

**SFA Modernization Partner Program
Monthly Management Services Summary
For the Month of September 2001**

October 10, 2001

38.3.2d- PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SERVICES SUMMARY

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I. INTRODUCTION

This report covers the month of September 2001 and includes the following:

- Information on overall project completions/ implementations for this reporting period.
- Major milestones achieved during the month.
- Program level risks and issues.
- Monthly scorecards.
- Significantly late deliverables.

This report format is the result of a collaborative effort between SFA and Modernization Partner executives to improve the information provided to SFA Executives. We will continue to refine these monthly summaries to improve their usefulness and value. Please provide any suggestions regarding these reports to the SFA Modernization Partner Program Manager (eric.l.stackman@accenture.com or 202-651-3659).



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II. PROJECT COMPLETIONS/ IMPLEMENTATIONS FOR THIS REPORTING PERIOD

This section reports on the completion or implementation of Modernization Partner projects.

CIO

- Completed transition of Ombudsman Case Tracking System operations responsibility to ROH.
- Completed the Security Policy Administration and Execution Task Order as planned on 9/28/01. The Task Order provided policy training and administrative support to SFA System Security Officers, assisted in the preparation of SFA's Draft Security Policies, and prepared the Security Process Guidebook and integrated it with SFA's software lifecycle.

SCHOOLS

- Implemented the eCampus Based (eCB) online FISAP on 9/17/01. The online FISAP is web-based solution for schools to apply for Campus-Based funding and report on prior-year funding expenditures. The eCB system is a web front-end for Schools to use to complete their FISAP data. The team is now focused on design, development, and delivery of Release 2, which will include new functionality for the Campus Based Staff. Release 2 is scheduled to go into production in late December 2001.



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III. VALUE POINTS

This section reports value delivered above and beyond anticipated activities.

CIO

- Developed a Security Policy Guidebook as a supplement to the Software Life Cycle methodology. This guidebook serves as a reference for planning and executing security related activities for modernization initiatives.
- Scheduled a Modernization Partner wide education session with the assistance of Andy Boots, SFA's Security Champion, to increase awareness of security related processes applicable to modernization initiatives.
- Developed a framework to aid in the Brainstorming session for SFA web Portals with SFA.

ORGANIZATION TRANSFORMATION

- Identified scope and services for facilitating the SFA University Planning Meeting 10/2/01 – 10/3/01.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

- Continued to support the SFA CIO Technical Handbook IPT.
- Created Draft Master Integration Plan.
- Participated in SFA offsite which included topics such as the communication of Modernization activities and the overall integration of Modernization projects.



IV. MAJOR PROJECT MILESTONES ACHIEVED

This section presents Modernization Partner's significant accomplishments on a Channel-by-Channel basis. These milestones may include the completion of a project phase or the acceptance of a major deliverable in line with the project's workplan.

CIO

- CFO Operations team migrated all GA users off of dial-up VPN connections onto Network-based Internet connections which improved customer service and easy of use by the GA's.
- Installed the Apache struts framework at the VDC for the development and integration of the 7 portal services being designed as an extension to the Reusable Common Services architecture.
- Implemented Release 1 of the EAI core architecture consisting of MQSeries Messaging and MQSeries Integrator, and connecting 5 legacy systems (CPS, NSLDS, PEPS, bTrade/SAIG, DLSS) to the EAI bus. Release 1 of the EAI core architecture provides the middleware support required by the Modernization applications through 2002.

FINANCIAL PARTNERS

- Received acceptance of the Lender Payment Process Redesign Application Design on 9/18/01 and began Application Development. Application Development is divided into two distinct efforts: 1) The Lender Application Process (LAP) development effort includes building the application that Lenders and Servicers will use to apply for acceptance into the Student Loan Program. LAP development is scheduled to conclude on 11/7/01. 2) The Lender Payment Process System (LARS) effort will enable SFA and the Lender community to enter and process loan information which is scheduled to conclude on 12/21/01.

