

Inside this issue:

GFEBs Pilot and Prototype Scenarios pp 1-2
 Recommendations to the Commander pp 1-2
 GFEBs at ASMC PDI pg 1
 Questions from the Field pg 2

The Gfebs Times

The latest on the Army's new financial ERP



RELEASE 1.2 ISSUE 2

JUNE 22, 2007

WWW.GFEBs.ARMY.MIL

GFEBs Prototype Sessions

— June workshops demonstrating business process scenarios —

From June 25th–28th, the GFEBs Team will be holding a series of Prototype sessions. These Prototype sessions focus on scenarios which will demonstrate key Army business processes in GFEBs and are designed to show “day in the life” activities which occur in the GFEBs system. Mr. John Pracchia, GFEBs Functional Team Co-Lead, notes, “The Prototype workshops will provide the opportunity to validate GFEBs business processes in SAP by showing valid Army scenarios. The GFEBs team welcomes Subject Matter Expert (SME) input during the Prototype working sessions in order to ensure the GFEBs team is on the right path to a successful design.” These sessions will show how business processes might differ from the past and it is the first opportunity for the Army and DFAS SMEs to see these changes within GFEBs.

The scenarios cover all the functional sub-process areas - Reimbursables, Spending Chain, Cost Management, Funds Management, Plant, Property and Equipment (PP&E), and Financials. The following 6 scenarios are being featured at the Prototype sessions:

1. Company Relocation - Major and Minor

Construction

In this scenario, a company is returning from Germany to Ft. Hood. An advance party of Bravo Company will be leaving immediately from Germany and fill vacant space at Ft. Hood in a facility that needs refurbishing. The remainder of the company will relocate once a new facility is constructed.

Main Objectives:

- Demonstrate ability to capture master plans for Real Property
- Capture costs related to construction in progress (Minor/Major)
- Show life cycle from asset creation to acceptance

2. Direct Charge Project Order Missile Guidance System

Program Executive Office (PEO) Program Management, Close Combat Weapons System (CCSW) will manage the development of the Missile Guidance System. As part of the development, PEO assigns a Cost Analyst from Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM) Cost Directorate to “direct charge” the PEO in order to work on the Missile Guidance System. In addition, the Navy will fund

Continued on page 2

Recommendations to the Commander

How GFEBs can help you and your organization

AT A STAFF MEETING, THE GARRISON COMMANDER DISCUSSES THE PREPARATION AND PLANNING FOR RECEIVING A NEW BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM WITH KELLY – DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS AND JAN – DIRECTOR OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT.

Commander: Let’s get this meeting started. The decision has been made; we are getting another brigade, and it is coming from Germany. It will be a new Brigade Combat Team. We all need to pull together to make this happen quickly and smoothly. Kelly, I want you and your Engineer staff to generate a master plan that includes facilities and infrastructure actions that we need to take. Make sure you include any temporary and permanent actions. How long will it take you to do that?

Kelly: Sir, with the new enterprise system, GFEBs, we can do it a lot faster than in the past. It includes a complete inventory of all of our facilities including current uses and capacity, and even condition information. GFEBs will really help us pull together a master plan.

Commander: You also need to provide cost estimates, and probably some alternatives.

Kelly: Right sir. GFEBs includes a wealth of prior cost information for projects going back a number of years. We’ll look at what we did in the past and how much it cost, and we’ll use that to build cost estimates for the new work. Since GFEBs maintains all the prior experience data and it is organized and on-line, it will make our job easier and quicker.

Commander: Good. Jan, I want you to assign someone from your shop as the lead budget analyst. The person you choose to assign needs to work closely with the Engineer folks to get the budget request ready. For the rest of you – you each need to estimate the impact of one more brigade on the services and support that you provide. The Soldiers and their families deserve good, safe working environments as well as first-class housing and quality of life support. We need to make sure that they get it. I want to see your estimate of the impact on every Service Support Program (SSP) and then we need to get this into our budget submission.

Continued on page 2

GFEBs Participates in May ASMC PDI

GFEBs participated in the American Society of Military Comptrollers PDI in Kansas City, MO, May 29th – May 31st. The GFEBs booth attracted significant traffic from conference attendees and VIP visits from LTG David F. Melcher, Mili-

tary Deputy for Budget, and Mr. Zach Gaddy, Director of Defense Finance and Accounting Service.

In addition to visiting the GFEBs booth, participants also had the opportunity to learn about GFEBs in two workshops on Wednesday, May 30th. In the Army Financial Management Systems Transformation workshop, Mr. John Miller, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Information Management), gave an overview briefing and provided status updates on GFEBs. Mr. Steve Barth, Chief, Cost and Performance Management, ASA FM&C, also led a workshop on Managing Costs Under GFEBs which included discussion on benefits that GFEBs offers the Army as well as the challenges the Army faces in cost management to implement GFEBs. Mr. Stephen T. Bagby, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Cost and Economics), introduced this session and advocated the GFEBs program stating, “I am a huge supporter of GFEBs. I see GFEBs bringing the Army community a cost management system that we have never had before.”

