



e*mpac Project News

*This Project Bulletin is intended to provide a brief informative update on the current successes of the e*mpac project, an overview for eProcurement and Grants Management.*

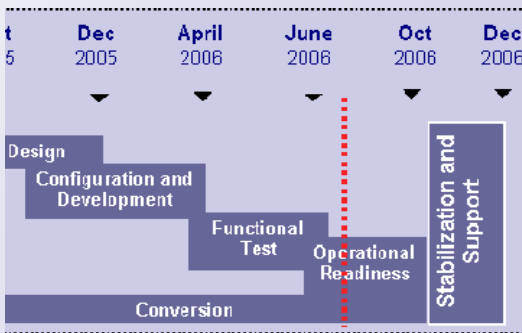


Project e*mpac Status Update

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The e*mpac project team continues to make progress toward the go live date with much enthusiasm. The excitement builds as we continue with the testing phase of the project and see the efforts to date come into focus. We are in high gear, involved in integration testing and preparation for the rollout phase of the applications.

During May, June and July the team made significant progress with system testing. During system test, the core team prepared and executed over 750 test scripts. The objective of system test is to validate system configuration and to test UMass customizations to the new Financials system. As we close out system test, we have moved into the final piece of the Test Phase, 'Integration' testing. During the next couple of months, integration test will focus on testing end-to-end business scenarios across modules, security, and upgraded and converted data.



Change Management

During this phase of the project, the Change Management Team has been focused on completing the development of training materials associated with instructor lead courses. From a readiness perspective, the campus Change Management team has facilitated eProcurement transition. As a reminder, a transition workshop is an information session to help your campus become "ready" for what is changing with the FIN Upgrade.

Navigation Tutorial

A computer based training (CBT) for learning the new system navigation is available. We recommend all users take this tutorial. Please look for an email soon with the link and other information.

Technical

The Technical team is focused on creating the batch schedule, testing connectivity for interfaces, deploying the training regions that will be used for campus training, and continuing development efforts for reports and system test support. In addition to these tasks, the team is actively pursuing the upgrade of data from the

current Financials system and the conversion of Grants data from the legacy system.

Security

The Security Team is now in full swing, defining new security. In conjunction with the Core Project Team, Change Management Leads, Data Custodians, and Security Administrators, the Security Team is working to ensure that appropriate access to data within the financials system is defined. As we establish security and access that align with the new version of the system, it is important to understand there will be some changes to the existing Financials system. For example: Operator classes are now called "roles" and allow different functionality in version 8.9. More information on Security and how it will impact you at 'go live' is forthcoming as the requirements are finalized.



eProcurement

As we upgrade the Financials system, the eProcurement component will expand the capability of the e*mpac financials purchasing module, providing a streamlined user friendly requisition process with the ability to complete the procurement process from requisition to fulfillment.

Certain changes to purchasing will become apparent as we stride toward a more effective procurement process. Some of the more significant changes were demonstrated in the eProcurement Transition workshops in July.

UMass Marketplace (Hosted Catalog Services)

The most notable change is the introduction of a hosted catalog service called the UMass Marketplace. To efficiently utilize the UMass Marketplace Catalog Services, the University has chosen a company called Perfect Commerce as the vendor who will manage the catalog content on behalf of the University.

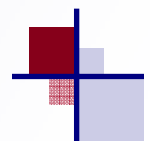
Requisition Process

Another notable change is the requisition process. Instead of filling out purchase orders, users will create requisitions which will be processed automatically into purchase orders. Users will be able to create 'description only' requisitions or Marketplace requisitions. Additionally, if a requisition is created from the UMass Marketplace, much of the information needed to complete a requisition, such as vendor, item description, price,

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Enterprise Management and Performance
Through Administrative Computing

eProcurement (continued from page one)

etc., will automatically default onto the requisition. The user will have the ability to:

- Store frequently ordered favorites
- Perform detailed searches for items by category, manufacturer, price range, etc.
- Select multiple vendors on one requisitions

University Vendors

To provide a comprehensive list of products and vendors for the UMass Marketplace, the University recently co-sponsored a vendor summit meeting with Perfect Commerce. This meeting was for those vendors representing

lab supply and office supply categories we want to be included in the first wave on the UMass Marketplace. The second wave of vendors will include office furniture, computer hardware & software, and maintenance supplies.

Over the next few months, we will see great progress in eProcurement as the project team builds the UMass Marketplace, the training procedures are finalized, and training dates are announced for all end users. ♦

