STATE ACCOUNTING OFFICE
sao.georgia.gov
Fiscal Leadership for Georgia

Interface File Layout Testing
Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why are we testing our interface files?

A: The PeopleSoft Financials System in undergoing an upgrade from version 7.02 to version 8.0. This testing effort is aimed at ensuring a smooth transition after the planned go-live date of July of 2006. Though much of the file layout will remain the same, there are some additional ChartField considerations, along with re-labeling of a few fields.

Q: What is the difference between my 7.02 file and these layouts?

A: The following areas have changed:

- **The Organization ChartField has been relabeled to Department – Same purpose from a functional and accounting standpoint**
- **The Subclass ChartField has been relabeled to Class – Same purpose from a functional and accounting standpoint**
- **The Program Chartfield has been relabeled to Funding Source (Values are the same as the current Program values in 7.02) – Same purpose from a functional and accounting standpoint**
- **A new ChartField is added for Program – This will require analysis by both your financial and budget departments to determine the values for this field. This is a required field and is tied to program codes used by Office of Planning and Budget in relation to the Annual Operating Budget.**
- **A new ChartField is added for Budget Reference (values not yet defined, use any 8 character value) – Your agency will decide when and if this chartfield will be used after the July 2006 go-live**
- **A new ChartField is added for Product (values not yet defined, use any 6 character value) - Your agency will decide when and if this chartfield will be used after the July 2006 go-live**
- **A new Chartfield is added for Special Purpose (values not yet defined, use any 10 character value) - Your agency will decide when and if this chartfield will be used after the July 2006 go-live**

Q: **What kind of information is needed for test files, and where do I obtain it?**

A: **We would like sample data for testing. Preferably, a subset of current data with the required layout adjustments for PeopleSoft Version 8.8**

Q: **What values are to be entered into new fields?**

A: **For testing purposes, agencies can use filler values or blanks for Program as we get close to go-live, OPB will provide the Program ChartField values for FY2007. Budget Reference, Product and Special Purpose will not be used in FY2007, please leave these values blank.**

Q: **When are you going to begin testing these files?**

A: **The original due date to have test files submitted to SAO was 2/1/06. An extension to 2/22/06 has been implemented, and testing will begin at that time.**

Q: **Who at my agency was contacted regarding these file layouts?**

A: **Each agency's Technical Contact and Functional Contact were communicated to regarding this matter. If you would like to know who these individuals are for your agency, please email upgradefeedback@sao.ga.gov.**

AP Off-line Voucher FAQs:

Q: **What kind of data goes in the "VOUCHER_STYLE" field? Some agencies upload credit card, telecom, fuel card and utilities.**

A: **The Voucher Styles means what type of voucher you are processing. The most common voucher style is Regular. We also have Single Payment, Adjustment Voucher and Reversal Voucher. The data that goes in the field in the layout is 'REG' or 'SGLP'. REG is for the regular voucher, and SGLP is for single payment.**

Q: **In the AP Off-line file layout, the Row_ID for the last layout should be a 'D' not 'L' as indicated in the layout.**

A: **Correct.**

Q: **In the AP Off-line file layout, what values should be used for the Affiliate and Fund Affiliate fields in the last layout?**

A: **These two fields are related to interunit/intraunit functionality in 8.8. These fields should be left blank and will be populated during the load process into PS. In short, this is only relevant if transacting business with another state entity in which case the affiliate will be populated with the other entities BU and the fund affiliate with their fund.**

General Accounting and Chartfield Changes FAQs:

Q: **We currently have transactions that are accrued through our source system, then when liquidated must be liquidated against the same codes. Also, some of these are cancelled at some point in the future. We also use the same budget year as the original budget year to liquidate them. How will the system know since there is no budget year, what budget to post the cancellations to?**

A: **Accounting date will drive the fiscal period and budget date will drive the budget period. If the two are the same, then budget date will default based on accounting date. If the two are different, the case in which you're hitting a prior budget year, then the budget date will have to be populated. As part of the upgrade, the budget year on all transactions will be translated/converted to a budget date. In summary, if you're hitting the current budget year, budget date does not have to be provided. Our assumption was transactions on the interface files wouldn't hit prior budget years but based on your feedback we'll add budget date to both the AP and GL offline interfaces. We will provide the necessary information prior to that date to facilitate your continued development to accommodate the new functionality. Our plan is to append the new budget date field to the end of the file layout and if on the interface sent, the value is blank we will populate the field based on the accounting date on the transaction.**

Q: **The issue of budget year affects us in many areas (not interfaces other than above). We normally make adjusting entries etc against the same budget year as originally used. How will we get to the correct budget since there will be no budget year?**

A: **The budget date field is the driver to direct transactions to a specific budget year, current or prior.**

Q: **I will ask our budget office this but do you know who is assigning the new OPB program number in the system?**

A: **The new program number will be a state level chartfield similar to account. OPB will assign values and SOA will add the values to PS. The list for 07 budget is being finalized.**

Q: **For the fund value on our offline entries, is this now just "1"?**

A: **The fund value in 7.02 has a field length of five characters. The field length will remain the same in 8.8. The values in FY 07 will change based on the new fund structure SAO is rolling out in the coming month. The general fund under the new structure will have the value"01".**

Q: **I have made the assumption that the new PS will work like the old one. All of our offlines carry a "4" for the fund source (program code currently) and PS then reads the speed charts to pick up the appropriate fund sources for the project code being used. Is that a correct assumption?**

A: **Correct, program distribution will be available in 8.8 with the fund source "4" still being the driver.**

Q: **Posting entries at quarter end. Particularly AP offline. Since we don't close the quarters on the last day of the month, how will we tell the system that we want this to post in the quarter that is ending? In other words, at June 30, when we are sending AP vouchers from UAS to PS, they will need to post in June. How do we make that happen? I am not sure how we make it happen now.**

A: **Accounting date will drive the fiscal period and budget date will drive the budget period. If the two are the same, then budget date will default based on accounting date. It the two are different, the case in which you're hitting a prior budget year, then the budget date will have to be populated. As part of the upgrade, the budget year on all transactions will be translated/converted to a budget date. In summary, if you're hitting the current budget year, budget date does not have to be provided.**