ON THE ROAD WITH GFEBs

9 Jul Acquisition Support Center Roadshow at Ft. Belvoir, VA

12 Jul AFCEA Army IT Day in Tysons Corner, VA

18 Jul Army Contracting Organizations Roadshow in Arlington, VA

8 Aug DFAS End of Year Conference in Rome, NY

21 Aug LandWarNet Conference in Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Recommendations

Continued from page 1

Jan: Sir, everyone has access to historical cost and output or production data in GFEBs. Like the Facilities Engineer staff, everyone can use that data and the “what-if” capability in the Business Warehouse for analysis to estimate what they will need to finish the work. We’ll work with everyone to set up master records and project codes in GFEBs. Then, all the results will be pulled together and we will see how the pieces are coming together. GFEBs will make preparation and planning much easier than in the past.

Commander: OK. And Jan, once we get started, it’s my understanding that in GFEBs we use the same project codes to track progress?

Jan: Yes sir. We’ll use GFEBs to distribute the funds and then to track expenditures and progress across the functional

projects. We can do this on-line and in real-time or the next day if we need to rely on file transfers from other systems.

Commander: I can see that GFEBs is a tool that will provide increased analytical capabilities. This will increase our ability to make smarter decisions because the data will be real time, accurate and integrated. Let’s get moving!

GFEBs, the Army’s principal financial management transformation initiative, is progressing on schedule. It will deliver many new capabilities to the Army and DFAS. As a decision-support system, Army commanders and leaders will be able to balance competing priorities and ensure that the Warfighters receive the necessary resources.



QUESTIONS FROM THE FIELD

When will GFEBs impact my organization?

In Release 1.2, GFEBs will implement full General Fund functionality, replacing Standard Finance System (STANFINS) at Fort Jackson Garrison and associated supporting financial management organizations, at HQDA, IMCOM HQ, IMCOM SE Region, and DFAS. In Release 1.3, GFEBs will implement full General Fund functionality replacing STANFINS for the operational Army (most commands and direct reporting units), including the Guard and Reserves. In Release 1.4, GFEBs will be fielded to remaining activities replacing Standard Operation and Maintenance Army Research and Development System (SOMARDS) for the Army’s sustaining base (AMC, ATEC, and PEO’s). GFEBs will work with all impacted organizations in preparation for implementation.

GFEBs Prototypes: Business Process Scenarios

Continued from page 1

the additional tests on the Systems, which are to be completed by Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC).

Main Objectives:

- Demonstrate Direct Charge process
- Demonstrate processing of a Reimbursable Project Order issued to the Army by another DoD agency

3. Process for Installation Management Command (IMCOM) Service Support Programs (SSP)

Ft. Hood garrison is preparing for the redeployment of a brigade. For the past year, two of its three dining facilities have been “mothballed”. Upon inspection, HVAC repairs need to be completed by the Department of Public Works (DPW). Also, the garrison will exercise a task order on the existing custodial services contract in order to prepare the facilities for the brigade’s return. The garrison will amend the cleaning contract within Common Level of Support (CLS) referencing the appropriate SSP.

Main Objectives:

- Demonstrate the formal and informal funds distribution processes
- Track commitments, obligations, expense, and disbursements by SSP
- Demonstrate “hard stop” for insufficient funds

4. Ammunition Procurement and Unit Training for Army National Guard (ARNG)

An ARNG unit is scheduled to conduct

annual training at Ft. Bragg. The PEO Ammunition and Joint Munitions Command (JMC) have determined that the Army is in short supply of the training ammunition required to support the exercise, so the PEO authorizes funds for contract modifications to increase production of the ammunition by two manufacturers. Concurrently, the contracts will be modified to incorporate requirements for the Navy and Air Force. For both the Guard unit and IMCOM, Ft. Bragg will independently track each of their costs for the training exercise, and those costs will subsequently be merged to determine the total costs to the Army.

Main Objectives:

- Demonstrate ammunition procurement from multiple suppliers using Army procurement and reimbursable funds
- Illustrate Allocation and Reporting procedures for the training exercise by transferring costs incurred by IMCOM and Ft. Bragg to the ARNG to report the full cost of the exercise

5. Army National Guard (ARNG) Contingency Operation using supplemental funds

An ARNG military police unit has received mobilization (MOB) orders for deployment to Iraq. Some validation requirements / training are completed at the home station. Residual requirements are scheduled to be completed at the MOB platform (Ft. McCoy). Unit mission equipment requirements are fulfilled via

organic on-hand equipment or theater in-place equipment.

Main Objectives:

- Demonstrate processing using supplemental funding
- Demonstrate processes for chain of custody for capital equipment, accountability from in-transit accounts to deploying unit account

6. Period-End and Year-End Close

An accountant at Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) Indianapolis is monitoring the close procedures and tasks for period-end and year-end close with Army Headquarters.

Main Objectives:

- Demonstrate the monitoring of the closing process through Schedule Manager
- Demonstrate the automated asset depreciation process
- Demonstrate the automatic settlement of Construction in Process
- Demonstrate the reconciliation tool
- Demonstrate the automatic processing of expired funds
- Demonstrate the automatic processing of canceled funds
- Demonstrate the pre-closing/closing program
- Demonstrate the period closing procedures

♦ ♦ ♦

The outcome of these Prototype working sessions will be beneficial in validating the continued design of the Army’s new financial system - GFEBs. The scenario presentations will be recorded so that they can be shared with Commands in the future. If you are interested in viewing the Prototype recordings, please contact GFEBs at gfebs.info@us.army.mil and we will work to schedule a session based on the availability of the recordings.

More Information:

For more about GFEBs and the latest news, visit the program’s website at www.gfebs.army.mil.

FEEDBACK: For questions, comments, or suggestions about articles, email us at gfebs.info@us.army.mil.