

**USACE FINANCE CENTER
BIWEEKLY REPORT
PERIOD ENDING 23 JANUARY 2001**

CEFMS:

- a. Don Forbus is attending the Critical Design Review for FEM in Montgomery, Alabama. He was present on 23 January for review of interfacing systems.
- b. Advanced Technology Services, Inc.(ATS) is continuing to take steps to get CEFMS JFMIP certified. Two of the steps ATS wants to take are:
 - (1) Obtain Contracting Officer approval to copyright the software,
 - (2) Grant the government a worldwide license to reproduce, prepare derivative works, and perform publicly on behalf of the government.I had had a conference call with GSA and ATS and ATS is to send additional information to me and to GSA on what they want to do and under what authority. I will send that information to Col. Frye and Mike Adams for contracting and legal review respectively. I also confirmed that GSA would not take additional steps without USACE approval. More to come later.
- c. Mary Braun, CGFM, Chief, Fiscal Accounting, and three other National Guard members requested a demo of CEFMS for possible use as the Guard's financial management system. This request resulted from a meeting with Mr. Ernie Gregory (ASA-FM) where he recommended that the National Guard look at CEFMS. The demo/briefing was accomplished on 18-19 January. We answered all their questions and covered all the functionality they wanted to see. We have not heard back from them, but we will keep you updated on additional contact.
- d. GAO started their follow-up review on the FISCAM Audit. They will be in the CEFMS Development Office 22-24 January and return for a week in mid-February.

PROBLEM REPORTS/IMBALANCES:

- a. The open problem report inventory is 749 versus 761 on the last report. The inventory includes 88 Priority #1 problem reports. The open inventory also includes 6 problem reports related to the CEFMS Modernization/GUI work management effort.
- b. Fifty-six (56) of the sixty-one (61) active databases have no imbalances. Three (3) have one, one (1) has two and one (1) has thirty. Total of database imbalances across the system is 35 versus 20 on the last report. (Note: The thirty imbalances at one site were a result of an improper journal voucher. The site will reverse that entry and we will prepare a script for final correction.)

ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS:

NUMBER AND LOCATION OF ONBOARD PERSONNEL:

LOCATION:	NUMBER:
HUNTSVILLE	25
MILLINGTON	286
WASHINGTON	1
TOTAL	312

DISBURSING WORKLOAD DATA:

PAYMENT	Current Month	Year to Date
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BY CHECK:

Checks Issued	13,024	72,331
Percent of Total	43%	39%
Dollar Amount	\$148,144,944	\$729,742,971

BY EFT:

Transfer Made	16,983	114,050
Percent of Total	57%	61%
Dollar Amount	\$338,999,196	\$2,033,069,251

OTHER UFC ISSUES:

a. On 19 January we submitted the Information Technology Investment Portfolio System (ITIPS) FY02 update for CEFMS and CEEMIS. For both AIS, there were substantial increases in budget amounts for FY02 and the outyears. These increased budget requests represent more realistic estimates of resources necessary to maintain these two AIS.

b. The Finance Center will be installing a local Firewall next week in coordination with the Security Operations Center at the Central Processing Center. The local Firewall will enhance the security of the Finance Center Local Area Network and the CEEIS Network.

c. Nominations were solicited and the winner selected for the FY00 UFC Team of the Year Award, which will be presented at the next Town Hall meeting in February. The Team Player of the Quarter for the first quarter of FY01 has also been chosen for presentation at the Town Hall meeting, along with the Peer Awards for FY00.

d. Modern DCPDS will be deployed to the South Central CPOC on 2 February 2001. The CPOC has provided a detailed deployment plan for its serviced sites and has also provided Modern System training at the Finance Center for the local CPAC and other frequent users of the current PPI system. During the deployment period, we will be monitoring the personnel and pay databases and we will manually request personnel actions that are of an emergency nature.

e. All CP-11 supervisors at the Finance Center are currently completing their Comptroller Accreditation packages. The supervisors will meet with the Director on 29 January to discuss the process and resolve any problems or concerns. All non-supervisory CP-11 employees at the Finance Center will then be briefed on the Comptroller Accreditation Program by their supervisors and will begin work on their own packages to be completed by the end of February.

f. On 12 January Finance Center employees attended and participated in the Naval Support Activity (NSA), Mid-South ceremony in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This was a program prepared by the NSA Special Emphasis Program committee. The Finance Center has a representative on this committee, which provides cultural, ethnic, and gender observances throughout each year.

g. Status on Preparing 1099-Misc for Calendar Year 2000. The completion of IRS Forms 1099-Misc is an automated process in CEFMS. The process generates files for electronic submission to the IRS. Currently, our accountants are extracting and reviewing payment data to ensure accuracy of the Forms 1099-Misc. We will mail the 1099-Misc forms to vendors no later than 31 January 2001. The submission of the 1099-Misc data to the IRS will be sent electronically.

