

March 9, 2012

Please print a copy of this newsletter for staff who do not have e-mail.



focus

Designed for all staff and departments who use Accela

Project Status Report

This week our core team attended a two-day virtual training event. At the Health Department, the training topic was Event Manager Scripting in Accela Automation. Our instructor, Kevin Gurney, an Accela professional, trained us on Event Manager Scripting allowing us to perform special functions which are typically based upon conditions that have been met during a permit process - as a record-type is being entered into the system. Scripting is triggered as an event occurs. For example: Do not allow workflow to progress if there is a positive balance. The event used for this example would be known as "workflow task update before". What we would need to do is - upon the workflow task "Review", check balance, if positive then prompt the user (send comment) with the amount due and then cancel the transaction. Here is a sample syntax string that would be used for handling this scenario:

```
wfTask == "Review" && wfStatus == " Ready to Issue" && balanceDue>0 ^ cancel = True; showMessage = True; comment("Record has a balance that need to paid off before you can issue the permit");
```

At the time of this article, we have identified 119 scripts that need to be written. Accela will handle 30 of these. As you can see we have our work cut out for us. We have quite a number of operands, event manager scripts, and other syntax that we must become familiar with. We will use the remainder of March to finish configuration documents and become involved with record- and script-build processes. We have another script training event tentatively scheduled for the end of March. This is the Advanced Event Manger Script class.

There are a number of project activities afloat at any one time. The SME's are buried with configuration analysis, reviewing Accela configuration builds, and working within their individual departments to continue building configuration documents and records. The true record building and script writing is coming soon as we orchestrate the development of the full solution for the City. March and May are going to be booked solid with these activities; and conversion mapping efforts are going to surface in this time frame as well. Other issues in progress include travel budget management, financial system integration, and GIS. We still are waiting on Accela to update our estimated travel budget for the remainder of the project. The travel budget was underfunded from the beginning and so we have given a lot of attention to work with the funds that are available. We continue to manage travel in such a way as to eliminate as many site visits as possible. We have provided fee schedules to Accela which contain all of the necessary general ledger codes for JD Edwards World Software. An effort will begin to do analysis work on an interface which will include a conference call with key financial people by the end of the month. We have been trying to get some field attributes and layers identified in advance of a full effort on GIS matters. We know that an XAPO (external address parcel owner) interface is waiting for us. In an attempt to jump start this part of the project, we have connected Jeff McReynolds with Accela's Rocky Copeland and Paul Rose.

Sub-Projects

The Accela Automation Project is on schedule. The critical path is being managed to promote continued progress. However, it is important to note that there are a number of high value sub-projects at hand. Here is a *partial list* of sub-projects needing attention. These sub-projects are in progress in the background of the Accela Automation Project.

Crystal Reports Enterprise - We are in the implementation/installation phase. Crystal Reports training needs are being identified. The report building effort for the Accela Automation Project is fast approaching and we need to have the facility in place as soon as possible.

On Base - There have been considerable efforts in the background of this project to ensure that On Base will serve the needs of project as well as the City from an enterprise perspective. A study is being completed at this time to formally determine the return on investment for using On Base as our enterprise electronic document management system.

Project Dox - We have been in touch with Avolve Software and they still are working on net change documents for Version 7.2 to 8.0 in both 32 and 64 bit environments. Duane Green and Frank Coronado are working on a phased upgrade plan with tentative upgrades taking place in May.

Scanning - Accela has not given us any indication that they are going to complete the scanning modifications that we have been counting on. Although this is a challenging piece of the software, due to the nature of the web architecture, we had earlier believed that this functionality would be made available to us first and then made available to all Accela clients. We are now forced to try to find alternatives for our go-live in September.

Credit Cards - This project is in its infancy. We have begun conducting some informal interviews and this sub-project is beginning to take shape. A survey has begun to determine the volume of potential credit card users in the Water Division. Accepting credit cards is one of many core objectives that have been identified as a need by the construction community.

Question of the Week

What will be your greatest concern when we "go-live" with Accela Automation this fall"?

Please don't hesitate to ask anything!

Send your replies to jwalkenhorst@lincoln.ne.gov



Your response to the question of the week makes you eligible for a name drawing to win this awesome Accela water bottle!

JIM WALKENHORST
PROJECT MANAGER

FRED A. HOKE
PROJECT SPONSOR

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Colors

My colors are different I see a new mix
where red is so cool and clear can't exist

I create colors to paint a new picture of life
where things are turned around to see a new light

You can paint your life with some new colors too
you just make new sense of the things that you do

Try for yourself to use a new mix in the way
paint with new colors and create a new day.

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