DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
BUREAU OF THE FISCAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20227

COMMISSIONER

April 11, 2014

**MEMORANDUM FOR ALL CFOs, DEPUTY CFOs and CIOs**

**FROM:** David A. Lebryk, Commissioner
Bureau of the Fiscal Service

**SUBJECT:** 2014 Fiscal Service Commissioner Update – Upcoming System Changes and Timelines

In each of the past three years, I have sent agencies a memorandum on Treasury's effort to modernize payments, collections, and central accounting and reporting systems. In collaboration with your organization, we have made excellent progress in each of these areas.

To highlight a few areas of success, we completed the Collections and Cash Management Modernization (CCMM) initiative at the end of FY12, eliminating duplicative functions, decommissioning aging systems, and streamlining the collections enterprise architecture. In the payments areas, the Payment Application Modernization (PAM) initiative has allowed us to consolidate 30 legacy payment applications to accommodate the Treasury Account Symbol (TAS) and Business Event Type Code (BETC) in the payment files. This past January, with the introduction of the Government-wide Treasury Account Symbol (GTAS) Adjusted Trial Balance System, we've consolidated systems to enable agencies to submit proprietary and budgetary data simultaneously in a single submission.

Each of these efforts has allowed us to modernize and improve the financial management infrastructure. Each has required a great deal of hard work and effort on the part of your organization and could not have been accomplished without you and your organization's help.

Our goal is to have all agencies in full compliance with the modernization efforts by the end of Fiscal Year 2014. I am pleased that most agencies will meet that milestone. Given the size and complexity of the federal government, this is quite remarkable. However, if your agency is not prepared to move forward with the modernizations described throughout this memorandum, please contact me or one of the Fiscal Service points of contacts referenced under each program to discuss how we can support your financial management needs.

As in past years, I will continue to schedule CFO visits to discuss our efforts and to hear your thoughts. If you would like to meet sooner, please contact the Director of our Office of Agency Outreach, April Battle at april.battle@fiscal.treasury.gov to schedule a meeting. April will be reaching out to many of you to discuss the formation of an Advisory Council to help the bureau better meet your needs.

Also, in FY2014, the Office of Financial Innovation and Transformation (FIT) became part of the Bureau of the Fiscal Service. FIT is available to provide policy and strategic direction to agencies. Director of FIT, Elizabeth Angerman at elizabeth.angerman@fiscal.treasury.gov is always pleased to discuss with you ways to improve financial and administrative operations.

In the attachment, you will find additional information and timelines to facilitate your agency's planning processes. As always, I appreciate your continued confidence and partnership and look forward to working with you to improve financial management.

cc: Richard L. Gregg
Mark Reger

## Accounting and Financial Reporting

**Governmentwide Treasury Account Symbol (GTAS) Adjusted Trial Balance System:** GTAS consolidates legacy systems and improves data integrity. It also enforces data reporting consistency across Treasury, OMB and federal agency initiatives including regulatory budgetary reporting, intragovernmental balances and the Financial Report of the U.S. Government. Implemented in FY 2014 for the 1st quarter reporting window, GTAS replaces five legacy systems: FACTS I, FACTS II, IFCS, IRAS, and SID.

In FY 2015, agencies will be required to report in GTAS and must be prepared for the decommissioning of legacy systems.

**Central Accounting Reporting System (CARS)**: The Central Accounting Reporting System (CARS) addresses the central accounting and reporting functions and processes associated with budget execution, accountability, and cash and asset management. This includes the collection and dissemination of financial management and accounting information between federal agencies.

The CARS modernization initiative allows agency customers to improve operational efficiency by eliminating the monthly classification that is currently required to classify transactions at the point of initiation in the source system. This enables governmentwide central accounting to transform to a real-time, event-driven process that enables better financial management across government. You will be able to access a "daily bank statement" to view complete, reliable, timely and consistent financial information.

To achieve this benefit, your agency will be required to classify payments, collections and intragovernmental transactions at the source using a component Treasury Account Symbol (TAS) and Business Event Type Code (BETC) to report through all payment, collection and intragovernmental source systems. By utilizing component TAS/BETC or classification (c-keys), agencies eliminate the operational requirement to report monthly classification (SF224/CTA) during the first few workdays of each month.

If your agency is not prepared to take full advantage of these benefits please contact Carolann Marker at (202) 874-9776, gwa.crmd.users@fiscal.treasury.gov, so we can assist you in developing a transition plan.

If you are unsure if your agency has met these requirements, you can access the current list of CARS reporters at www.fms.treas.gov/cars.

