A Word About This and Future Issues….

With the diverse locations of our employees and the many consolidation-related activities that occur – some at a rapid pace – it can be challenging to make sure that information is going out in a timely manner. To help keep you informed, *OIT TechLine* will be published on a monthly basis and will include information from the OIT agencies as well as news from headquarters.   In this edition of TechLine, we introduce to the Human Resources and Business Services teams and in this and the next two issues to the Chief Information Officers of the various agencies. We hope your learn some new things about your organization and that you will share your ideas for articles and let us know what you want to hear more about. Enjoy!

From the Deputy CIO

AN UPDATE BY JOHN CONLEY

As we evolve toward a truly consolidated organization, a lot of footwork is being done in the background and at times it may appear that not a whole lot is happening.   Nothing could be further from the truth.   The following are just a few of the most recent activities that we have completed or are underway.

OIT TOWN HALLS

To help bring employees up-to-date, the OIT Executive Leadership team recently began holding a series of Town Halls to educate our employees on where we've been, where we are today and where we are headed. Town Hall dates and locations are being posted under the Scheduled Events tab of OIT Plaza as they are confirmed. Be sure to check back often as we update the schedule.

In October, human resources, financial, accounting, contract and procurement personnel from affected agencies were invited to attend a Business Services Town Hall to talk about how consolidation will impact them.   A similar presentation was made at the CFMA Fall Conference.   To view the presentation, look in the *OIT Town Hall Presentations* folder located under the *Events* tab on OIT Plaza.

BACK OFFICE IS STAFFED

I am pleased to announce that the OIT "back office" has been staffed. The back office is comprised of the different administrative services – including the Human Resources and Business Services teams - that are necessary to support the organization and that allow IT professionals to do their jobs. Formation of the back office was a vital first step in Phase I of the consolidation because without them, it would be nearly impossible to move forward with the many activities ahead of us. As noted above, this issue of OIT TechLine is focused on familiarizing you with those teams and the OIT-Agency CIO's in an effort to bring a big picture view of the organization to our 1,100+ employees.

ENTERPRISE APPLICATION SERVICES TEAM CREATED

An Enterprise Applications Services team was recently formed to focus on application development and support activities on an enterprise level under the leadership of   Ron Huston, Enterprise Architect & Agency Services Director. Alan Ashurst was named Enterprise Services Director and the former DoIT Statewide and DPA Applications groups report to him in that capacity as does a team responsible for implementing an OIT Service Catalog and developing Service Level Agreements. An announcement about this change can be found on OIT Plaza under the *OIT Organization* tab.

CONSOLIDATION COMMITTEES ARE UNDERWAY

A number of committees have been formed to start exploring such issues as data center consolidation, service center/help desk consolidation, enterprise content management and much more.   Watch for information from your agency CIO on how to get involved as new committees are formed.

Increasing the effectiveness of government through information technology

Meet the OIT Human Resources Team

BY HEATHER PERDUE, OIT HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

Our Human Resource Office views being part of this "start-up" venture in OIT as an exciting opportunity to look at things a little differently, without the unnecessary burden of "doing things the same way they've always been done" when the purpose for doing so has been lost!! Here is a brief introduction to what we hope you will find unique about our approach to HR, as well as the people involved.

- "Packing light" – focusing on what most needs to be done and the easiest way to get there, without getting bogged down in no-value-added forms and processes.

- Fairness and trustworthiness – We need to hear concerns and solutions from you, and will continually strive to use them to make things better for all of us!

- We believe in employees: Making a meaningful difference and creating value = job satisfaction

- Transparency and customer service in communication and action – building a WYSIWIG (what you see is what you get) environment that is above-board, fair and positive. You can come to any one of us with a concern, suggestion or question. We are all committed to understanding the issue, assisting if possible (even if it is not our specialty area) and giving you a straightforward response. If you find that doesn't happen, let us know and give us a chance to keep on improving, because it really is our goal!!

