



WBSCM

May 2010 WBSCM Update

There have been some recent developments affecting the WBSCM program deployment schedule. Delays in data conversion activities and subsequent impacts on User Acceptance Testing (UAT) have caused an adjustment in WBSCM deployment plan. **WBSCM will go live with the functionality listed below on June 30, 2010.**

- Farm Service Agency Price Support Warehouse activities
- Food and Nutrition Service DoD Fresh Fruit and Vegetable payments
- Food and Nutrition Service National Warehouse multi-food ordering for CSFP and FDPIR programs

All order management and reporting functions for direct shipments and processing diversions will continue to be performed in the Electronic Commodity Ordering System (ECOS). This includes NSLP, TEFAP, SFSP, CACF, and NSIP programs as well as the direct shipment activities for CSFP and FDPIR. CSFP and FDPIR program participants will be using ECOS and WBSCM for direct shipment and multi-food respectively.

The WBSCM Project Management Office is working with the contractor to establish an approach and schedule to deploy the remaining components of WBSCM during 2010. FNS will distribute additional communications concerning the phased deployment dates as they become available.

FNS will continue to conduct training for State Agencies, ITOs and Regional Offices as scheduled. Refresher training needs will be assessed at a later date.

To ensure timely communications to all stakeholders it is recommended that all parties register for the GovDelivery service on the FDD WBSCM webpage. Registration for this service will allow users to receive email notifications when new information is posted on the website. Any changes to go-live date or other deployment related activities will be communicated through this website when they become available.

Preparation Activities

- **System Preparation**

Reminder: Access to WBSCM will be through the Internet similar to how ECOS is accessed today. It is highly recommended that you use Internet Explorer (IE) version 6 or 7 as your browser. At this time, SAP (the software that WBSCM is built on) does not support IE 8.0. WBSCM can be accessed using IE 8 by setting access using IE 7 compatibility mode. Other browsers may be used to access WBSCM but will not be tested or supported and may not display the transactions in WBSCM correctly. All browser technical specifications and set up instructions will be documented and posted on the FDD WBSCM website when they are available.

If you are in the situation where you must have IE 8, you can run in "compatibility mode". For instructions on setting up the WBSCM site for compatibility mode access <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/internet-explorer/features/easier.aspx> and select compatibility view from the navigation links on the left side of the page.

- **User Preparation**

Customers and vendors need at least a level 1 eAuthentication ID for WBSCM. Information on eAuthentication for customers and vendors is available on the USDA web site at: <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov>. An eAuth username/password is a requirement for accessing the WBSCM portal.

Please note that the email address and last name used to register for your eAuth account MUST match the last name and email address used when your WBSCM account is created. Current ECOS users will be created in WBSCM using the name and email information in ECOS. Please review your existing information and update as necessary. You will also need to complete all the eAuth registration steps for your account to be active.

Testing

WBSCM is currently in the final phase of Pre- User Acceptance Testing (UAT) . Official UAT is planned to begin May 5 and be completed in early June for functionality in phase 1 of implementation. Upon completion of phase 1 UAT, activities in support of UAT for the rest of the functionality will begin.

External Users who will be involved in interface and User Acceptance Testing (UAT) will be contacted in the near future.

Training

Training has begun for SDAs on WBSCM functionality with the April sites completing their training activities.

April

Week of 4/5: WRO, MWRO

Week of 4/12: SERO, SWRO

Week of 4/19: None

Week of 4/26: MARO, NERO

The May training schedule for SDAs is as follows:

May

Week of 5/3: MPRO

Week of 5/10: NERO

Week of 5/17: SERO, SWRO

Week of 5/24: MARO

Week of 5/31: MWRO, WRO

Representatives from FNS have been conducting the training with support from staff at each region. Training consists of slides, demos, and exercises for the trainees.

WBSCM eLearning courses have been developed for FNS external functionality and is available on ECOS along with the slides and exercises used for training.

Once WBSCM goes live, all eLearning and course material will be available on WBSCM.

FNS has begun processor training and will be training our National Warehouses used for multi-food ordering in May.

Procedures for accessing the WBSCM training database for executing training exercises are in development and will be posted on the FDD site in the next few months.

Conferences

In 2010, as part of the overall effort to get stakeholders ready for WBSCM, we have been discussing and demonstrating WBSCM functionality at industry conferences including:

American Commodity Distribution Association (ACDA), Orlando, FL April 16 –21, 2010

National Association Food Distribution Program Indian Reservations (NAFDPIR), Las Vegas, NV, April 26-29, 2010

National Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) Association, Atlanta, GA, May 24-26, 2010

School Nutrition Association (SNA), Dallas, TX July 11-14, 2010

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>

To register to receive email notifications when the WBSCM homepage on the FNS website has been updated, click the link "Email Updates" from the webpage above.

Communicate with FNS – questions, concerns, issues

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