

# What's Up - What's Coming

## For registered users of the Fiscal Management Information System

April 25, 2008

### FMIS UPDATES

#### LIMITATION TYPES

We have added **two new limitation types** in FMIS for administration of funds and limitation authorized in P.L. 110-161. They are:

- **Section 129** to support earmarks allocated funds under Program Code LY90;

**Bridge Plus** to track Highway Bridge Program funds obligated using the special three-year Bridge Limitation. The Bridge Office issued guidance dated March 27, 2008, which provides information in regards to the additional obligation limitation and FHWA Notice

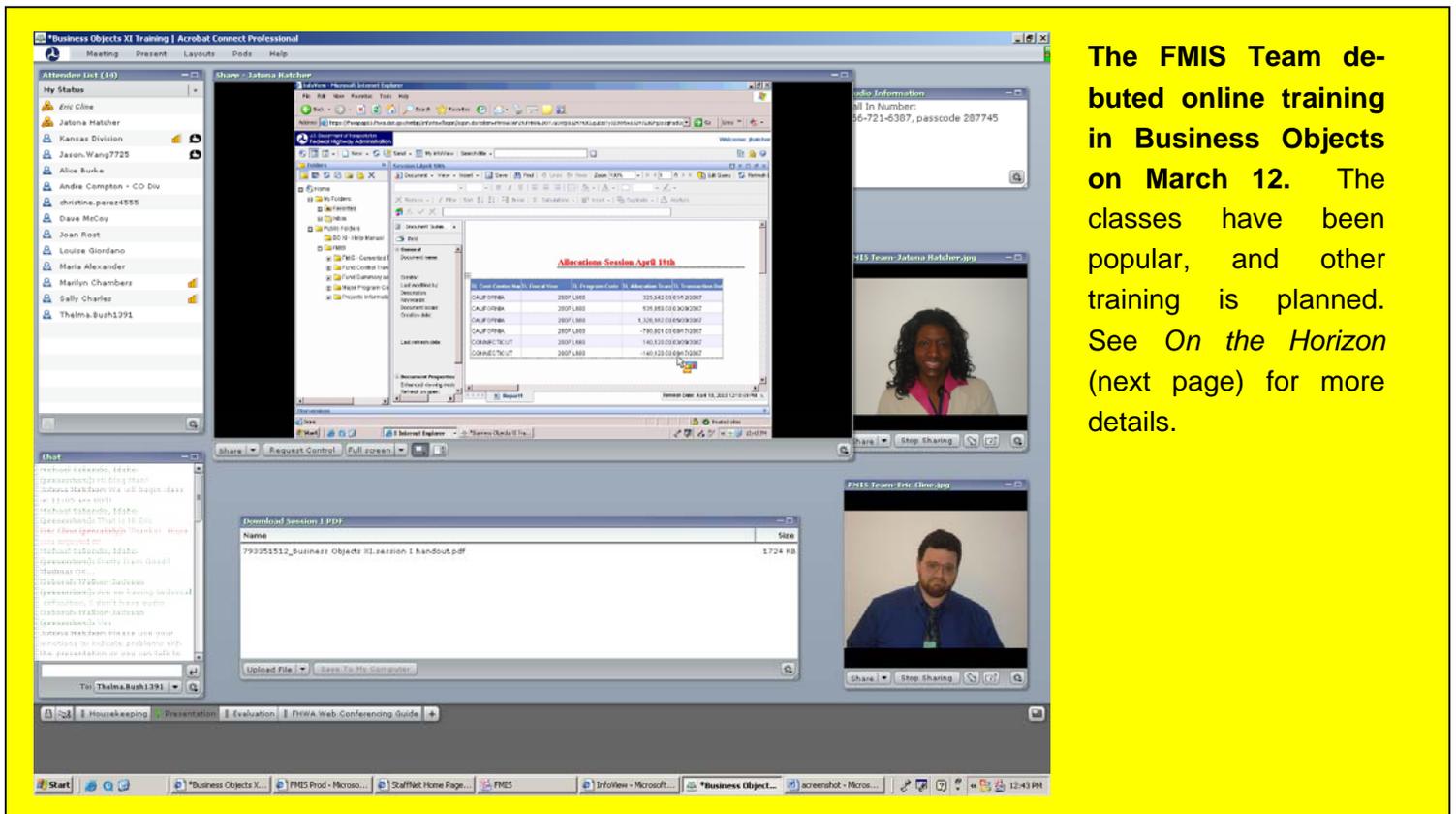
N4520.194. The memo and attachments can be found at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/080327.cfm>

To view your State's limitation:

- From the FMIS 4.0 Menu, select Limitation Data
- From the Limitation Data Menu, select Limit Code
- Scroll to the bottom of the screen and select the Limit Code as appropriate.

