



IDW Communiqué



I-MANAGE Data Warehouse: *Your link to DOE's Corporate Business Systems*

In This Issue

1. September Month End
2. Year End Update
3. Adjustment Periods
4. Continuing Improvement! Release 1.4
5. Comparing MARS Balance Sheet Code with MARS SGL
6. Plus User Training!

September Month End

September has been closed and the Energy Finance and Accounting Service Center (EFASC) opened the October FY06 period for all STARS modules. However, STARS is still accepting FY05 transactions relevant to year-end processing after normal business hours. Therefore, you should be aware that until September is permanently closed, you may see changes in your September reports. These changes often relate to data that needs to be entered for Integrated Contractors, monthly cost accruals, or other required entries. The IDW team will let you know when September will no longer be open after regular business hours.

Year End Update

Year-end closing activities are still ongoing. Until year-end activities are complete, accurate beginning balances will not be automatically populated in STARS. During this interim period, you should review your September-ADJ1 (SEPADJ1-05) ending balance in order to calculate your FY06 beginning balances. The IDW team will notify you as soon as valid FY06 beginning balance information is available. We will continue to make you aware of key year-end activities and will inform you when the year is closed, and when reports are available.

If you have any questions or problems with year-end processes, please contact the Help Desk either by email at I-MANAGE.HelpDesk@hq.doe.gov, or by calling either (301) 903-2500 or (866) 834-6246 and selecting Option 4. The Help Desk's hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:00 am - 6:00 pm EST. Be sure to let them know if your question is related to required year-end activities so they can take note of that on the ticket.

Adjustment Periods

In addition to the normal monthly accounting periods, STARS uses three additional periods, called Adjusting Periods, to capture transactions that occur outside of the normal business flow. These periods include two end-of-year periods (SEPADJ1 and SEPADJ2) and one beginning-of-year period (OCTADJ1).

SEPADJ1 is used for post-closing adjustments, including the old CP entries from DISCAS. If you need to report on final FY ending balances, you should use SEPADJ1. Most IDW users will not need to view data for the other two adjusting periods. However, for your information, SEPADJ2 is used for the year-end close process, which records closure of appropriations and roll-up of budgetary accounts for statutory reporting. OCTADJ1 is used to support the balance carry forward process; beginning balances for budgetary accounts are created in this period.

Continuing Improvement! Release 1.4

The IDW team is pleased to announce yet another new release! Release 1.4 will be available towards the end of the first quarter. It will provide you with enhanced capabilities in response to your requests. These enhancements include an advanced printing capability and several other new features. The enhanced printing capability should be especially well received as it will provide you with the flexibility to print columns that you designate and hide columns you do not want to see.

Release	Functionality	User Impact
1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Upgrade to 10gAS R2- Save Reports in Viewer- Dashboard Enhancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Advanced page setup and printing capability- Plus users can share reports with standard viewer users- Supports manager's ability to make sound financial management decisions

Comparing MARS Balance Sheet Code and MARS SGL

As you know, the Department of Treasury requested that all principal financial statements be submitted in a Standard General Ledger (SGL) format. As a result of the change, some known differences exist between the legacy Balance Sheet Code (BSC) and new SGL Status of Obligations reports. For example, under Accounts Receivable – Refunds, BSC accounts beginning with “143” were excluded from the legacy DISCAS Summary of Obligation reports that used BSC accounting. These same accounts, converted to SGL “48” and “49”, are appearing in the SGL Status of Obligations reports. Therefore, if you compare a DISCAS BSC report for March to either a MARS SGL or STARS SGL report for March, they will not appear identical. The IDW uses the new STARS SGL format for all reports, so you can be assured that the data you view in the IDW is up-to-date using the Department's improved methodology.

Plus User Training!

Plus User training is back! Two Plus User training sessions will take place at the end of November. The first will be on Tuesday, December 6, and the second on Wednesday, December 7. You will only need to attend one session. These training sessions will be in the Forrestal training room, GE-017, from 9:00am to 4:30pm.

Management has already recommended training participants; however, if you feel you were erroneously excluded from this group, please send an e-mail requesting IDW Plus class registration to IDW@hq.doe.gov. Please keep in mind that Plus is designed for “super users” in each organization that will design custom reports and queries for the organization to use. These users should have a working knowledge of SQL as well as exposure to report design software such as Discoverer Plus, Crystal Reports, Business Objects or Cognos. If you have already received an invitation, please do not forget to RSVP with the day you plan to attend.

In Future Issues

1. Program Office Updates
2. New Release Information
3. Profile of an IDW User Series
4. EM & EE Recasts

IDW Project Information

I-MANAGE Program site: <http://www.mbe.doe.gov/me2-5/i-manage/>

I-MANAGE Program Manager: Warren Huffer, warren.huffer@hq.doe.gov, 301-903-3761

IDW Project Manager: Lajos Grof-Tisza, lajos.grof-tisza@hq.doe.gov, 301-903-1798

To be added to the IDW Communiqué mailing list, please send an email to IDW@hq.doe.gov

