In This Issue:
- Data to Decisions (D2D)
- ePM/ePMXpress Near-Term Development Path
- Report Spotlight: Custom ePMXpress Reports
- ePM and Internet Explorer
- FY16 GSA PBS Measure and KPI Changes

Data to Decisions (D2D)

If you haven’t heard of D2D yet, you will very soon! Data to Decisions (D2D) is a new-generation data and information management platform, also referred to as Logical Data Warehouse (LDW), established by GSA’s Enterprise Data Management Office (EDMO). It is designed to collect, manage, and analyze complex data (including big data) and to make these analyses available to stakeholders within and outside of GSA. D2D is cloud-based, making it adaptive, flexible, and mobile-ready. In FY16, ePM data will be fed into the D2D warehouse and analyzed with other system data to provide meaningful project information that can be shared across PBS via dashboards. Easy access of project information will allow for quicker, more informed decision making within the organization. Be on the lookout for D2D as it will be ramping up in FY16.

EPM/ePMXpress Near-Term Development Path

In Fall 2015, the ePM Team will be rolling out multiple system updates:

- Proliance, Cognos Upgrades - Proliance software underpins the main ePM software and user interface. Proliance will be upgraded to version 5.8 which will include: a streamlined left navigation menu, mobile device functionality, user-to-user file sharing, and other changes. Cognos will be upgraded to version 10 which includes mobile compatibility and improved performance. These upgrades are scheduled for November.
- ePMXpress Changes - Multiple changes will be coming to ePMXpress including functionality for users to verify schedule and financial data accuracy without editing data, ability to tag file attachments within File Manager, simplification of the PM financials area, and automated schedule alert emails. Changes are scheduled from October through December.
- New ePM/ePMXpress Log-on/Splash Page - ePM and ePMXpress login pages will be combined, incorporating additional ePM-related content links including Quick Reference Guides, business line guidance, and available reports. The new splash page will also support the new security upgrade and changes to the ePM/ePMXpress login process described in the next bullet. This upgrade is scheduled for November.
- New Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) and Single Sign-On (SSO) - ePM, ePMXpress, and related applications will receive a security upgrade requiring users outside of the GSA network to login using Multi-Factor Authentication. This change will require external users to enter a challenge code received via their email or mobile device into the MFA system in order to login to ePM. Users within the GSA network will leverage SSO capabilities to log directly into ePM/ePMXpress without having to enter ePM login credentials. This upgrade is scheduled for November.

Report Spotlight: Custom ePMXpress Reports

Alan Williams is an Investment & Leasing Support Analyst working in Region 7’s Portfolio Management Division. Alan creates custom ePMXpress reports to simplify the data collection process of his job because they lessen his need to perform frequent data calls. He also uses the reports to alert him to changes in project status, budget activity, personnel, award dates, or funding.

Another important purpose of Alan’s reports is for comparison against information that exists in Inventory Reporting Information System (IRIS). The reports that he creates include milestone date, substantial completion date, and modification date, which is information that also affects IRIS. He is then able to compare the ePMXpress report to the IRIS report to determine if there are any discrepancies between the data that exists in the two systems.

Alan takes his data analysis a step further by utilizing Microsoft Access to compare older and current versions of his reports to see what data has been changed since the report was last generated. This also helps him to keep his data review process at a manageable level.
FY16 will bring changes to the PBS Measures and KPI Programs, with ePM/ePMXpress data being leveraged for reporting/calculations.

For PBS Capital Projects:
- The FY16 Project Delivery Measure will stay consistent with the FY15 version, using ePM Planned and Earned Value data for reporting.
- The FY16 ePM Utilization KPI will remain consistent with the FY15 version.
- The FY16 Capital Projects Acquisition Schedule Performance Index KPI will be implemented, requiring capital project teams with FY16 planned obligations to baseline/track more detailed acquisition schedules within ePM.

For PBS Small Projects in Federally-Owned Space:
- The measured project set will include only BA54, BA80, and Special Prospectus Line Item projects between $25,000 and $2.85M.
- The FY16 Small Projects Delivery measure will be changed to track the duration between ‘Construction or Design/Build Procurement Request Submitted’ through Construction ‘Substantial Completion.’ In FY15, the measure only focused on the construction duration. ePM/ePMXpress schedule data will be used to report project performance.
- The FY16 Small Projects Budget measure will be changed to pull the project manager’s Estimated Cost of Construction at Award (ECCA) estimate from the ePMXpress PM Financials area. A project’s construction estimate will be compared against the actual project construction obligations as reported by FMIS. In FY15, the project’s IRIS or RETA estimate was used for this measure.
- The FY16 Small Projects ePMXpress Utilization KPI builds on the FY15 version, and now includes both formative and active state ePM/ePMXpress projects. Within 30 days of ‘Funds in Place’ a project manager is now required to enter project funding, add estimated dates to standard schedule milestones, and baseline design/construction phase schedule milestones.
- The FY16 Reconciliation KPI will remain largely consistent with the FY15 version, though additional project types will be included in the monthly project universe reconciliation between IRIS/RETA and ePM/ePMXpress.
- Two new KPIs will be released in FY16 including a Schedule Performance Index (SPI) that identifies project schedule health across project milestones, and a Scheduling KPI that looks at average schedule durations between different project milestones. The KPIs coincide with the roll-out of new standard project schedule milestones which highlight project planning and design/construction procurement phases.