Our HR Office currently has four staff with plans to eventually be about double that size as consolidation brings the approximately 1,100 people into OIT. Our two HR Specialists are Cynthia Eckles and Cindy Kong. Neither wants to be called by the other name but both agreed that "Cyn" is fine… which helps if your memory is like mine!

Cynthia will take a leadership role in filling vacancies as well as job structures and pay. She is also the primary administrator of the new IT skills assessment project. She brings 3 ½ years of human resources experience from CDOT, where she was strongly involved in a comprehensive study of IT positions. In 2004, she left to pursue a culinary career however the amazing opportunity of working in an organization devoted to IT solutions statewide was too much

to resist, and she returned to state government in October 2008. Cynthia is very "tech-savvy" and enjoys the "people-side" of challenges facing the State of Colorado.

Cindy Kong has been with the State for 14 years, ten in HR, and has specialized in classifying IT jobs and filling vacancies for the last six. She was the HR Specialist for the former DoIT for the last 4 years and transferred to OIT as part of the consolidation. Although she will continue to evaluate and fill IT positions, she will serve as OIT's Employee Relations Specialist. That role includes FML and Worker Compensation Coordination, leave, and dispute resolution. Cindy brings a lot of historical IT knowledge and the desire to focus on employee issues and concerns that most impact their satisfaction and effectiveness at work.

Shahram Ghadimi-Navai has 25 years of service with the state, with the past 14 in HR, Payroll, and Benefits. Before coming to OIT, he worked at DPA in accounting. Shahram is our Records Technician and will be the lead person in eventually making HR fully electronic. He will also develop and oversee the working relationship with Personnel Liaisons in the other agencies to help smooth the consolidation transition. He is a great resource for anything you need to know about your personnel file, exam records, or any other employment documentation.

I am Heather Perdue and am most enthused about the chance to assemble an HR staff, and eventually an OIT staff, that is excited and challenged by the OIT adventure and the chance to surprise people with the results from state government, and surprise state employees with the fulfillment they can find through work! I have almost 20 years in State Human Resources, including 13 years with CDOT, starting an agency's HR function from scratch, functioning as State Personnel Rule interpreter, and most recently serving as DOC's HR Director.

HR Team (l-r): Cindy Kong, Heather Perdue, Shahram Ghadimi-Navai, Cynthia Eckles

Meet the Business Services Team

The Business Services team reports to OIT's Chief Operating Officer, Todd Olson, and is comprised of three sections: Budget, Controller, and Contracting and Procurement.

Business Services Leadership Team (l-r): David Chittenden, Brenda Berlin, Manny Ben

BUDGET

BY DAVID CHITTENDEN, BUDGET DIRECTOR

The budget team works to develop and implement OIT's fiscal year planning, budgeting, and rate-setting processes. It analyzes fiscal and program data in the development of OIT's budget requests and statewide IT common policies and provides direction and assistance to all within the Office as it relates to budget development and management. Throughout these processes the team provides budgetary information to the OSPB, the JBC, the State Controller's Office, and all the statewide agencies that receive OIT's services. Additionally, the team tracks and analyzes legislation to the extent that it affects OIT's budget or customers and facilitates the fiscal note processes. David Chittenden is the Budget Director, with teammates Timothy Murphy, Statewide IT Common Policy Director, and Robb Fuller, Finance Director, reporting directly to him.

CONTROLLER

BY BRENDA BERLIN, CONTROLLER

The accounting team is responsible for billing customers that use our services, paying vendors for goods and services purchased, processing procurement card transactions, working with Budget on rate development, and overall tracking and reporting of fiscal activity for the Office. Staff review and process accounting transactions to help ensure compliance with Fiscal and procurement Rules, policies and procedures, accounting guidance, and budgetary restrictions. The accounting section is also responsible for processing payroll, Kronos system administration, and asset management. The team consists of Brenda Berlin, Janet Sobczyk, Ruth King, Roy Stafford, Leandra Stillman, Aaron Nederveld, and yet to be hired payroll officer, timekeeping system administrator, and asset manager.

