



U.S. Department of the Treasury

KFC Dispatch

Spring 2014

Kansas City Regional Financial and Operations Center

BUREAU OF THE **Fiscal Service**

The newest agency within the Federal Government isn't exactly new...

The Treasury Department's recently established Bureau of the Fiscal Service, is the result of a consolidation of two former bureaus, the Financial Management Service and the Bureau of the Public Debt. The realignment of these two agencies became effective on October 1, 2013.

At the Bureau of the Fiscal Service—or, Fiscal Service, as we refer to ourselves—we strive to provide a superior level of service to government agencies, financial institutions, businesses, and the general public. We will reach our goals by conducting a level of productivity that strengthens the public perception of the Federal Government. According to Fiscal Service Commissioner Dave Lebyrk, the consolidation “will allow us to provide even greater leadership in financial management and shared services for years to come.”

To learn more about what services we can offer your agency, visit our new website at www.fiscal.treasury.gov.

“While never losing focus on our critical program responsibilities — essential to the operation of the Federal Government — we will use our proven abilities and strengths to make government better.”

Our Mission

We exist to...

Promote the financial integrity and operational efficiency of the federal government through exceptional accounting, financing, collections, payments, and shared services.

Our Vision

We will...

Transform financial management and the delivery of shared services in the federal government.

Our Values

We are guided by our commitment to...

Pursue process excellence while embracing the “Five I’s”—Integrity, Individual Respect, Information Sharing, Inclusion, and Informality— in our dealings with each other and with those we support and serve.



Director's Corner:

Gary M. Beets
Regional Director



October 2014 or Bust!

Between 1858 and 1875, the westward expansion of the United States found streams of Conestoga wagons plodding across the Great Plains and the Continental Divide with the words “Pikes Peak or Bust” written across the wagon’s canopy. What this referred to was an American dream focused on a new life with seemingly boundless riches (gold and silver) and land for farming and ranching. In those early days it was a goal tempered and influenced by distance, the elements, and severe hardship. The “Bust” part of the phrase meant an “all or nothing” mentality (we will make it or lose everything in the process). But many people endured and reaped the benefits from achieving that goal.

Now, fast forward to today, and the slogan being bandied around federal agency conference tables is “**October 2014 or Bust!**” This goal pertains to federal agency compliance with a new standardized payment request format which in turn supports additional accounting requirements which are needed to accommodate enhanced accounting reconciliation and reporting. Specifically, the new standard payment format is known as “PAM” (Payment Automation Manager) and the accounting requirements include the use of Treasury Account Symbols (TAS) and Business Event Type Codes (BETC). The new PAM format facilitates standard Automated Clearing House (ACH) and Treasury check payments. To be fully compliant with new accounting requirements, agencies will also need to add TAS/BETC information to all payment requests processed through applications such as the Intra-Governmental Payment and Collections (IPAC) system, the International Treasury Services (ITS.gov) application [foreign], and the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) application [grants].

October 1, 2014, is the date that has been communicated to federal agencies by which they need to be using the new payment format AND providing the additional accounting information within that payment format. The Fiscal Service—Department of the Treasury—has identified 444 potentially active Agency Location Codes (ALCs) that will need to be converted to the new payment and accounting formats/requirements.

Federal agency efforts have been under way for a couple of years now knowing that this deadline was looming. Agency representatives have been attending a variety of educational and technical sessions sponsored and conducted by the Fiscal Service at locations held around the country. These sessions have been well attended and often times to overflow capacity—indicating that agencies are taking the necessary steps to learn about and prepare for the payment and accounting requirements.

With the October 2014 deadline only about ten months away now, agency efforts are turning toward development, planning, and testing with the Fiscal Service to ensure their payment files conform to the new requirements. Presently, 51 ALCs (12%) have been completely converted to the new payment and accounting requirements. Another 144 ALCs (32%) are in some stage of conversion such as Planning/Testing/Production. As these numbers suggest we have a ways to go and a relatively short period of time to get it accomplished. However, some 270 ALCs utilize a financial software package to support their payment and accounting processing. As those vendors make available the supporting releases or patches to their respective agency clients, this will position those agencies to begin the needed testing with the Fiscal Service to complete their conversion. We expect the pace of agency conversions to significantly accelerate after the first of the year and that quickened pace will be sustained right up to October 2014.

