PROGRESS REPORT
16 June 2005 to 6 September 2005

Project Update

Project plan

No development work has been carried out since the last progress report. Work on 1.6 has been delayed as resource is currently being used for updating the technical architecture. The WPO for this work is currently being drafted. The first WPO for REFLEX started on 24 August 2005.

Work continues on bug fixing and releases to fix these were made live on 8 July, 13 July, 4 August, 10 August, 15 August and 24 August.

Matt Wells replaced Nathan Willits within the team as project support on 22 August 2005

User testing

User testing continues as and when required.

Technical Update

NIAB DIS Box
The new web services solution has not yet been installed at NIAB but this is due to go-live in mid October.

NIAB XML Server
NIAB have made changes to the XML sever to reduce the likelihood of it being overwhelmed by a great volume of messages. Volume testing of the end to end system is planned to take place when the new web services solution is in place.

System Stability – test system
There have been no major stability problems on the test system

System Stability – live system
There is an issue with the stability of parts of the system on a frequent basis. This instability is restricted to the Internal system and usually only affects the users of the Enforcement system. IBM are currently looking at various possibilities to see if they can identify the exact cause of the problem.

IBM as part of the Transformation Programme have put forward an application rationalisation business proposal which would have the following benefits for Seed Certification On-Line

1. System will be more robust and will allow user to continue working in the event of minor errors
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2. Users will be provided with more meaningful error messages
3. Reduced number of problems relating to data validation
4. Improved system reliability
5. Performance increase
6. Quicker problem resolution
7. Users will not experience errors caused by last line of application being deleted
8. Elimination of errors caused by users pressing buttons during search processing

The work proposed to be carried out is:

1. Implementation of a more comprehensive structured error handling approach.
2. Improve error monitoring and correction.
3. Review all web form validation to ensure consistency.
4. Review error handling for database connections.
5. Remove in-line SQL from programs.
6. Record user login information to assist in problem resolution.
7. Review javascript validation to ensure user has javascript enabled.
8. Disable screen buttons when search is undertaken to prevent 'object reference not sent' error message.

There have been no other significant problems on the live system. The issues with logon and connectivity problems have been addressed and in most cases – have now been resolved. The following remains to be actioned:

- SLA between NIAB and Defra to be produced - (a draft is being prepared)
- DOU between PVS and IBM
- User group to be set up - (first meeting being arranged)
- Bulk testing to be carried out – (will be carried out when new web services solution is in place)

Progress with XML bulk users

A meeting has been set up with F4F, ICF and IBM on 21 September 2005 with a view to discussing the technical solution required to provide a link between Seed Certification On-Line and F4F. IBM have provided a technical overview to the solution and gave an estimate for the development work required. In 2004/05 40% crops and 55% seed lots were submitted via companies that are (or potentially) F4F customers.

F4F have already commission CAL to carry out work to provide XML from their system and they have been testing this in August/September. This has raised several problems that have been resolved. Several of these related to the way in which CAL captured data and the difference compared to our requirements. They should complete work in October.
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No progress has been made with ATS. In 2004/05 18% crops and 15% seed lots were submitted via companies that are ATS customers.

**Seed Cert Regulations Project**

COSACS went live on 18 August 2005. There have been no major problems. There are a few daily issues that arise as a higher volume of forms and different unpredicted scenarios go through the system, much as you would expect with any 'new' system. Most things are non urgent but will need to be addressed. The intensive testing proved very worthwhile.

Barring any unforeseen obstacles the completion of all aspects of automatic processing should be completed by end November 2005. This allows any remedial action in December ready for the January 2006 deadlines.

**User Group**

The following companies have expressed interest in being involved in the user group

- Bartholomews
- BSH
- CAL
- Sherbourne Processing
- Smales
- John Vergette
- AIC
- BSPB

The first meeting was being arranged for October but this is not suitable for all participants and it is now expected to be held in November.

Participants have been asked to consider:

- What are the benefits to you of using the system? Can you quantify/list?
- Are there any parts of the system that cause you significant problems/frustrations?
- Is the guidance provided clear enough?
- Do you use the User Guides?
- Would you like more help?
- Do we communicate in the correct format and is it frequent enough?
- Are there any business needs the system fails to meet?
- Do you plan to use the bulk upload facility?
- Location for future user group meetings?
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REFLEX

Work restarted on the REFLEX project on 24 August 2005. The first WPO (Requirements phase) has started. This will produce high level user requirements, including functional and non-functional requirements, logical data model and architectural overview. This WPO is scheduled to complete in mid October.

The next process WPO will be to complete solution design. This will produce detailed use cases and wherever possible existing documentation will be used.

The final WPO will be to carry out development work. Current projections from IBM aim for go-live in Summer 2006.

Publicity, Training and Guidance

Demonstrations carried out at premises of

- Quantil
- RA Gibson
- Pickards
- Organic Seeds
- MSP
- Daltons
- Lion Seeds
- Premium Crops
- Northern Seeds
- R L Green

Planned activities for the coming quarter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Target date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WPO for release 1.6</td>
<td>End September 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion of 1st WPO for REFLEX</td>
<td>Mid October 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start 2nd WPO for REFLEX</td>
<td>Early November 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carry out bulk testing</td>
<td>31 October (to plan testing)</td>
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<tr>
<td>First user group meeting</td>
<td>30 November 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>IBM rationalisation project</td>
<td>Awaiting feedback from IBM</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLA between NIAB and Defra to be produced</td>
<td>31 October 2005 (draft)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOU between PVS and IBM</td>
<td>31 October 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Web services go-live</td>
<td>Mid Oct 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Further demonstration at companies</td>
<td>On demand</td>
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<tr>
<td>First for Farming – development of solution</td>
<td>On going</td>
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<tr>
<td>Handover of ESP/Helpdesk to</td>
<td>End December 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>operations in PVS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full end to end and automatic</td>
<td>End November 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>processing of forms</td>
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