The accounting team is currently working with program staff to change the old DoIT accounting structure to new Governor's Office of Information Technology coding. This is a very time-consuming process which involves all of the different billing systems that we use today. We are also working with the Budget team in rate development for our services.

CONTRACTING AND PROCUREMENT

BY MANNY BEN, CONTRACT AND PROCUREMENT DIRECTOR

The Contracting and Procurement Department for OIT is located at 1580 Logan Street, Suite 200. Currently there are six people on staff: Renae Nunes and Stacy Steelman are contract administrators, Robb MacTavish and Judy Giovanni are purchasing agents., Thirza Kennedy is the Purchasing Manager, and Manny Ben is the Director. Thirza, Renae and Judy came to OIT from DPA. Stacy comes from CDLE and Robb comes from CDPHE. Manny is a newcomer to the state and comes from Academy School District Twenty in Colorado Springs. This unit brings over 75 years of state purchasing experience and well over 100 years of contracting and procurement experience.

Contracting and Procurement Team (l-r): Judy Giovanni, Thirza Kennedy, Renae Nunes (front row), Robb MacTavish, Manny Ben (back row). Not pictured: Stacy Steelman

Currently we are working on setting policies and procedures related to IT procurement in the Executive Branch. Our team was formed as a result of Senate Bill 08-155 which was effective July 1, 2008. The purpose of the bill is to standardize and consolidate IT functions statewide to utilize efficiencies and create cost savings and it is the goal of our unit to achieve just that..

Meet the CIO's

GETTING TO KNOW THE LEADERS OF OIT

In this and next two issues of TechLine, we will introduce you to the agency CIOs. This talented group of people bring a diversity and wealth of experience that will benefit OIT in innumerable ways as we go forward in achieving our goals and objectives. But before we introduce you to them, let's briefly talk about their role in OIT. Under Senate Bill 08-155, the CIO's were transferred from their respective agencies to OIT where they report to Mike Locatis, State Chief Information Officer, and also have dotted line reporting responsibilities to Ron Huston, Enterprise Architect and Agency Services Director. The CIO's continue to be responsible for IT personnel and agency services while also working on consolidation activities.

Without further ado, please meet the CIOs representing the following agencies:

* Agriculture
* Corrections
* Health Care Policy and Financing
* Human Services
* Labor and Employment

TONY JONES, CIO - AGRICULTURE (CDA)

As the CIO for the Colorado Department of Agriculture, I am responsible for acting as the IT visionary, supervising IT staff, being a technical resource and serving as the liaison between CDA and the Governor's Office of Information and Technology. I worked in telecommunications at Bank One in Colorado before joining CDA as an IT intern almost 13 years ago.

I was appointed to the CIO position in July of this year after having served as the acting CIO for CDA from July 2005 through December 2006 and then again from January 2008 to July 2008. During my stint with Ag, I have worked primarily as a programmer/analyst but have also filled more than my share of help desk tickets for desktop support and have acted as the network admin at the site to which I was assigned.

I earned a bachelor's in Computer Information Systems from Regis University in Denver. I was born in Indian Harbor Beach Florida and moved to Colorado when I was 19. Hobbies include snowboarding, surfing, reading, gardening, mountain and road biking, and hiking. I have been married for 17 years with a daughter who is a senior in high school and I have two grown step kids who have children of their own.

PAUL LEWIN, CIO – CORRECTIONS (DOC)

In 2003, Paul became the acting Chief Information Officer for the Department of Corrections and in April 2004 promoted to CIO. Paul has been active with the Colorado State CIO Forum, National Consortium of Offender Management Systems (NCOMS) and is president elect of the Correctional Technical Association (CTA). Paul has implemented many new correctional technological systems in Colorado and is considered a leader in designing and implementing state of the art systems for the Colorado Department of Corrections.

