.

In addition to training for State agencies in September and October, FNS will sponsor Webinars for industry and organizations who participate in the National Warehouse multi-food ordering.

Contact your regional or State office if you have any questions. States will determine the training schedule for their recipients and warehouses.

The current regional training schedule is as follows:

September	October
Week of 9/7: NERO	Week of 10/5: MPRO
Week of 9/14: MARO, MWRO	Week of 10/12: SERO, MWRO
Week of 9/21: SERO, SWRO (updated)	Week of 10/19: SWRO, MARO
Week of 9/28: WRO	Week of 10/26: WRO

Planned Project Activities and Status for Calendar Year 2009

Third Quarter

- Complete development of system interfaces and file upload/download capabilities (July)
- Complete Integration Testing (August)
- Training Database Ready (August)
- Complete Training Documentation and Scenarios (July)
- Complete Pilot Training (August)
- Execute User Acceptance Testing (September)
- Execute Internal FNS User Training – FNS Employees (September-December)
- Execute External User Training – Customers, Vendors, National Warehouses (September-December)

Fourth Quarter

- Complete User Acceptance Testing (October)
- Complete USDA Training (December)
- Go Live! (December 31)

What's Next?

As WBSCM is developed and more information becomes available, FNS will be posting information on our web sites:

ECOS: <https://ecos.usda.gov>

FDD: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/wbscm>

In 2009, as part of the overall effort to get stakeholders ready for WBSCM, we will be continuing to discuss and demonstrate WBSCM functionality at customer and industry conferences including:

National Association Food Distribution Program Indian Reservations (NAFDPIR), Rapid City, SD June 27-July 3, 2009

School Nutrition Association (SNA), Las Vegas, NV June 29-July 2, 2009

Conference presentations will be posted on the ECOS and FNS web sites shortly following each conference.

Communicate with FNS – questions, concerns, issues

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