



# WBSCM Update

Providing nutritious food through a seamless, efficient, Web Based Supply Chain

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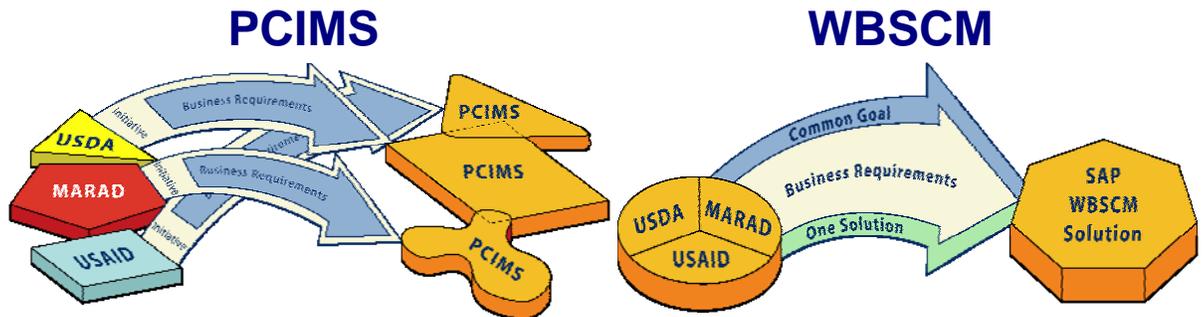
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### Design Goal

From the onset of the WBSCM program in November 2006 to now, the WBSCM Team (USDA and SRA Team collectively) continues to work toward a shared vision of building a world-class integrated, scalable, flexible, modern Web Based Supply Chain Management System. This system will increase collaboration, efficiency, and improve service to customers, suppliers and business partners. It will provide innovative forecasting and planning and situational awareness at all points of the supply chain, and the ability to respond to changes quickly.

With the WBSCM vision in mind, the shared goal is to provide **one system** with a **common design** and common processes **across all agencies**. The design goal supports the transition from agency specific software (PCIMS) to a common platform and design of one system (SAP WBSCM Solution) across all agencies (see Figure 1 below).



**Design Goal: One system with a common design across all agencies**

Figure 1. Transition to One Common System

### Transition: PCIMS to WBSCM

The transition from agency specific software (PCIMS) to a common platform and design of one system (the SAP WBSCM solution) with common processes across all agencies does not only involve the physical software transition (retiring PCIMS and satellite systems and deploying the SAP WBSCM solution), it involves transitions in how the USDA will use the system in the daily work environment. With this common foundation in place, the WBSCM system will be easier to use for example in emergency situations because it will allow more people flexibility to react and provide a quicker response to a time-critical event (e.g. Hurricane Katrina).

## Where are we in the transition process?

The WBSCM Team is focused on achieving the design goal by holding working sessions (see Figure 1 above). Currently, USDA Team members are participating in the design sessions and identifying common processes in the design scenarios which establish the common design foundation necessary for the build phase.

Since most of the work performed so far has been reflected only in paper format (MS Word design documents, PowerPoint slides, etc.), it may be difficult to understand and visualize how this progress translates into what the WBSCM system will look like and how it will actually help us achieve the common goal.

Over the next few months during the **design** and **build** phases, the SRA Team will setup the SAP WBSCM environment to show the WBSCM system common functionality and screens. This will give the USDA Team an opportunity to see how its contributions are shaping the new WBSCM system.

Examples of some of the common functionalities that do not currently exist in PCIMS, but will be visible in the SAP implementation of WBSCM include the following:

- Auto-generation of accounting of supply-chain events with drill-down capability between Fulfillment, Procurement and Finance activities.
- Real-time funds availability control with online reporting capability.
- Automatic creation of payables and receivables that reconciles with accounting for quick book closing.

## USDA's Evolving Role

The entire WBSCM Team has shown commitment and dedication to the success of the WBSCM program by playing very active and critical roles. These roles began in November of 2006 and will continue to evolve as we move from the Design phase to the Build phase and beyond. What is important to note, is that each USDA Team Lead, decision maker, and subject matter expert (SME) role on the WBSCM program will shape the final solution and will ultimately shape how daily business transactions are executed.

Highlights of some critical USDA contributions to date include:

- Validating the current PCIMS environment
- Defining and Validating business requirements
- Providing valuable data examples, standards, and reports
- Validating and approving common processes in design scenarios
- Facilitating cross-agency participation and discussions

- Contributing to the selection of the SAP WBSCM solution

The USDA team role will continue to evolve and remain critical to ensure continued success and progress as the WBSCM project moves into the Build phase, Test Phase, and Deployment (Go-Live) phase.

## Education Activities

We recognize that making the transition from PCIMS to WBSCM successful for all the USDA participants involves more than participating in working sessions with the functional and technical teams. Understanding the common system functionality of the SAP WBSCM solution will be made possible through education and training activities.

The SRA Team will continue to work with the USDA Team members to consider various types of training and education activities to facilitate a successful transition to WBSCM.

## Contact Us

Please email all WBSCM questions or suggestions to us directly:

**[WBSCM@kcc.usda.gov](mailto:WBSCM@kcc.usda.gov)**