The early settlers braved the elements and other hardships in pursuit of their goal, and similarly, agencies are having to navigate the hardships of constricting budgets and conflicting priorities to achieve this goal. While not an easy road to travel, our work with agencies tells us that the fundamental leadership, commitment, and resources necessary to achieve this goal are there and that there won't be a "Bust" come October 2014.

Should your agency need to discuss any conversion aspects, please contact the following application liaisons:

PAM

Lori Meyer	(816) 414-2337	lori.meyer@fiscal.treasury.gov
Jesse Chavez	(816) 414-2108	jesse.chavez@fiscal.treasury.gov

ASAP

Gates Brown	(816) 414-2178	gates.brown@fiscal.treasury.gov
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ITS.gov

Walker Woods	(816) 414-2188	walker.woods@fiscal.treasury.gov
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Focus: On Mission and Customers

By: Matt Fineout
Financial Services and Support Branch

“Concentrate all your thoughts upon the work at hand. The sun’s rays do not burn until brought to a focus” –Alexander Graham Bell

At the Kansas City Financial Center (KFC), we recognize our customers are committed to their missions, seek ever greater efficiencies, and continually strive to improve the work they do. We do the same. This is **focus**—our mission as the Federal Government’s Payment Center of Excellence allows our customers to trust their payment activities to us, and to keep their focus on their core missions and the work they do for the nation.

We’ve had the opportunity to welcome new KFC customers into our business this year, including making payments for the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), migrating Internal Revenue Service (IRS) refunds to KFC from San Francisco, printing checks and letters for the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), and issuing Retail Securities payments for the legacy Bureau of the Public Debt (Fiscal Service). As our new customers have come on board, our dedicated customer service staff has worked with them to learn their business, understand their needs, and identify the services Treasury can provide to help them stay focused on their mission.

We work to build relationships with all our customers, to understand the wide variety of programs and payment service needs, and to provide quality customer service. You, our customers, can rely on KFC to learn your business, to recognize its importance to those you serve, and to ensure you have the payment support and services you need. Whether you’re like GPO and need to make a foreign payment through International Treasury Services (ITS.gov)—or you’re like DFAS and need to print a check and matching Advice of Payment (AoP) statement through our PrinCE system—or you’re like Retail Securities and need to make a same-day payment via Fedwire—we will help you accomplish that goal!

Budgets, resources, and time are increasingly strained. You rely on finding ways to be more efficient and effective with what you’ve already got. We understand that. That’s a primary reason that we consolidated our organization to the Fiscal Service: for greater efficiency and effectiveness. To further achieve our mission, we have made enhancements and upgrades in the Payment Application Modernization (PAM) project, in the Secure Payment System (SPS), and in our grant payment system, the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP), as well as expanding ITS.gov. Our focus on improvements to our financial management systems means we can do more, better, quicker for you, so that you can return to your core mission.

We are honored to work with all of our customers. **Focus:** you can trust us to focus on excellence in services and payment operations, so you can focus on the important work you do for the nation.

Commitment to Printing Solutions - COMMITMENT TO CUSTOMERS

*By: Mark Becker
Financial Services and Support Branch*

The Kansas City Financial Center (KFC) takes pride in successfully delivering a variety of payment printing services and support to achieve our customers' diverse, time-sensitive printing needs. KFC uses its Printing Check and Enclosing (PrinCE) infrastructure in combination with our printing operations to produce check payments and summary letters for recipients. KFC leverages advanced printing and mailing technologies to better utilize resources to support the Federal Government with cost savings and efficiencies. During calendar year 2013, KFC printed more than 73 million checks and letters.