ANDY GRAZIANO, CIO - HEALTH CARE POLICY & FINANCING (HCPF)

Andy is responsible for the strategic architecture, enhancement and operation of all computer systems and infrastructure that deliver Medicaid and Child Health Programs for the State of Colorado. The integrated performance of these complex information systems enables the delivery of billions of dollars worth of healthcare services to Colorado citizens.

Previously Mr. Graziano was the Senior Vice President of Information Technology for Centric Health Finance, a company that delivers unique financial solutions to providers in the Oncology, Rheumatology and Nephrology specialties. His career is punctuated by leadership and technical management experience within the U.S. Navy, biotechnology, engineering and health care industries.

Mr. Graziano has an engineering degree from the United States Naval Academy, a Masters in Information Systems from California Lutheran University and is a certified Project Management Professional.

RON OZGA, CIO - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (CDHS)

Ron has over 30 years of experience within the Information Technology field. He has held IT Director level positions within a number of private companies and his experience includes strategic plan development, project management, software application development and operations management.

Ron joined the Colorado Children, Youth and Families (CYF) Automation Project, Colorado's SACWIS Project, in August 1998 as a Technical/Project Manager, managing the installation of the CYF infrastructure across the State of Colorado along with providing project management support as backup to the CYF Project Director. In February 2001, Ron was appointed to the CYF Project Director position. After the implementation of Colorado's SACWIS project, Ron was appointed the Applications Director for Children, Youth and Families Services and Child Support Enforcement Services, responsible for the applications that support the Child Welfare, Youth Corrections, Child Care and Child Support Enforcement program areas in Colorado.

In December 2005, Ron was appointed the Deputy Chief Information Officer for the Colorado Department of Human Services, having overall responsibility for all applications within the agency. As of July 2008, Ron was appointed Chief Information Officer under the Governor's Office of Information Technology for the Colorado Department of Human Services.

JOE LAMBERT, CIO - DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (CDLE)

Joe joined CDLE in 2005 after five years managing renewable energy programs in the Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation. His earlier career ranged from missile guidance system development as a group leader at the M.I.T. Instrumentation Laboratory to the ownership and operation of a small retail collectibles business. Between these were a term in the U.S. Navy where he served as a Program Director in Test Command, Defense Atomic Support Agency, and senior management positions in wholesale firms in Colorado and Massachusetts.

Joe has lived in Colorado since 1981. He has three children and one grandchild. He has been involved in numerous civic and church related activities. Joe has a B.S. degree in Chemistry from M.I.T. and an M.B.A. from Harvard University.

CIO INTRODUCTIONS IN UPCOMING ISSUES:

December:

* Local Affairs
* Military & Veterans Affairs
* Natural Resources,
* Public Health and Environment
* Public Safety

January:

* Regulatory Agencies
* Revenue
* Transportation
* and the CTO of the Colorado Historical Society

DID YOU KNOW..
The Governor's Office of Information Technology (OIT) recently completed an effort to consolidate the individual cellular phone plans used by agencies in the Executive and Judicial branches and Secretary of State's office. This consolidation will allow these agencies to take advantage of pooled minutes and for the state to realize a significant cost savings - approximately $750,000 annually – as well as enterprise level reporting. Additionally, with OIT being responsible for providing enterprise-wide management of the contracts, agencies can focus on their business of providing services to the taxpayers rather than managing an infrastructure contract.

Employee Matters

OR RATHER—EMPLOYEES MATTER!

WELCOME!

