



Message

Fall 2011

Completed Activities

- MAGIC Kickoff meeting
- Identified Key Stakeholders
- Installed First Technical Environment (Solution Manager, ERP System, and Portal)
- Completed 9 Deliverables
- Solution Manager and Functional Team Training
- Organized Content and Schedule for Blueprint Workshops
- Completed Project Preparation Phase
- Blueprint Phase Kickoff

Ongoing Activities

- Blueprint Workshops
- Continue Risk and Change Management Activities
- Continue Work on Project Deliverables and Key Decision Documents

Upcoming Activities

- User Learning Needs Survey
- Change Readiness Assessment

MAGIC is on the Move!

The Department of Finance and Administration, Office of the Mississippi Management and Reporting System, relocated its offices on July 25, 2011. MMRS' new home is on the 13th, 14th, and 15th floors of the Regions Plaza. Many of the MAGIC project meetings will be held at the new location. Parking is available for a charge in the Regions/Marriott parking garage or you may park in surrounding parking garages/designated areas.

DFA/MMRS' Mailing Address is:
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MAGIC Kickoff Meeting



Becky Thompson (MAGIC Project Director), David White (SAP Technical), Bill Bevil (SAP Project Director), Brian Grant (SAP Client Partner)

MMRS conducted the MAGIC Kickoff meeting August 23rd in the Sparkman Auditorium at the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum. Representatives from 83 agencies attended the meeting. Cille Litchfield, DFA Deputy Executive Director and MAGIC Project Sponsor, welcomed the attendees and provided a background of the project to-date.

Kevin J. Upchurch, DFA Executive Director and Chairman of the MMRS Steering Committee, and Harish Luthra, SAP National Vice President, provided remarks expressing excitement about the project. They expect MAGIC to provide the tools necessary for ensuring Mississippi's compliance with existing, as well as, future state and federal requirements.

Becky Thompson, MAGIC Project Director, discussed the project scope, phases, and timeline, as well as, the rewards of standardization and the risks of customization. MAGIC project team members from each subject area were also introduced; and, the team leads presented an overview of key process functions, as well as, ERP enhancements for each area.

The presentation from the meeting can be found on the [MMRS Website](#).

MAGIC Catch Phrase

MMRS recently asked users to vote for the phrase that best describes MAGIC.

And the winner is ...

*MAGIC: Empowering
Mississippi through
Innovation*

Project Preparation

07.11.2011 – 10.10.2011

behind the scenes

Have you ever wondered what happens during the planning and preparation phases of a project? The items below highlight some of the key activities completed in the Project Preparation Phase.

- ✓ State and SAP teams worked seamlessly together to prepare for the Blueprinting sessions.
- ✓ The Project Management Office (PMO) finalized the project plan and many of the supporting management plans (e.g., issue management plan, configuration management plan, and quality management plan).
- ✓ The Functional Team reviewed the RFP requirements and mapped each requirement to a standard SAP business process.
- ✓ The Functional Team identified agency business owners for the various functional areas.
- ✓ The Technical Team mapped the infrastructure strategy in conjunction with the ITS support group.
- ✓ The Technical Team identified current interface requirements.
- ✓ The Technical Team worked on the data audit conversion strategies and development standards.
- ✓ The Organizational Change Management (OCM) Team focused on the technological and social change aspects that will occur during the implementation of MAGIC.
- ✓ OCM developed communication and training plans to guide the State in adjusting to these changes.

ARM Agency Readiness Manager

more than a concept

Agency Readiness Managers (ARMs) serve as the MAGIC Project Team's single point of contact for all MAGIC related activities involving an agency. To date, 109 agencies have identified ARMs. These agency contacts are comprised of an information group known as the *ARM Network*. The MAGIC Project Liaison for the ARM network is Joshua Tillman. Joshua is a member of the OCM Team.

The ARM Network will be critical to the success of MAGIC. The ARMs help ensure active participation from agency staff during the Blueprinting project phase, which began October 11, 2011 and continues through early 2012.

One can easily see that the ARM Network's role is more than just sharing information with their agencies. This group will become the conduit for bringing state agencies together as one unified business, ensuring the success of MAGIC.

MAGIC Blueprint Phase

The MAGIC Project has officially entered the Blueprint Phase. Listed below is the when, what, why, and result of the Blueprint process.

When

Blueprinting began on October 11, 2011, and is scheduled to last through February 2012.

What

Blueprinting involves a series of workshops conducted with key agency leaders. The Workshops are interactive discussions where state agency participants and MAGIC team members work together with SAP team members to define and document how the State's 9000+ requirements can be met with standard SAP business processes.

Why

Blueprinting lays the groundwork to improve business operations throughout state government by bringing together cross-unit and cross-function teams; providing a common understanding of services and functionalities available in the new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system; and equipping state government to operate more effectively through the re-engineering and increased integration and automation of business processes.

Result

The output is a business model that identifies and explains how the State's processes will be configured using SAP software. Functional gaps (requirements that cannot be met with standard SAP configuration) will be identified and documented. The blueprint will include a plan for transitioning from current processes to proposed processes in order to streamline and automate the business of state government.