Our primary products and services are Check Printing, Letter Printing, and Check & Letter Printing – or Matching. Check Printing services include the high level security protection standards and the capability to perform special handling services. Letter Printing services involve a range of printed products, such as Explanation of Benefits (EOBs), Advice of Payments (AoPs), or statements that provide payment-specific information to both providers and recipients explaining why they have received payment. As a part of our comprehensive payment printing services, KFC maintains state-of-the-art technology allowing us to perform Check & Letter Printing services, which match and enclose checks and corresponding letters, or letters and inserts, into the same envelope for mailing.

You can rely on KFC to provide the enhanced capabilities of Duplex (double-sided) printing in addition to Simplex (single-sided) printing; to utilize presort-functionality, which results in a bulk-mail postage rate from the U.S. Postal Service in order to achieve the lowest rate available; and, to maintain an efficient special handling process that ensure customer requirements are met.

If your agency is not using KFC for its payment printing and mailing services, contact us to discuss the benefits and efficiencies KFC can offer your agency. Please contact Toni Mussorici, Payment Management Operations Branch Manager, at (816) 414-2117 or toni.mussorici@fiscal.treasury.gov to discuss how we can effectively address your agency's printing needs. KFC has dedicated ongoing customer support and expertise to assist you with achieving the printing capabilities that will best meet your agency's needs.





*By: Jennifer Honeysucker
Information Systems and Support Branch*

2014 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

In 2014, key milestones for the Payment Automation Manager/Secure Payment System (PAM/SPS) project are to provide agency outreach and testing in support of converting agencies into Government-wide Accounting/Central Accounting Reporting System (CARS/GWA) reporters. Agencies will be trained on new functionalities between the PAM and Do Not Pay (DNP) systems. During 2013, the focus was to provide agencies onsite education by conducting requirement walkthroughs on the PAM Standard Formats used for bulk files and Treasury Account Symbol/Business Event Type Code (TAS/BETC) reporting requirements; functional preparedness training was provided to SPS Data Entry Operators and Certifying Officers. In 2014, the target is to convert remaining agencies into GWA Reporters.

The PAM/SPS Agency Outreach team will train agencies on new SPS functionalities as well as new screens and new PAM/DNP validation reports. A large number of agencies plan to convert between the months of June and July. The PAM/SPS testing and production teams will work to convert 399 Agency Location Codes (ALC) by the end of the fiscal year.

Effective October 1, 2014, all federal agencies using Treasury disbursing services will be required to submit payment data in a newly developed standard input format. To streamline agency efforts, the PAM/SPS project team has planned monthly training events to accommodate the deadline. Beginning January 2014, agencies are encouraged to visit <https://www.fms.treas.gov/pam/training.html> to register for events and review commonly answered questions.

2014 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

All training events are at no cost to Federal Program Agencies (FPA) using Treasury disbursed services.

PAM Webinar Sessions

Payment application changes related to the GWA/CARS - TAS/BETC reporting requirement, which will impact their payment processing.

Available Dates for PAM Webinars:

- Thursday, January 16 1:00pm - 3:00pm CST

TAS/BETC Readiness Training

TAS/BETC changes implemented within Treasury's payment application systems. Live demonstrations with a "how to" focus. Detailed review of new or changed application screens that will be applied after a FPA becomes a CARS TAS/BETC Reporter.

Available Dates for Readiness Training:

- Tuesday, February 11 8:00am - 4:00pm CST
- Wednesday, February 12 8:00am - 4:00pm CST
- Tuesday, April 8 8:00am - 4:00pm CST
- Wednesday, April 9 8:00am - 4:00pm CST
- Tuesday, June 10 8:00am - 4:00pm CST
- Wednesday, June 11 8:00am - 4:00pm CST
- Wednesday, August 6 8:00am - 4:00pm CST

TAS/BETC Technical Walkthrough

Detailed technical changes for each payment application, including a walkthrough of file format data elements for the program upload files.