Please join OIT in welcoming the most recent members of OIT:

Aaron Nederveld - Accounting Technician / Telecommunications Billing

Cynthia Eckles - Human Resource Specialist

Judy Giovanni – Procurement Agent

Laura Kramer – Database Administrator

Manny Ben - Contracting and Procurement Director

Robb MacTavish – Procurement Agent

Seth Kulakow – Chief Information Security Officer

Stacy Steelman – Contract Agent

All are located at 1580 Logan with the exception of Laura who works at 690 Kipling.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH PROGRAM

As you may have seen, or rather not seen, there has not been an announcement for September and October Employee of the Month (EOM). Nominations were received but unfortunately there was a small glitch in the timing of the selection committee meetings. The nominations will be considered soon and announcements made as we get the EOM program back on track. In the meantime, to learn more information about the OIT Employee of the Month program and/or to nominate an employee, please visit the *Kudos* tab on OIT Plaza.

Communication Tools

OIT uses a number of methods to communicate with employees including *TechLine*, email messages, OIT Plaza, Town Halls, etc. A new communication tool has been added to our communication toolbox.

ABOUT THE OIT LISTSERV

In order to communicate with all OIT employees, a ListServ was recently created and is intended to in very limited situations. OIT employees will continue to receive the majority of information via OIT Plaza as well as the individual CIO's for agency-specific information.

The email addresses of all OIT employees as of 15 September 2008 were uploaded into the ListServ. If you have joined OIT since that date, please follow the instructions found on OIT Plaza under the *OIT Organization* tab.

OIT PLAZA REMINDER

OIT Plaza is the official intranet site for all OIT employees. It is the one and only place where we can all post and receive information about OIT policies, collaborate with one another, post kudos, etc. Suggestions on additional content, ways to make OIT Plaza better, etc. are always welcome and can be submitted via the Contact link that is located at the top of every page. Approximately one-half of our 1,100 employees have registered – if you are not one them, please join us today!

Question of the Month

If you have a question for the OIT leadership, please submit it to the email address *askthecio@state.co.us* and your question may be chosen for publication in OIT TechLine.

Q.   What can I do to help support or further consolidation efforts?

A.   First and foremost, continue to do the job for which you were hired to do whether that be customer service, programming, server administration, administrative work, etc. We need employees to remain focused on the business of the business. Consolidation committees have been or are being formed. Watch for announcements and if you have experience in a particular committee area, volunteer. (Because some of these committees involve a significant time commitment, you must obtain your supervisor's approval first.) If you don't have the time to participate on a committee but have expertise in a particular area, submit your suggestions to the I Have an Idea mailbox. Finally, participate and keep yourself informed by attending Town Halls, make daily visits to OIT Plaza to see new postings, introduce yourself to your new co-workers and keep talking with your existing teams. And if you have a question, ask!

NOVEMBER 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*
9	*10*	*11* *Holiday*	*12*	*13*	*14*	*15*
16	*17*	*18*	*19*	*20*	*21*	*22*
23/ *30*	*24*	*25*	*26*	*27* *Holiday*	*28*	*29*

Upcoming Events

November 12, 2008 – Statewide Citrix Users Group

November 13, 2008 - DNR Town Hall

November 17, 2008 – 9th Annual Colorado Digital Summit

December 2, 2008 - CHS Town Hall

December 9, 2008 - CDPHE Town Hall

December 9 - 12, 2008 – Mainframe Disaster Recovery Testing

Standing Meetings

Every Monday - OIT Leadership Meeting

Every Tuesday - OIT Senior Staff Meeting

Every Wednesday - EGC

Please visit the OIT website or OIT Plaza for more information and for other scheduled events!

THE 4 C'S OF OIT

Customers:	At OIT, customer service is our highest priority.
Collaboration:	Working together to better serve the citizens of Colorado
Communication:	Clear, Open, and Honest communication is our mission
Credibility:	Achieving credibility by providing efficient and effective IT solutions.

Governor's Office of Information Technology

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OIT MISSION

To increase the effectiveness of government through the use of information technology. Information technology will be used to maximize the efficiency of service delivery and will operate as a seamless enterprise, delivering consistent, cost-effective, reliable, accessible and secure services that satisfy the needs of the citizens of Colorado, its business communities, and its public sector agencies.

OIT
Office of Information Technology

Increasing the effectiveness of government through information technology