New Limitation Types are reflected in report M38A.

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The FMIS Team debuted online training in Business Objects on March 12. The classes have been popular, and other training is planned. See *On the Horizon* (next page) for more details.



**REPORTS**

**T51A - Program Codes:** Report will populate Period of Availability if "No Lapse" is indicated in program code area.

**M79A - Federal Highway Programs:** – Two major changes:

- **Active number of projects will change.** If a Program Code is active within the FY, the report will populate even if the unobligated balance is -0-. The Active Project Count will continue to include all detail lines within a project. A footnote will be added to indicate that Active Project Count does not count by Federal Project Numbers (Header record).
- **Lapsed Funds** located at the end of the report will be updated to display all program codes that were lapsed as of FY07.

**Q40A - Project Details, Unexpended Balances – No Expenditure Activity:**

**Advance Construction:** If a project and program code have been selected for Q Report display based upon the pre-defined selection criteria, the current reporting of advance construction funds on the Q Reports may exclude individual detail lines, based on the status of AC funds on a particular line. This current exclusion of detail lines understates Total Cost and Federal Funds, and causes the unexpended balance to be negative in some instances. In order to rectify this problem, the Q Reports will now include Federal Funds and Total Cost summation from all qualifying detail lines (excluding '1020,' FTA, SIB, and FMCSA program codes) for the project and program code. The AC amounts and AC converted

**FMIS UPDATES**

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**BUSINESS OBJECTS REPORTS**

A new query has been posted under Business Objects Public Folder. The query will allow users to track apportioned funds which have been transferred State-to-State or to a Pooled Fund Project Lead State. The route is:

FMIS Main Menu → Reports → Business Objects → Folders → Home → Public Folders → FMIS Fund Control Transaction Reports → Apportionment Transaction Report, Type = Other

Refresh the report and enter selection criteria for the three prompts. To manipulate the data, sort, or make any changes to the format or criteria, the query must be saved to the user's BO-XI Home → My Folders → Favorites.

**INACTIVE REPORTS**

**Q40A - Project Details, Unexpended Balances – No Expenditure Activity:**

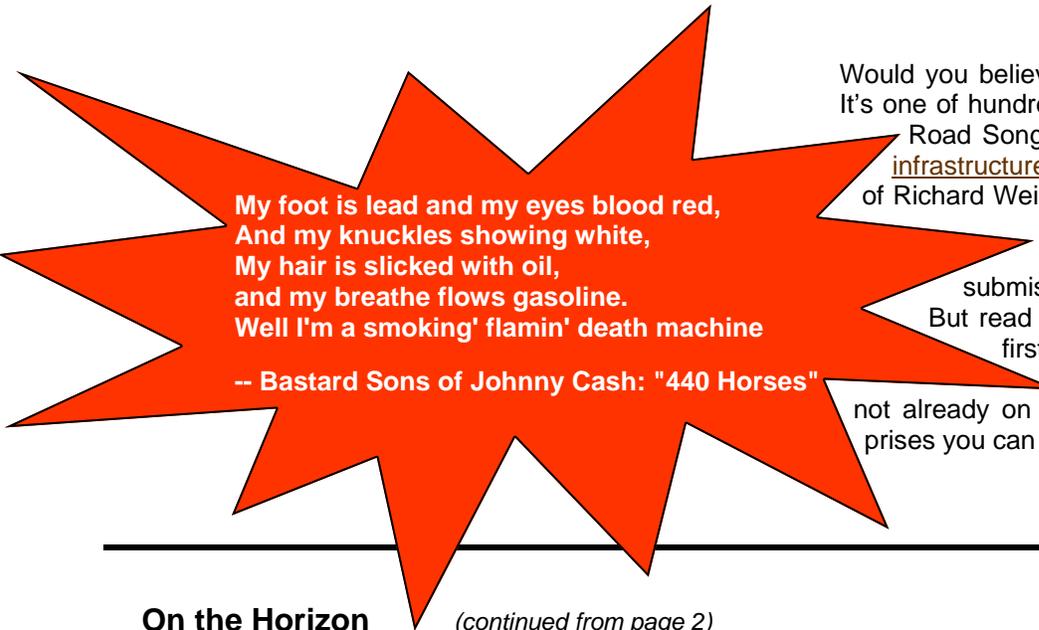
- **Latest Payment Date:** A correction was made to select projects in order to adjust the existing payment dates displayed. The payment dates were improperly recorded on the current version of these projects when a payment was posted during the same time as a "pending" version of the project existed. This "Last Payment Date" correction should result in a few projects being removed from the Inactive Projects Reports (Q Reports).
- **Unexpended balance selection range modified to accept cents.** This will impact the pre-published reports and the Q Report launch screen.