## Payments

**Payment Application Modernization (PAM)/Secure Payment System (SPS):** Fiscal Service utilizes a single application platform that standardizes the process of issuing government payments on behalf of agencies. Once your agency converts to the PAM Standard Payment Request (SPR) format TAS/BETC information will be included within the payment request files for both check and electronic payments and submitted to the Fiscal Service.

All agencies must begin reporting TAS/BETC information with payment files and convert to the PAM SPR by October 1, 2014.

Please note that agency conversions must be made on the 1st of each month due to accounting considerations. If you would like to discuss your agency conversion, we encourage you to contact Lori Meyer at (816) 414-2337, lori.meyer@fiscal.treasury.gov or Jesse Chavez at (816) 414-2108, jesse.chavez@fiscal.treasury.gov.

**Treasury's Electronic Payment Requirement:** Treasury's regulation at 31 CFR Part 208 requires that all Treasury-disbursed, non-tax payments be made electronically. Despite the fact that there are no waivers available for Federal government vendors, only 72% of these payments are made electronically. Your agency needs to implement measures into your respective procurement and payment processes to ensure that vendors receive payments electronically. The Fiscal Service can provide your agency with the technical components and the regulatory foundation to support the use of electronic payments for vendors.

Please contact Matt Helfrich at (215) 516-8022 or matthew.helfrich@fiscal.treasury.gov to discuss your efforts to disburse your vendor payments electronically.

**Payment Information Repository (PIR):** Non-Treasury Disbursing Offices (NTDOs) must use the PIR for reporting payment transactions to Treasury, including TAS/BETC information to satisfy reporting requirements. Over the coming months, Fiscal Service will continue to engage with NTDOs to discuss conversion implications and transition timelines. Fiscal Service understands that some NTDOs may choose to become Treasury Disbursed within the next few years and we will work with you to determine the most efficient means to satisfy the TAS/BETC reporting requirements. Treasury disbursed payments will also be reported to the PIR in support of government-wide transparency initiatives. For more information about PIR or to schedule a meeting, please visit our website at http://www.fms.treas.gov/pir or contact us via email at PIR.Agency.Outreach@fms.treas.gov.

**Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP):** ASAP provides federal agencies with the ability to make grant payments, program payments and to reimburse financial agents for financial services performed on behalf of the government. The primary function of ASAP is to make recipient-initiated federal payments electronically through the Automated Clearing House (ACH) and Fedwire, enabling recipients to receive timely and accurate federal funding.

ASAP will hold monthly internet-based training sessions to assist ASAP users to comply with October 1, 2014 TAS/BETC requirement. Register to attend an overview of how to enter TAS/BETC information when creating or modifying recipient organization accounts and how to retrieve the necessary reconciliation information from the ASAP reports and inquiries.

Visit www.fms.treas.gov/asap for a list of training dates and registration information. To coordinate an individual training session for your agency, please contact Gates Brown at gates.brown@fiscal.treasury.gov or Andrew Steuterrman at andrew.steuterman@fiscal.treasury.gov.

**Post Payment System (PPS):** Fiscal Service is developing the Post Payment System (PPS) to consolidate, strengthen, and modernize the infrastructure that recovers more than $13 billion annually by processing resultant payment claims and inquiries, returns and reclamations. PPS provides the ability to interact with exception cases, and payment information will be made accessible through a robust portal for online communications, activities and reporting.

PPS will decommission key legacy post-payment systems such as Payment, Accounting and Claims Enhanced Reconciliation (PACER), Treasury Check Information System (TCIS), and Treasury Receivable, Accounting and Collection System (TRACS). PPS implementation will run from Fiscal Year 2014 through Fiscal Year 2017. The first impact to Federal agencies will occur in October 2015, with modernization of the cancellation file format, streamlined distribution of cancellation credits, and implementation of the PPS Portal, where you can access operational reports and information queries. Your agency should begin preparation in advance of implementation.

To acquire information or schedule a briefing, contact Lourde Romain-Prue at lourde.romain-prue@fiscal.treasury.gov or Lisa Andre at lisa.andre@fiscal.treasury.gov.

## Collections

**Collections Information Repository (CIR):** The CIR is a data repository of revenue collection data supplying the latest information on deposits and details of collections transactions to federal agencies. In the spring of 2014, guidance will be provided on using the updated Fiscal Service XML schema v.5.0, and will make data available to agencies using the updated XML schema by fall 2014. Agencies continuing to use the older version will not be affected. For more information on how best to access your revenue collection data, please visit www.fms.treas.gov/cir/index or contact Ashu Goel at ashu.goel@fiscal.treasury.gov.

*A copy of the cover memo an d this attachment, along with the Bureau of the Fiscal Service mission and vision, and training schedule are available on the Fiscal Service website at http://fiscal.treasury.gov.*