

RESEARCH PROJECT CAPSULE

January 2015

14-5SS

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAM

LTRC Project Management and Tracking System Enhancement

JUST THE FACTS:

Start Date:

November 1, 2014

Duration:

21 months

End Date:

July 31, 2016

Funding:

SPR: TT-Fed/TT-Reg

Principal Investigator:

Adele Lee

Computer Analyst Louisiana Transportation Research Center

Administrative Contact:

Mark Morvant, P.E. Associate Director, Research 225-767-9124

Technical Contact:

Mark Morvant, P.E. Associate Director, Research 225-767-9124

Louisiana Transportation Research Center 4101 Gourrier Ave Baton Rouge, LA 70808

Sponsored jointly by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and Louisiana State University

POINTS OF INTEREST:

Problem Addressed / Objective of Research / Methodology Used Implementation Potential

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PROBLEM

The Louisiana Transportation Research Center (LTRC) created the Project Management and Tracking System (PMTS) to manage and track its research projects, business processes, resources, and deliverables. The system was designed to accomplish the management processes outlined in the LTRC Manual of Research Procedures.

The system is currently deployed as Version 1, and the architecture is a web-based application programmed in Visual Basic, ASP, and AJAX on the Net framework that interfaces with SQL Server database management system. The full capability of the system, originally developed by an LTRC computer analyst, was never completed or robustly tested. Additionally, functionality issues have arisen due to format changes of imported financial data from the LaGov system operated by the Louisiana Division of Administration.

The purpose of this project is to complete the implementation of the previously developed modules, add additional features to increase reliability, functionality and user friendliness as well as test the entire system.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this project is to evaluate the PMTS Version 1 and to develop the PMTS Version 2 with enhanced functionality in order to adequately support the business processes of the LTRC research program. This project will also include 12 months of time for troubleshooting and maintenance after full system testing and Version 2 implementation.

METHODOLOGY

The following tasks will be performed: Task 1-Evaluate the PMTS Version 1 Initial System; Task 2-Evaluate PMTS Version 1 Debugging and Thorough System; Task 3-Make PMTS Version 1 Immediate Corrections; Task 4-Conduct Informational Meetings for PMTS Version 2; Task 5-Develop Interim Report; Task 6-Develop PMTS Version 2; Task 7-Carry out LTRC User Acceptance Testing; Task 8-Deploy PMTS Version 2; Task 9-Develop Training Materials and Documentation; and Prepare a Final Report.

IMPLEMENTATION POTENTIAL

Implementation of the updated system will enhance the efficiency of managing the LTRC research program. It will allow additional functionality for financial reports not currently supported by the LaGov system.