



State of Louisiana
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES

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ISIS Memorandum 05-016

To: Department Undersecretaries

Subject: InfoMaker Conversion and Business Objects Upgrade

In 2002, the selection of Business Objects was announced as the ad hoc reporting, query and data analysis standard for ISIS applications (excluding HR) and Division of Administration supported applications. The deployment plan included a transition period to allow agencies sufficient time to convert existing InfoMaker reports to Business Objects before the license for EDA Server, the software used to assess ISIS data, was cancelled. Agencies were subsequently notified the EDA software would be available for the duration of this calendar year and all conversion efforts were to be completed by December 31, 2004.

A major upgrade to Business Objects has recently been released. Since this upgrade will provide significant improvements for users and should result in better server performance, it was decided it was in the state's best interest to implement these functions quickly. Work on the upgrade has begun and we expect the functionality to be available in December. **All InfoMaker report conversion efforts should be postponed until the Business Objects upgrade has been completed.** Support of EDA Server by DOA will continue through Fiscal Year 05-06. Notification will be provided at least 6 months in advance of software cancellation.

In addition, the upgrade necessitates the revision of all existing Business Objects training courses for the inclusion the new features. Therefore, OIS has suspended Business Objects training until upgrade efforts and training revisions are completed. Training will resume in early December and will include an online course introducing the new features for experienced Business Objects users, as well as revised courses for new users.

In conjunction with the Business Objects upgrade, we will also upgrade the software used for the nightly refreshes of the datamarts, make technical changes to improve the refresh process, and begin to roll out access to the datamarts statewide. The Contracts datamart is scheduled for a mid-December deployment with the Order Detail datamart scheduled for deployment in the first quarter of 2005. More specific information on the status of the remaining datamarts will be provided at a later date.

Please distribute this information to your staff. Any questions regarding this matter should be directed to the ISIS Help Desk at 342-2677, option 1, 3.

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c: Whit Kling, Deputy Undersecretary
ISIS Liaisons
Technical Coordinators
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