

**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

**Presentation To The IT Integration Advisory Group  
Of The Commission On Streamlining Government**



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# IT Recommendations

- Many IT functions are candidates for consolidation and/or outsourcing where it makes sense.
  - Institutional knowledge provides opportunities for programmatic efficiencies that generalization may not afford.
  - DEQ internal efficiency IT measures include:
    - e-payments; Net-DMR; e-permitting;
- DEQ has an award winning GIS division that serves as the custodian of all imagery for the state and can serve as a model for expansion to the enterprise level.

# Impact of ERP

- From an IT prospective there will be a minimal impact.
- Much of the tracking that is done manually by Financial Services using excel spreadsheets may become unnecessary.
- Business processes will change to take advantage of the new automated features.

# IT Initiatives

- e-Business
  - ePay
  - Net-DMR
  - Online Permits
- Tools for Environmental Management and Protection Organization (TEMPO) upgrade
- Transparency of Data – employee and public access to data
  - Data Warehouse
  - Business Intelligence
- Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) upgrade
- EQUIS Analytical Database expansion
- Ozone - Vehicle Emissions / Real Time HRVOC monitoring
- Server Virtualization
- Single Computer Policy
- IT Steering Committee / Strategic Planning

# IT Initiatives

- **ePayment** –This web based system allows the regulated community to pay their annual monitoring fees online via credit card or electronic bank draft. This system saves the regulated community and the department time and money. DEQ has plans to expand this system to accept electronic payment for any service provided by DEQ.
- **Net-DMR** –This project enables industry to submit their discharge monitoring reports via the internet instead of paper forms. This is a huge time and cost savings over keying in this data. It also eliminates key punch errors and enables more timely access to the information.
- **ePermits** – The framework was developed for the agency to accept permit applications via the internet. The first permit (Water Oil and Gas permit) is in beta test and should go live soon. This framework will be used to deploy other online permit applications, some of which are already under development.

# IT Initiatives

- **TEMPO upgrade** – A major upgrade was performed on the agency's Oracle database. This database tracks all information about the regulated community from the application process, to the monitoring and inspections, and, if necessary, enforcement actions. This upgrade provided new and improved functionality to the permitting, surveillance, enforcement and other activities of the agency.
- **Data Warehouse / Business Intelligence** – This project will enable DEQ employees and the public better access to the agency's data. It will enable management to make more informed decisions and open the agency's data to the public thus increasing transparency of government.
- **Electronic Document Management System (EDMS)** – The EDMS system was expanded this year to make all 25 million documents available to the public via the internet. In the past citizens desiring this information had to come to DEQ's headquarters or one of DEQ's regional offices. This promotes efficiency and availability of documents to the public.

# IT Initiatives

- **EQUIS** –EQUIS is a repository for analytical data that will enable DEQ to have better access to the information necessary to make sound scientific decisions. Currently remediation data is stored in EQUIS with plans to include all lab data.
- **Air Vision** –Air Vision is an improved tool to better enable the agency to collect and analyze air emissions that contribute to ozone. This is particularly important in the five parish ozone nonattainment area.
- **Server Virtualization** –This project will create virtual servers and virtual lands to enable DEQ to more efficiently utilize its server farm.
- **Laptop with Docking Stations** –DEQ has gone to a one computer per employee policy by providing laptops with docking stations instead of desktops to employees. This is a huge cost savings over supplying both a desktop and a laptop to employees that need laptops, and increases productivity by enabling a more mobile workforce.

# IT Initiatives

- **IT Steering Committee / Strategic Planning** –This initiative was facilitated by Information Services (IS) and consists of management level representatives from each major area of DEQ. Their mission is to assist IS with request management, prioritization of strategic opportunities and alignment of IS resources in a way that contributes maximum value to the business objectives of the agency and the State. This team provides recommendations to the Executive Staff for final approval and inclusion in the 2-5 year IT Strategic Plan and funding of the IT Investment Plan that supports the DEQ initiatives.