

Application Enhancements

Q. The “Process Improvement” section of “Application Enhancements” describes four (4) improvements available as part of the upgrade to Microsoft Great Plains version 7. These are:

- 1. Application Security Enhancements**
- 2. Increased Data Importing Abilities**
- 3. Improved access to Information**
- 4. Multi-bin Capabilities**

Provide a description of the existing work tasks that require these additional features.

A. Application Security Enhancements

Currently, users are assigned to a specific security group, granting them access to forms (screens and reports) on an all or nothing basis, meaning access is provided to all of the information on the form or no access is provided at all. Thus, access to a form containing sensitive data would not be given to a user, even if some portion of the form were pertinent to their job. This results in increased effort in managing user security to ensure proper system controls.

Increased Data Importing Abilities

Currently, timesheets are entered into spreadsheet templates by individual employees, and then sent to departmental/area timesheet entry personnel to be re-keyed into Microsoft Great Plains.

Improved Access to Information

Currently, users gather project related information from various modules within Microsoft Great Plains (where consolidated project reporting is currently unavailable), generating multiple detail reports for various expense types including labour, employee expenses and purchased materials. This information is then exported to a spreadsheet and combined to produce the required results.

Multi-bin Capabilities

Currently, storekeepers rely on their own knowledge when locating materials for crews, as the system does not specify where inventory items are located within central stores, including cases where material is located in more than one location (because there isn't enough physical space for that item in one bin/aisle).