Available Dates for Technical Training:

- Thursday, February 13 8:00am - 4:00pm CST

PAM CTX Webinar Sessions

Payment application changes related to the payment files sent to Treasury in the Corporate Trade Exchange (CTX) format. PAM will review items necessary for consideration as vendors begin to test with Treasury.

Available Dates for PAM/CTX Webinars:

- Tuesday, January 14 1:00pm - 2:30pm CST
- Tuesday, March 11 1:00pm - 2:30pm CST
- Tuesday, April 15 1:00pm - 2:30pm CST

SPS Webinar Sessions

Provide FPAs with new information on the payment application changes related to the GWA/CARS TAS/BETC reporting requirement which will impact their payment processing. SPS is now offering separate webinars featuring functional and technical training sessions. <https://www.fms.treas.gov/sps/index.html>

Available Dates for SPS Functional Participation:

- Wednesday, February 19 1:00pm - 2:00pm CST
- Wednesday, February 26 9:00am - 10:00am CST
- Wednesday, March 5 9:00am - 10:00am CST
- Wednesday, March 26 1:00pm - 2:00pm CST
- Wednesday, April 16 1:00pm - 2:00pm CST
- Wednesday, April 30 9:00am - 10:00am CST
- Wednesday, May 14 1:00pm - 2:00pm CST
- Wednesday, May 21 9:00am - 10:00am CST
- Wednesday, June 4 1:00pm - 2:00pm CST
- Wednesday, June 18 9:00am - 10:00am CST
- Wednesday, July 9 1:00pm - 2:00pm CST
- Wednesday, July 16 9:00am - 10:00am CST
- Wednesday, July 23 1:00pm - 2:00pm CST
- Wednesday, July 30 9:00am - 10:00am CST
- Wednesday, August 6 9:00am - 10:00am CST
- Wednesday, August 13 1:00pm - 2:00pm CST
- Wednesday, August 20 9:00am - 10:00am CST
- Wednesday, August 27 9:00am - 10:00am CST
- Wednesday, September 3 1:00pm - 2:00pm CST
- Wednesday, September 10 9:00am - 10:00am CST
- Wednesday, September 17 9:00am - 10:00am CST
- Wednesday, September 24 1:00pm - 2:00pm CST

Available Dates for SPS Technical Participation:

- Wednesday, February 5 1:00pm - 2:00pm CST
- Wednesday, March 12 9:00am - 10:00am CST
- Wednesday, April 2 1:00pm - 2:00pm CST
- Wednesday, May 7 9:00am - 10:00am CST



*By: Sarah Recob
Financial Services and Support Branch*

International Treasury Services (ITS.gov) currently provides international payment services for federal agencies – to nearly 200 countries. ITS.gov is a comprehensive payment and collection system for processing international payments via both electronic direct deposit and check draft.

In the last year, ITS.gov has made over 57,000 vendor payments to foreign entities worth more than \$3.3 billion US Dollars on behalf of 113 federal agencies!

The system offers participating agencies several disbursement options when issuing their international payments, including, the Automated Clearing House (ACH) network, Wire, SWIFT (Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication), Check, or Western Union. Agencies also have settlement options within ITS.gov by designating a payment to be made in either U.S. Dollar or foreign currency. Additionally, ITS.gov eliminates the need for a US corresponding or intermediary financial institution when agencies issue international US Dollar electronic transfer payments.

ITS.gov processes foreign payroll, vendor, miscellaneous, and monthly recurring benefit payments on behalf of such agencies as the Social Security Administration (SSA), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB), the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the State Department (DOS), and the Department of Defense (DOD). As an international payment system, ITS.gov supports over 150 foreign currencies from the Afghan Afghani to the Zimbabwe Dollar. With banking and transfer rules differing among countries and currencies, KFC maintains and distributes an ITS.gov Currency Checklist which summarizes the diverse rules into one, universal source.