See "On the Horizon" for pending changes in this report.

**D15A Report - Project Single Signatory Audit Report:** This report now has the capability to be run nationwide.

**FUNI website:** Updated versions of the Apportionment Funds Transfer forms (FHWA-1575 and FHWA-1576) are available. These forms are current as of January 2008. Look under "User References." 

**FEATURED ON THE FHWA WEB SITE:** An occasional look at what our agency puts on the web



My foot is lead and my eyes blood red,  
And my knuckles showing white,  
My hair is slicked with oil,  
and my breathe flows gasoline.  
Well I'm a smoking' flamin' death machine

-- Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash: "440 Horses"

Would you believe this is on the FHWA's web site? It's one of hundreds of lyrics excerpted in the "Some Road Songs" page at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure/roadsong.htm>. It is the brainchild of Richard Weingroff of the FHWA's Office of Infrastructure. This list is still being added to today, and he still accepts submissions at [richard.weingroff@dot.gov](mailto:richard.weingroff@dot.gov). But read through the rules on the above link first to make sure your song meets the criteria, and check to see that it is not already on there. This is just one of the surprises you can find on the FHWA web site. 🎧

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## On the Horizon

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amounts will not have any effect on whether or not a project is selected for this report. The only effect of AC will be to exclude a project if all of its funds are AC.

**W10A - Status of Funds Report:** LAPSED FUNDS located towards the end of the report behind TOTAL OTHER FUNDS will be updated to display all program codes that have lapsed as of FY07.

**W96A - Project Status:** We will soon add a button to the Project Header screen, behind the Doc button, that will launch this report.

## TRAINING

**Web-based Fund Control Training is being developed.** The delivery will be similar to the BO XI Training. We look forward to hearing about your training needs in this area. Please send inquires and comments to:

[FMISSUPPORT@DOT.GOV](mailto:FMISSUPPORT@DOT.GOV) or contact Joy Kelly at 202-366-2922.

## PROJECTS and EDS

**Improvement Type 47:** Controls are being lifted on the use of the Improvement Type 47 – Bridge Preventive Maintenance with radio buttons under Other Statistics. These changes will require EDS modifications. Revised EDS Manuals will be posted on our FUNI pages under User References. Financial Managers at all Division Offices will be notified (via Outlook group distribution list entitled "FINANCIALMGRS") when the manuals are available. The updated EDS transmittal criteria should be forwarded to the appropriate State counterparts as quickly as possible to allow time for system modifications.

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Washington D.C. area FMIS users enjoyed the beauty of the legendary cherry blossoms this season. The National Cherry Blossom Festival was March 29 to April 13. The blossoming of more than 3,000 cherry trees in the D.C. Tidal Basin, a 1912 gift from Japan, have become a yearly ritual for tourists and residents alike.

### FMIS Team Contacts

For assistance, users may contact the FMIS Team via email at FMISTEAM@dot.gov. Individual members of the Team may be contacted by telephone or email:

**Donna L. Jones**, FMIS Team Leader

202-366-2924

**Eric Cline:** 202-366-2864

**Jatona Hatcher:** 202-366-2846

**Edward M. Johnson, Jr.:** 202-366-2911

**Joy K. Kelly:** 202-366-2922

**Paul Smith:** 202-366-8761

**Mark Tessier:** 1-866-327-8877, then request phone number 202-366-2901 

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### FORMAT CHANGE FOR DEMO IDs

There soon will be a change to the present Demo ID format. The format will allow alphanumeric characters instead of numeric only in the last three positions of the ID (i.e. ALA01 vs. AL001). Some States will run out of demo IDs, thus necessitating the change. Incorporating the alphanumeric capability expands the possible number of Demo IDs per State to 3,564.

### PREVIOUSLY ON THE HORIZON...

We had a few announcements in our previous "On the Horizon" column (December 17, 2007) that can now be updated.

**The changeover from Business Objects 5.1 to Business Objects XI** took place fairly smoothly on February 18. To introduce our users to the new system, FMIS Team conducted online training, which proved to be very popular. Team members Jatona Hatcher and Eric Cline taught two beginning sessions (levels I and II) and one intermediate session. The first 90 minute session was on March 12, and classes continue through May 14.

**The Fund Transfer Process** is temporarily on hold, to release tech support staff to address mandated system enhancements.

The **Business Objects XI training survey** results will be summarized and posted on the FUNI site next month. **Frequently Asked Questions** about BO XI will be included in the summary. 