

DEAMS at PDI

The DEAMS display and briefings at the 2011 Professional Development Institute for the American Military Comptrollers Association attracted a lot of attention. This year's annual event took place June 1-3 in Minneapolis.



Pete Gavornik, DEAMS Functional Management Office (above center), discusses DEAMS capabilities with a PDI attendee and future DEAMS user.



(Left) SSgt. Michael Duchesne, from Scott AFB, Ill., and Sam Runnels, DEAMS Functional Management Office, discuss Duchesne's experiences with DEAMS.

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Audience raises questions during PDI briefing

Service Day at this year's American Society of Military Comptrollers Professional Development Institute in Minneapolis featured a DEAMS demonstration. Audience members were given the opportunity to ask questions during and after the demo. Highlights of the session are included below.

Q: Can users attach documents to records in DEAMS?

A: Yes. A step in the requisition process offers three capabilities:

- You can attach a web address. For example, if you have a document in a central online depository such as a SharePoint server, you can add the specific URL for the document.
- You can attach a note, which is a long field of text.
- You can attach an item in many of the standard formats such as Word, Excel or PDF.

Q: Do users receive an email notification when a document requires their approval?

A: A user can select through their system preferences to receive email notifications. If they do not select that option, they will have to log

into the system to see that documents are available for their approval.

Q: Is there an ability to have multiple workflow or approval processes?

A: Yes. The capability does exist but we have to balance it against all the needs of the Air Force. The application allows you to get very complicated with the workflow, which right now is a pretty standard flow. For example, requisitions can be sent outside the normal workflow for external approval at any point in the process. There also is a standardized approval flow for a purchase requisition; a planning requisition goes through the workflow up to a certain point and stops because the document is not funded. Forms 9 and interdepartmental purchase requests go through the contracting office.

Q: Can you have multiple lines of accounting on a document?

A: Yes. You can select to split out the distribution when you enter the line of accounting.

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Q: Addresses are usually built during the first couple weeks of the new fiscal year. How do you record charges in DEAMS before they're built?

A: DEAMS doesn't use addresses or fund summary records. The long line of accounting is built based off of the project, task, expenditure type, and expenditure organizations in the system. The DEAMS Functional Management Office builds the projects and tasks months in advance for the new year. During the fiscal year 2011 changeover, the FMO had those set up beforehand so you could actually start loading and pre-positioning your transactions so they were ready to go at midnight on Sept. 30.

Q: What if a person has permissions to both enter and approve transactions?

A: That is allowed as long as you don't try to enter a requisition and perform the final certification. From an audit perspective, that is not allowed; thus, the system will not allow it.

Q: How does DEAMS work with CRIS and FM Suite?

A: We provide a feed to the Commanders' Resource Integration System every two-three hours, just like the legacy system does. We do not provide a feed to FM Suite, but it can pick up a feed similar to CRIS and use that data.

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Scott Steber explains a DEAMS process while Noel Denlinger projects a demonstration onto a screen for an audience of the American Society of Military Comptrollers June 1 in Minneapolis. Steber and Denlinger are both from the DEAMS Functional Management Office in Fairview Heights, Ill. The demonstration was followed by a question and answer session.

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Q: Does FM Suite go away and will we do the open document listing in CRIS?

A: FM Suite does not go away. It will pull the information from CRIS, not DEAMS. There is a long-term solution on the horizon.

Q: Will ABSS go away?

A: Yes, at least for those who use DEAMS. DEAMS will convert and replace open documents from the Automated Business Services System as it deploys at each location. Historical files will remain accessible through ABSS.

Q: Will CCaRS go away?

A: The Comprehensive Cost and Requirement System is the last functionality that DEAMS will pick up, so we'll address it at that time. There are several interfaces that we will have to address as we roll out and as systems are replaced.

Q: For those of us who are using CCaRS, what will the tenant units do when you deploy to our base?



Noel Denlinger addresses a future DEAMS user's questions following the DEAMS demonstration at PDI.

A: We will address that after we formalize the rollout schedule and determine how it affects users.

DEAMS Transitions

Arriving

Megan Knop

Kearney & Company
Program Management Support

Srinivas Matta

Ernst & Young
Interface

Eric Ray

Kearney & Company
Procure to Pay

Converting

JR Horne

Kearney & Company to Government
Procure to Pay

DEAMS Outreach

McGinley signs on as new TCJ8

James L. McGinley is the Director of Program Analysis and Financial Management for U.S. Transportation Command headquarters at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

As the single point of contact for all program and financial management issues in the command, TCJ8 advocates and defends programs important to the Defense Transportation System; performs budgeting and budget execution for the headquarters and its component commands; develops financial management guidance, policy and procedures for the Transportation Working Capital Fund; and



provides financial management advice to the command.

Prior to his current position, McGinley was the Deputy Director of Financial Management, Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Do you have an upcoming event? Regional conference? Mini-PDI?

DEAMS speakers are available to update your group on the current status of DEAMS as well as the way ahead.

Contact the DEAMS Functional Management Office at (618) 622-5700.

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Defense Enterprise Accounting and Management System

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All photos by the *Current Account* staff unless otherwise noted.