Agencies can enter their payment information directly into ITS.gov in two different ways, either individually, through a data-entry screen or, en mass, through a bulk-file submission process. All payments are verified in ITS.gov and certified through the Secure Payment System (SPS) by an agency's Certifying Officer (CO). Once they are certified, international payments are scanned – real-time – on an intra-day basis against Office of the Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) watch lists. ITS.gov ensures compliance with OFAC regulations that require payment information to be screened against three unique lists: the Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) and Blocked Persons list, the Non-SDN list, and the sanctioned countries list. This examination ensures the payment recipient, the recipient's bank, and country are approved to receive US government funds. If the payment does not pass the initial OFAC screening, KFC contacts the issuing agency to request additional information. Once the payment passes OFAC screening, it is released for settlement and the transfer to the foreign recipients account is completed within two business days.

In commitment to the Government Wide Accounting (GWA) modernization efforts, ITS.gov is fully compliant with the Treasury Account Symbol and Business Event Type Codes (TAS/BETC) classifications. ITS staff is currently working with GWA, other Fiscal Service payment applications, and customer agencies to ensure they have the support and resources needed to meet the October 1, 2014 production deadline.

If you are currently enrolled in ITS.gov and have any operational questions, please contact us at (816) 414-2125 or at kfcfssbfo@fms.treas.gov.

If you are interested in enrolling in ITS.gov or have questions about TAS/BETCs and how to include this information with your payments, please contact Walker Woods at (816) 414-2188 or walker.woods@fiscal.treasury.gov.

We look forward to meeting your needs with International Treasury Services.

ASAP: Celebrates 20 Years of Making Payments

By: AJ Steuterman
Financial Services and Support Branch

For the past 20 years, the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) has provided a wide range of payment services in support of federal agencies. From grant payments to financial institution reimbursements on behalf of the federal government, ASAP allows recipients to draw funds from pre-authorized accounts created and maintained by federal agencies. This system streamlines the payment process and allows recipients the convenience to receive their funds as they need them. Recently, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) selected ASAP as one of its approved shared services. As a Federal Shared Service Provider (FSSP), ASAP is actively participating in OMB's mandate to improve the cost, quality and performance of the federal government's financial systems.

ASAP leverages efficient business processes and state-of-the-art information technology. We provide all of the information necessary to manage your agency's financial activity, whether it is grants, reimbursements, or other payment types.

For more information about how ASAP can benefit your agency, please contact Gates Brown at gates.brown@fiscal.treasury.gov or Andrew Steuterman at andrew.steuterman@fiscal.treasury.gov.



ASAP is pleased to welcome the following agencies to our free, all-electronic payment and information system:

Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS)
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (DOI-BSEE)
District of Columbia District Courts (DCCourts)
Social Security Administration Ticket to Work Program (SSA-Work)

We are honored and privileged that you have chosen us to fill your business needs and we are eager to be of service. If you ever need assistance, please feel free to contact our ASAP Help Desk at (855) 868-0151 (Option 2, Option 3) or at kfc.asap@fms.treas.gov.

ASAP Federal Agency User:

The Department of the Treasury - Bureau of the Fiscal Service (Fiscal Service), is now requiring ASAP Recipient Organizations (ROs) to establish an Automated Clearing House (ACH) banking relationship – an alternative payment arrangement – in the event of a prolonged outage or unavailability of the same-day payment (wire) process. **All ROs should have an ACH bank account defined in ASAP by February 28, 2014.** Recently, we sent a communication to ROs that do not currently have an ACH bank account established in ASAP. In the coming weeks we will work with your agency to assist in complying with this new requirement.

Going forward, the Fiscal Service is working to enhance the automated enrollment feature associated with ASAP to incorporate the designation of a primary and secondary payment method. This will necessitate that ROs define both their primary and alternate arrangement during their enrollment process. Once the enhancement is in place, ROs will not be able to initiate drawdowns until both arrangements (wire and ACH) have been established within ASAP. The Fiscal Service will notify your agency when this feature is introduced and available for use.

For your information, a copy of the email sent to ROs who do not currently have an ACH bank account defined in ASAP is provided below. Questions regarding this requirement should be directed to the ASAP Help Desk at (855) 858-0151 (Option 2, Option 3).