ORGANIZATION TRANSFORMATION

- Submitted the following Front 2 Back deliverables: Delivery Support, which documents the process for each element of design and development of the Front 2 Back training program, the Lessons Learned Analysis, which summarizes "lessons learned" by teams involved in the planning and implementation of Front 2 Back, and the Evaluation Report, which includes a report on trends resulting from participant course evaluations and recommendations for future training programs.
- Delivered the final Facilitation Support deliverable, which summarizes the last working session to resolve Human Capital planning issues allowing for the full implementation of the Career Zone.
- Delivered the Long Range SFA Human Capital Plan that identifies specific organizational strategies required to successfully implement SFA's transformation to a PBO.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

- Implemented the new Bi-Weekly Task Order Status Reporting process, which enabled the retirement of the Weekly Status Report and the Bi-Weekly Scorecards.
- Selected eProject as the collaborative computing tool for the Modernization Partner engagement. eProject utilizes a web-based team collaboration environment to facilitate communication among team members. Using a web browser team members can instantly access project information, update tasks, share documents, and collaborate on project status.

SCHOOLS

- Successfully completed the eCampus Based Production Readiness Review (PRR) on 9/13/01.
- Released sequenced communications to the School community through IFAP, trade sites and the eCampus Based Steering Committee.



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STUDENTS

- Completed code development and functional testing for FAFSA on the Web 6.0 on 9/28/01 as planned. System testing is scheduled to begin 10/2/01.
- Completed unit testing, usability testing and the first of four performance test cycles for FAFSA on the Web 6.0, which is scheduled for implementation on 1/1/02.



V. RISKS AND ISSUES

This section reports the issues and risks that are currently causing or could potentially cause a very significant impact on the Modernization Partner Program's goals.

Area	CFO - FMS
Description	The Department of Education has announced that the go-live date for GAPS and FMSS has been delayed until January 2002.
Impact	FMS will have to reestablish interfaces to GAPS for 10/1/01 go-live. SFA feeder systems will go through FMS instead of GAPS. FMS will pull confirmation data from GAPS.
Assistance Requested from SFA	OCFO will have to support FMS testing with GAPS and the Channels will have to delay their plans to connect to new GAPS.
Proposed Solution/Mitigation Strategy	The team has developed contingencies plans to meet 10/1/01 go-live.
Progress/Resolution	Contingency designs are complete and development and testing are in progress.

Area	Financial Partners - Voluntary Flexible Agreement (VFA)
Description	SFA acceptance of deliverable 74.1.2- VFA Operational Support Development and Testing a new accounting related requirement to be included in the VFA process before the system will meet SFA expectations. Risk of slipping Production Readiness Review and system go-live if the new requirement is not incorporated in time.
Impact	GA's will need to be notified of any change in go-live date.
Assistance Requested from SFA	Support from CFO Accounting Division and Financial Partners in reviewing requirements, design approach, and test results will be required.
Proposed Solution/Mitigation Strategy	The VFA project team met with representatives from SFA CFO Accounting and FP Financial Management in order to decide on a plan for implementing the new accounting requirement. The VFA project team is presently working on the plan which will require SFA CFO Accounting approval. Upon receiving approval, VFA Operational Support Development and Testing Sign-off will be re-submitted for SFA acceptance.
Progress/Resolution	Accounting changes have been approved and updated and are undergoing testing.



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VI. TASK ORDER STATUS REPORT SUMMARY

This section presents an extract of all “Red” assessed criteria. The extract is taken from the Bi-Weekly Task Order Status Reports. (See Appendix VI. for the more information on the Bi-Weekly Task Order Status Reports.)

Task Order	Assessment Criteria	Assessment	Comments
TO 77 WO 02 - Common Origination & Disbursement	Overall	Red	The overall project status remains Critical due delays in defining COD requirements. These activities are approximately 99% complete. All Recommended Solution Documents (RSDs) have been through initial review and 13 of 14 have been finalized. Development is underway for Release 1.0a. The target sign-off for all Definition Phase deliverables is 10/12/01.