h. Two GAO auditors are scheduled to visit the finance center the week of 26 February for 3 days to perform follow up work on the findings and recommendations from their FISCAM audit completed in January 2000. There will also be two PwC auditors and one Army Audit Agency auditor accompanying the GAO auditors. We are preparing briefings and information papers to present to the auditors to help ensure they are familiar with the internal controls we have in place and help them understand how our systems work.

i. On 23 January 2001 the UFC employed locally designed and programmed ORACLE software Federal Tax Computation System (FEDTAX) to produce and mail 1,431 IRS Forms W-2, representing PCS benefits paid during calendar year 2000. During the period of 1 October 2000 through 31 December 2000 an additional 317 W-2's were produced, and prior to deployment of FEDTAX, 415 were manually prepared, representing benefits paid under the Housing Assistance Program (HAP), bringing the total to 2,163 during calendar year 2000. Our Federal Tax Computation System (FEDTAX) was designed to record taxable and non-taxable wages and benefits paid to members for PCS, HAP, and other legal liabilities for which FICA, Medicare, and Government Contributions are required. FEDTAX provides for data entry of benefits, computes federal tax withholdings, reconciles input to CEFMS' Disbursing Module, check registers, and CEFMS employee records. FEDTAX also prepares and balances the IRS Form 941 to account for Agency payments.

As a direct result of this automation effort the UFC is able to interface with two separate programs offered by the IRS and Social Security Administration. These are a Magnetic Media Reporting and Electronic Filing (MMREF-1) data transmission of annual W-2 information and an interface with ACCUWAGE2000, designed to perform quality checks on automated data submissions.

j. During the period 1 January 2001 through 19 January 2001, the UFC completed a 100% joint review of 14,610 CEFMS access control records, 12,950 Electronic Signature records and 21,260 UPASS access capabilities for UFC employees. Utilizing a joint review report produced by the UFC developed Access Request/Approval Tracking System (ARATS), which depicts individual CEFMS access control authorities, and electronic signature capabilities, by employee and organization code, each UFC supervisor reviewed their employees authorities not only on the UFC database, but each CEFMS database for which their employees maintain authorities. A letter indicating completion of this 100%

review will be issued to each USACE activity supported by the UFC, as assurance of the authentication effort and support for internal reviews and external audit agencies.

We will demonstrate the capabilities of ARATS to GAO/PwC for an opinion during their UFC FISCAM follow-up audit 26 February 2001.

John Templeton, CEIR, has recommended deployment of ARATS USACE wide to automate the current manual access control records process throughout the USACE.

k. PowerTrack accounts have been enabled at activities within NA, NWD, LRD, POD, SAD, MVD, TAC, ERDC and HNC. We are in the process of making our first payment to 1st Bank for New Orleans District. We are working new procedures (instructions) through Belinda Camp, CELO-P, for the USACE activities transportation offices to cut/paste the PowerTrack statement from the Internet and e-mail to the UFC POC for PowerTrack. This will provide the UFC the means to make payment faster and save postage cost.

l. The UFC will have its initial meeting with the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers Union local 259 representatives on 25 January 2001 to begin discussing contract negotiation ground rules. The UFC management proposed ground rules have been drafted and reviewed by the Memphis District labor relation personnel and the Office of Counsel. Since most of the issues relating to ground rules are negotiable, final rules must await the outcome of discussions with the union. Once the ground rules have been finalized, a memorandum of understanding will be developed and signed by both UFC management and union officials.

m. Beginning on 7 February 2001 for two days, the UFC will sponsor a joint management/union training session presented by the Federal Labor Relation Authority on statutory right and responsibilities.

n. The USACE Finance Center finalized and submitted the USACE FY 2000 CFO statements in the DFAS DDRS system on 19 January 2001. No additional changes will be made unless requested by AAA or the DoDIG.

o. On 19 February 2001, Linda Stoutenburgh met with Larry Pierce, PM Foreign Military Sales, and Monica Malia, SAUS-IA-DSA, and the KPMG the SAUS-IA-DSA contractors to discuss USACE implementation of Performance Based Budgeting (PBB) and Performance Based Costing (PBC) for the Foreign Military Sales Administrative Program. CERM-F and CERM-B also had representative attending the meeting. Linda explained the CEFMS business process and its capability to provide the information. Monica Malia recommended that Linda brief her boss on the USACE business processes for tracking budgets, costs and automated information that supports those cost. One of Linda's concerns was that CERM-P was not represented in the meeting since it involved performance measures and activity based costing.