



Healthcare Integrated General Ledger Accounting System Highlights

July 2014

Brought to you by the Financial Management Systems Group (FMSG) under the Office of Financial Management (OFM)

HIGLAS Statistics

HIGLAS recouped \$249.6 million cumulative of Federal Tax debts and \$126.6M of Federal Non-Tax debts from Medicare Provider Payments through June 27th under the Treasury Federal Payment Levy Program (FPLP).

HIGLAS Production Processing Cumulative Totals

- Period: *May 2005 – June 2014*
- Number of Claims: *5,807,452,138*
- Claims Amount: *\$2,225,779,012,889*
- Number of Payments: *224,133,885*
- Payment Totals: *\$2,052,376,008,935*

Did You Know?

In preparation for the HIGLAS upgrade to Oracle Release 12, several HIGLAS organization merges are being carried out. The effort will merge HIGLAS Organizations where a single A or B Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) has more than one HIGLAS Organization. This will result in eight merges and the reduction of 11 HIGLAS Organizations. The first merge took place in July, and they are scheduled to continue through November.

Archiving HIGLAS Transactions

HP Archive is an application storage saving mechanism being used to record HIGLAS transactions in an ancillary location, moving them out of the HIGLAS production environment. Moving these transactions reduces the storage capacity required in the production environment, translating into a significant cost savings.

When first implemented in September 2006, information older than 18 months was being archived. Over the past six years, with CMS' direction, efforts have been made to reduce this to 13 months of transactions being kept in production, accounting for approximately 4 billion invoices.

By moving data to archive, over 25 terabytes of storage have been saved in the production environment and approximately 175 terabytes have been saved across the entire HIGLAS system. Not only has this resulted in cost savings, but it has also increased capacity on the system, subsequently improving performance.

Upgrading HIGLAS to R12

CMS is in the process of completing an assessment (Phase 1) of the latest version of Oracle Federal Financials (Release 12 or R12) functionality with HIGLAS. This phase of the project drills down into each functional process for the five Lines of Business (LOBs) ensuring accounting and payment accuracy. It is a monumental task, almost equivalent to the migration from FACS, the legacy accounting system, to

HIGLAS over the past nine years. FMSG is leading this effort, supported by several support contractors. The goals for the project are to:

- Identify opportunities to leverage new R12 functionality, reducing customizations and operations costs;
- Stay current with Oracle releases and patching; and
- Address

outstanding audit findings that R12 and the new infrastructure will address.

As the Assessment Phase (1) draws to a close, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and Treasury authorized the technical upgrade during the June 20th Stage Gate Review, which will be carried out during the Implementation Phase (2).

Technology News

In the coming weeks the Financial Reconciliation (FinRecon) reports can be accessed and downloaded from the HIGLAS Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) by Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs). Thus, reports will no longer be distributed via

email, however notification of their availability will still be sent.

If you do not have access to SFTP or require assistance, please contact the HIGLAS Help Desk at 1-888-839-9230.



“Transparency, honesty, kindness, good stewardship, even humor, work in businesses at all times”
~John Gerzema

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