CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM NEWSLETTER

Fall 2023 Edition

VERMONT
AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Materials and Construction Subsystems are scheduled to deploy in March 2024

- Functionality and business processes for supplemental descriptions changed in September 2023

- Two new training videos are available

- Consultants can access new training in the iPD Help Menu

PROJECT STATUS

The Construction Management System (CMS) Replacement Project is a multi-year software project intended to replace legacy software programs used at VTrans across all facets of construction. For context, see a diagram of programs to be replaced and interfaced with on the CMS Replacement website. Estimation, bidding, and contracting processes have been operational in the CMS since Spring 2021.

The CMS Project Team is gearing up for deployment of the Materials and Construction Subsystems. Regression testing in the Materials Subsystem is progressing. Acceptance testing for roughly half of the Construction Subsystem was completed at the end of August, while most of the remaining functionality will undergo testing beginning in October.

Several enhancements were designed to ensure that the Materials and Construction Subsystems function according to business needs when they are deployed. Many of these will be implemented in conjunction with the rollout. Several other less-critical enhancements will be deployed soon after.

REMINDER

The CMS Global Administrators are available to help with any issues regarding the CMS, including loss of functionality, bugs, technical questions, or requests for enhancements, as well as all new user requests. The Global Admins can be reached at AOT.CMSAdmins@vermont.gov.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGE TO THE CMS – SUPPLEMENTAL DESCRIPTIONS

Several enhancements to the operational CMS have been implemented since Spring. The most notable impacted the Supplemental Description field in the Estimate Subsystem.

This enhancement allows project designers to differentiate between identical standard pay items so those items can be separately processed and paid for during the construction phase of a contract. The new functionality retains a designer's ability to review historical pricing on standard pay items, with or without a supplemental description.

It is imperative that all those using the Estimate Subsystem view the training that was developed for this enhancement. Please see the section below to learn how to access the training. In addition to demonstrating how to use the Supplemental Description field, the training includes best practices for using supplemental descriptions going forward.

TRAINING

Two new training videos are now available. The first, "Converting Estimates to the 2024 Spec Book," demonstrates how to convert pay items in working or preliminary estimates from the 2018 Spec Book to pay items and numbers in the 2024 version. The second, "Using the New Supplemental Description Field," was deployed in September in concert with new supplemental descriptions functionality and business processes outlined above.

A notable aspect of these new training videos is that they can be accessed in two places. VTrans employees should access these videos in the VTrans Training Center's (VTTC) Learning Management System (LMS). However, there are numerous consultants that work in the Estimate Subsystem that cannot access the LMS. For consultants, these training videos can be found in the iPD Help Menu using the "Training" link and choosing a video from a drop-down menu (see below). Training videos will continue to be added to the Help Menu as they become available to ensure access for non-VTrans users.

For any CMS training needs please send an email to chris.cunningham@vermont.gov.

e-Construction Section
Highway Division – Construction and Materials Bureau
Vermont Agency of Transportation
2178 Airport Road, Unit B
Berlin, VT 05641-8628