

Information Paper

CEFC-F
29 October 2001

SUBJECT: U.S. Bank PowerTrack System

1. PURPOSE: To provide USACE Resource Managers and F&A Officers with background and status on PowerTrack.

2. BACKGROUND:

The Secretary of Defense directed in Management Reform Memorandum 15 that business process reengineering efforts be developed for transportation services. The reengineering process has resulted in the gradual elimination of the Government Bill of Lading (GBL) as a payment mechanism. The GBL process is being replaced by the US Bank PowerTrack payment system.

PowerTrack is an online payment system for DoD commercial transportation vendors. The commercial transportation vendor is paid by US Bank and the DoD activity reimburses US Bank based on a monthly billing statement. PowerTrack resembles the IMPAC credit card process without the plastic. PowerTrack provides a means to pay transportation vendors timely and provide DoD Transportation Officers a consolidated, itemized monthly billing statement for all freight charges. As of 30 September 2001, GBLs are not to be used for DoD domestic freight shipments.

3. FACTS:

PowerTrack is currently available to all USACE activities and it did not require any special CEFMS programming. The first USACE activity to use the PowerTrack system was the New Orleans District in February 2001. The USACE Finance Center has paid US Bank \$40,846 using the PowerTrack billing system for Memphis, New Orleans, St. Louis, Huntington, Pittsburgh, Detroit and Mobile Districts as well as ERDC, since February 2001. The Alaska District began utilizing PowerTrack in September 2001.

Some USACE Transportation Offices are also transitioning the payment of Federal Express (FedEx) shipments from PowerShip (Fed Ex software package) to PowerTrack. The Detroit District was the first and currently is the only UFC supported activity to complete the transition.

ASA (FM) issued guidance on processing and reporting PowerTrack payments to DFAS. The USACE Resource Management Office, Accounting Division (CERM-F) and Logistic Office (CELO-T) are working to establish definitive reporting requirements for USACE activities and payment offices.

PowerTrack is also being tested to replace the current GBL process for Permanent Change of Station (PCS) household good shipments. Since USACE activities currently utilize a military base transportation office for PCS household good shipments via GBL, the billing will appear on the military base's PowerTrack billing. The military base transportation office must contact the UFC and forward a copy of the billing statement for payment to be made directly to US Bank. The UFC will contact the USACE supported activity, request a CEFMS obligation be established and EFT the payment to First Bank. A business process to eliminate lag time in receiving monthly banking statements from transportation offices is being developed.

4. APPROVED BY: Stephen Coakley, Director Resource Management, CERM, 202-761-0077.

Pete Brown
CEFC-F