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ACCELA  
Government Software

focus

*Designed for all staff and departments who use Accela*

### **Project Update**

The review of record configurations is happening quickly. The SME's are reviewing these results internally. The review of all records is scheduled for completion at the end of March. The SME team decided to do all of the reviews electronically. What this means is that we are not spending any travel dollars to have the Accela consultants participate in the reviews on-site. Instead, the reviews are being done remotely using technology and conference calls. However, we do miss our Accela consultants – a great group of people to work with! At the end of March we need to be finished with our own internal review of additional records - those outside the scope of Accela's participation. The “build” process then will be hammered out record type by record type. Coming up on March 6-7 and March 14th are SME training classes for creating the batch scripts and event management. This addresses the back-end programming which is essential to making all functions for each record come to life.

### **Crystal Report Enterprise**

You may have noticed this topic appearing from time to time in our newsletter. We have been wrestling with two key options -- implement an Accela-only solution version of Crystal Reports or use the Accela Project as a catalyst to create an enterprise solution for all Crystal Reports users throughout the City. As you know, reporting is a critical component of most application systems. Some software companies create their own proprietary report writers. Accela made a smart business decision to partner with Crystal, the leader in the reporting industry. Finally, the stars have aligned and the decision was made to implement an enterprise version of Crystal Reports. The details of this arrangement have been worked out with SAP/Crystal and the groundwork is being laid for the installation of the software. There are some residual benefits of having an enterprise solution for our report writer. The enterprise version will offer a central repository for all Crystal Reports. The repository can be managed by IS in one place and included in IS disaster recovery plans. The desktop versions of the software can now belong to a bigger audience where the technology can be managed as a whole. This is an awesome step forward!

### **Project Dox**

Sometime ago we reported that a review was being made of Accela document use and review software. After careful examination, the SME team and key managers made a decision to stay with Project Dox. Now for those of you unfamiliar with Project Dox here is some background information. Project Dox is software which provides the ability to receive and review project plans electronically. These plans then can be "marked-up" and notations made electronically. Companies that work directly with the City can collaborate with us in sharing

information via this "two-way-street". One advantage with Project Dox is the technical architecture of the system. It is "open" so the companies we work with can log into our system without any additional software on their end and they can access the information in our database. We currently are working out an upgrade plan for Project Dox. There are new versions of software for their 32 and 64 bit architecture. Our service provider for Project Dox is Avolve Software; they are working with us to plan an upgrade to one of their latest versions. Plan to see some additional information about the new features and functions of Project Dox in a future edition of our newsletter.

## Accela Press Releases

It is great to be connected with a software company that is working diligently to make a difference in the marketplace and in cities all around the United States. As Accela continues to expand their software functions and features, we are finding other cities are jumping onboard using Accela to take them to another level. Read how New York City and Tampa Florida are moving forward with Accela!

NYC - New York City, a city of 8.2 million residents, has identified Accela as the software solution provider for a citywide implementation of the Enterprise Licensing and Permitting (ELP) system. Accela Automation software will provide the functionality to replace New York City's existing CAMIS system. The CAMIS system currently supports the diverse and integrated Licensing, Enforcement, Adjudicatory, Legal, Complaint, and Payment business functions of the Agency ...

Tampa, Florida - Mayor Bob Buckhorn often says Tampa's permitting system ought to be modern enough to let a builder track a permit on a Smartphone. Now City Hall is moving in that direction. City officials said Wednesday they will buy a fully automated permitting system from Accela Automation. The system will replace an inefficient patchwork of old software and is designed to provide business, homeowners and contractors with online permitting and licensing information ...

\* You can read the full stories by following this link to Accela's home page and select the story under the header Recently Added: <http://accela.com/>

### Question of the Week

"What new report can you identify that would make a difference in your organization?"

Please don't hesitate to ask anything!

Send your replies to [jwalkenhorst@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:jwalkenhorst@lincoln.ne.gov)

### SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

How I Say

How we say the words that we speak,  
Influence the words heard strongly or weak.

Inflection can make a point crystal clear,  
Saying in a way so special to hear.

Choose carefully those words that you say,  
So the message is heard and your point is conveyed.

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**Our Accela project newsletter now reaches 231 readers!**