Financial Operations Division
Brandon Watson, Banking Director

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Core Banking System

What is Core Banking System?

- Core Banking System or CB$ functions as the external online banking system for agencies and universities throughout the State.

- Allows users to submit funds transfers (wires), Positive Pay files, and stop pay files. It also allows user to view cleared checks and account activity.

- Activity from Core Banking either feeds into or is fed from our primary banking system, Flexcube.

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Why is CB$ Being Upgraded?

- CB$ was implemented in June 2003 as part of the Flexcube banking system.
    - Technology is outdated
        - Forms based technology doesn't allow for easy navigation when entering information in screens.
    - No longer being supported by Oracle
        - No maintenance contract in place.
    - Separate reporting tool required in older version
        - Business Objects Reporting tool is a separate application licensed to NCDST.

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Project Plan

- Upgrade began in March 2014 with the signing of the contract.

- Functional Specification Document reviews.
    - Outline exactly how we want the system to function
    - Process lasted approximately 3 months (March – May)

- Walk through of customizations. July & August 2014

- Development environment preparation, software delivery and installation. June - September 2014

- Mock data migration and testing. October 2014

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Project Plan

- Training on Flexcube UBS (upgraded version) and CB$ for FOD employees.
    - o Completed CB$ training - November 17-21
    - o Flexcube UBS training - December 1-16

- User Acceptance Testing. January – April 2015

- **Training external users on the upgraded CB$ application.**
    - o **Scheduled for April 6 – 17, 2015**

- Run the Flexcube UBS system in parallel with the old system daily.
    - o Users will have to do all of their work twice each day.
      April 20-24, 2015

- Go Live! Scheduled for April 27, 2015

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Managing the Process

- Identified particular roles that needed to be filled
    - o *Steering Committee* – Responsible for overseeing the project
    - o *IT Project Manager* – Primary Project Manager. Coordinates vendor activities and manages the project plan
    - o *FOD Project Manager* – Responsible for coordinating activities involving business users, communicating project status, and making sure business user concerns are addressed.
    - o *Project Team* – Responsible for accurately defining and testing of their functions and coordinating activities with their teams.
    - o *Training Lead* – Responsible for planning and implementing training activities for external users throughout the State.

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Managing the Process

- Communicate project status updates internally
  - Steering Committee meetings bimonthly
  - Weekly status update meeting with the vendor
  - Weekly project team meeting
  - Daily meetings between the vendor and project managers

- Report project status externally
  - Quarterly status updates to Fiscal Research Division and the Office of State Budget Management
  - Messages posted to CB$ for users and administrators

report

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Challenges

- Staffing – Vacancies, daily workflow.

- Timing – Daily production work vs. banking upgrade

- Flexibility for the future
  - Potential future enhancements
  - Potential changes to current operations
  - Not wed to "We've always done it this way."

- Attention to Detail – Consider all aspects. This system may be in place 10 more years before it is upgraded.

- Physical Office Move – Minimizing the impact of DST moving to the project plan.

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