Fedwire 101

*By: Joe Gorski
Financial Services and Support Branch*

The Fedwire system is used to make high value, mission critical same day payments. Fedwire payment processing transitioned to the Kansas City Financial Center (KFC) in July 2012.

**IN FISCAL YEAR 2013, MORE THAN 71,000 PAYMENTS
TOTALING MORE THAN \$200 BILLION WERE MADE ON
BEHALF OF NEARLY 100 AGENCIES USING FEDWIRE.**

Fedwire payments can be processed beginning at 6:00am CT / 7:00am ET until 4:50pm CT / 5:50pm ET, Monday through Friday.

**THE LARGEST SINGLE DAY USD TOTAL PROCESSED THROUGH
FEDWIRE AT KFC IS \$2.71 BILLION, BUT THE MAXIMUM
PAYMENT THE SYSTEM WOULD ALLOW IS \$9,999,999,999.99!**

Agencies enter payment information through the Secure Payment System (SPS). All Fedwire payments are then screened by the International Treasury Service's (ITS.gov) Compliance group. Information is compared to the Office of Foreign Asset Control's (OFAC) sanctioned lists. If further information such as recipient date or place of birth is requested, the payment will be held until the required information is provided. Finally, the payments are sent to the Fedwire system for processing.

The KFC Fedwire Help Desk can be reached at (816) 414-2341 or kfcfedwire@fms.treas.gov.



Kansas City Financial Center Contact List

Executive Branch

Gary M. Beets, Regional Director	(816) 414-2001
Susan Robinson, Deputy Director	(816) 414-2002
Main Line	(816) 414-2000
FAX	(816) 414-2020

Information Systems & Support Branch (ISSB)

Cynthia Sheppard, Manager & PAM Project Manager	(816) 414-2301
Denise Quirarte, Supervisor—Technical Support Section	(816) 414-2333
Ed Barlett, Supervisor—Payment Applications Support Section	(816) 414-2304
Jesse Chavez, PAM Agency Outreach	(816) 414-2108
Lori Meyer, PAM Agency Outreach	(816) 414-2337
Chris Garrett, SPS Agency Outreach	(202) 874-7316
Gary Ng, SPS Agency Outreach	(202) 874-6947
Main Line	(816) 414-2300
FAX	(816) 414-2390
SPS/PAM/PIR Help Desk	(816) 414-2340

Financial Services & Support Branch (FSSB)

Francie Abbott, Manager	(816) 414-2151
Carol Matthews, Supervisor—Customer Assistance Support Staff	(816) 414-2176
Julie Nielsen, Supervisor—Financial Operations	(816) 414-2102
FAX (General)	(816) 414-2180
FAX (Customer Assistance Support Staff)	(816) 414-2192
FAX (Financial Operations)	(816) 414-2120

Payment Management Operations Branch (PMOB)

Toni Mussorici, Manager	(816) 414-2117
VACANT, Supervisor—Operations (Day Shift)	(816) 414-2206
VACANT, Supervisor—Mail Operations	(816) 414-2205
VACANT, Printing, Check and Enclosing Supervisor	(816) 414-2117
James Lee, Supervisor—Operations (Evening Shift)	(816) 414-2307
Main Line	(816) 414-2200
Payment Operations Section	(816) 414-2350
FAX (Mail Room)	(816) 414-2217
FAX (Control)	(816) 414-2380

Administrative Management Branch (AMB)

Tom Nelson, Manager	(816) 414-2056
Crystal Duckworth, Administrative Officer	(816) 414-2057
Main Line	(816) 414-2050
Fax	(816) 414-2066



Have You Heard..

In line with our recent inauguration as the
Bureau of the Fiscal Service,
our email address domain name has changed!

@fiscal.treasury.gov

Our old extension is still active for the time being,
but we encourage you to update your records!



BUREAU OF THE
Fiscal Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

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Financial Services and Support Branch*