



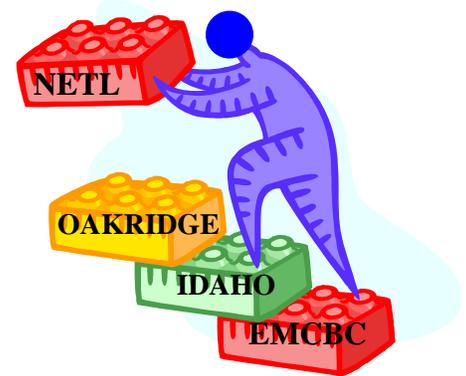
The STRIPES Communiqué is one of the many ways you will receive information and progress updates about the STRIPES Project. If you did not receive this communiqué via e-mail and would like to be added to the STRIPES mailing list, send an e-mail to STRIPES@hq.doe.gov with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

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NETL is Next to Go-Live

STRIPES implementations continue to stack up as the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) becomes the fourth Site to join the pack in Fiscal Year 2009. In keeping with the deployment process, NETL requested 1,125 awards to be selected for reconstruction. Of these instruments, 1,086 award records were established in STRIPES, resulting in a 99.4% success rate. To-date, NETL has recorded the most productive percentage of successful reconstructs, becoming the first Site to reach the 90th percentile mark prior to the actual award release.



Unique to the NETL reconstruction was the processing of Item Awards reconstructs which contain one header, one line per item, one shipment per item AFF, and one distribution per shipment. The reconstruction effort for these award types put added weight to validating historic data against reconstructed awards, especially information flowing between PADS, STARS, and STRIPES. Noting these challenges, the NETL and STRIPES teams worked rigorously to execute its data cleansing activities and manually update hundreds of records, to turnaround reconstructed instruments in a timely fashion, as they continue the drive towards releasing its awards.

STRIPES Post-Deployment Feedback

The STRIPES implementation is at the half-way point with eight Sites in post-deployment status. Moving along to operational mode, the Site Points of Contact (SPOCs), Super Users, and Training support are noticing a change in their workforce's adoption of the STRIPES system. SPOCs and Super Users commented that users are less reliant on them or the STRIPES Helpdesk for direct support. Users gradually gained a better understanding of which issues were due to a technical glitch in the system versus those issues which were unique to the processes at their specific Sites. Those Sites that created customized how-to guides and administered one-on-one training, walking users through the process of entering requisitions in STRIPES, attest these measures to flattening the learning curve and enabling users to become more self-sufficient and proficient in processing actions. SPOCs also observed a greater sense of accountability and less finger-pointing from their personnel by ironing out the roles and responsibilities. Additionally, SPOCs echoed that the STRIPES software forces quality and standardization in work performance, including the much-needed collaboration between the Finance, Budget, and Procurement offices. All in all, after some time, users have expressed a more favorable outlook on STRIPES.

Important Reminders

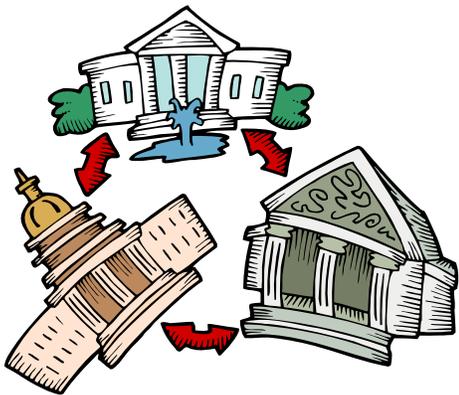
Official Contract Document in STRIPES

During previous training sessions it was discussed that STRIPES maintains the official contract file. In the transition to a paperless environment, some users continue to print documents using them as "Working Copies". It is important to reiterate that **STRIPES will maintain the official contract file except in certain specific instances**. Working copies are not substitutes for the official versions. For auditing purposes in particular, STRIPES users must ensure that there is no confusion as to which document should be viewed as the "Official" file. Paper files that existed prior to the implementation of a Site do not need to be entered into STRIPES and remain the official contract file up to the point that STRIPES was implemented at the Site and the award instrument was reconstructed in STRIPES.

Close Out

If you are a Purchase Card Holder and have Purchase Card Orders via STRIPES, you must remember to close out the Award Document in STRIPES. When the product/service you ordered has been received and all requirements have been met, the procurement process must be completed. Otherwise, it will appear as an open action in STRIPES. For instructions on how to close out an Award Document, go to the iManage STRIPES website at <http://crinfo.doe.gov/officedocs/cf40/home/STRIPES/AcquisitionUserGuide.htm> (*internal DOE use only*) to download the specific PDF file.

The Stimulus Package: Its Impact on DOE and STRIPES



Last week, the House of Representatives passed an \$819 billion dollar stimulus package known as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which is designed to revitalize the economy. A similar measure in the Senate, which was introduced in the past few days, increases the stimulus amount to over \$900 billion dollars. Either stimulus package will have a profound impact on the Department of Energy (DOE). The House's Committee of Appropriations, states that the new budget will "transform the nation's energy transmission, distribution, and production systems by allowing for a smarter and better grid and focusing investment in renewable technology." The plan could increase DOE's budget by

\$32 billion or more to achieve these and other DOE-related energy goals.

DOE's program and contracting offices will play a critical role in effecting this transformation through the solicitation and execution of numerous, perhaps thousands, of new awards. It has led some to ask, "How does this plan impact the STRIPES deployments?" With eight deployments under its belt, nearly a year since its first implementation, and two additional deployments pending, STRIPES' implementation will continue on schedule. As well, STRIPES is being re-examined to ensure it can handle the proposed increase of requisitions and awards. STRIPES, along with its fellow iManage programs, will need to operate in a streamlined, efficient, and reliable manner for the potential acquisition and financial activity on the horizon.

View a summary of the bill passed by the House on January 28th - <http://appropriations.house.gov>, and read about President Obama's recent visit to the DOE in Washington D.C.- <http://www.whitehouse.gov>.

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