Project Assessment & Reporting System (PARS II)

New and improved functionality was released in Version 8.0.20120308 of PARS II. This release offers PARS II Users a significant number of enhancements across all facets of the application. These enhancements include additional refinements to the "look and feel" of the system.

Enhancements are a result of community/User recommendations. System usability as well as providing improved means for data collection, validation and reporting were strategically designed and tested over the past several months.

An explanation of each enhancement , highlighting the changes, can be found in pages 3-5.

Attachments

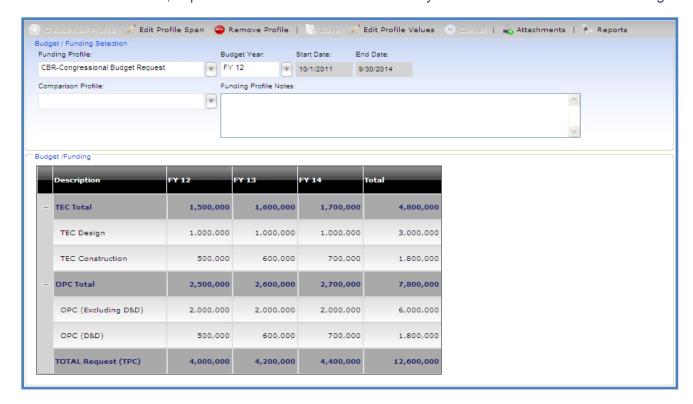- **Enhancement added – A new configuration screen was created under Administration to allow System Administrators to create or edit attachment titles for different areas of the application.**

Baseline Change Proposals (BCPs)

- **Enhancement added - Allows users to create Acquisition Executive Modifications (AE Mods) on the BCP screen as a new type of CD revision.**
  - AE Modifications are listed in the dropdown list on the BCP screen after all approved and non-approved BCPs
- **Enhancement added - Added functionality which enables the entry of a baseline change proposal without the necessity of an Approved Date.**
  - "Request Submission Date" field can be utilized to enter BCPs pending formal AE approval.
  - "Approved Date" field impacts certain display only values which affect subsequent Critical Decision screens after CD-2.

Budget/Funding Screen

- **Enhancement added - Update to the budget/funding screen, functionality and appearance to improve both performance and usability.**
  - Subtotal rows, captions and labels are differentiated by both color and row/column shading.

Budget/Funding Screen *(continued)*

    – Profile descriptions have been updated to include AE Modifications.

    – Data entry into the grid is single-click with both Subtotal and Total cells updating after each entry.

- **Enhancement Added - The ability to compare the bottom line for two profiles is made easier by placing the Comparison Profile dropdown list under the Funding Profile dropdown list.**

- **Enhancement Added - A single funding profile for CD-2 and/or each BCP is saved for all fiscal years that have funding data.**

    – When funding data is entered for a fiscal year that did not previously have funding data, the CD-2 and BCP profiles are copied to that fiscal year.

Contacts and Contact Administration

- **Enhancement added - A new Key Contact Role checkbox is added to the Project Contacts tab which enables the System Administrator to create or designate new Contact Roles which display on the Project Attributes screen.**

CPP Upload

- **Enhancement added - Allows users to see upload information on the Project Data Upload screen for all uploads performed on the selected project.**

    – The information displayed shows the Status Date of the upload, Actual Date of the Upload and the User who performed the upload. EV Data is displayed on the Dashboards.

Project Attributes

- **Enhancement added - Allows System Administrators to add new Project Attributes tabs to a project.**

    – System Administrator can add up to five (5) additional tabs with fields to Project Attributes for a project which with the appropriate security rights will allow Users to either View and/or Edit a tab.

- **Enhancement added to save Project Attributes and Project Contacts by OA Status Period**

Reports

- **Enhancement added - Report security has been enabled which grants Contractor's access to individual reports which contain the EV data provided during the monthly CPP Upload.**

    – Data Source security has also been implemented which prevents a User from importing a report which the User does not have the proper security rights.

System and Administration

- **Enhancement added - All screens with grids contain their own vertical scroll bar and with proper screen resolution, does not require the User to utilize the browser scroll bar to see all the data**
- **Enhancement added - User Guide link displays in the Help module.**
  - Clicking on the link will display the User Guide from the PARS II web site in either another tab or another window, depending on how the browser is configured.
- **Enhancement added - Prevents unsupported browsers, browser modes and versions from working with the application.**
  - User accesses application in Compatibility Mode:
    - Following message displays on the screen: "This application does not support Internet Explorer compatibility mode. Please turn off compatibility using the button next to the address bar on your browser."
  - User accesses application using Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome:
    - Following message displays on the screen: "This application does not support this browser. Please use Internet Explorer 7 or 8 to access the application."
  - User accesses application using IE 9:
    - Following message displays on the screen: "This application does not support Internet Explorer 9. Please use Internet Explorer 7 or 8 to access the application.."

PARS II has been updated to Version 8.0.20120308.   This release, updated automatically for all Users, fixes several anomalies within the application.

All corrections have been tested over the past several months in order to produce the most stable release of PARS II to date. An explanation of each correction can be found in pages 7-9.

Attachments

- **Correction - A document attachment added without any data will not be saved and the application will display an error message.**
- **Correction - Attachment title, entered or pasted, has a limited length of 100 characters.**
- **Correction - Mouse over tooltip on the attachments list popup for the Close button has been changed to Close Attachments Screen.**
- **Correction - Hyperlink attachments work correctly after being saved**
  - *A hyperlink address <u>must contain</u> the full address of the desired website. This includes the http:// or the https:// beginning of the URL.*
- **Correction - When the attachment window is closed on a Monthly Status screen, the User will be returned to the monthly status screen they were on when they selected attachments (FPD, Program, OECM)**

Baseline Change Proposals (BCPs)

- **Correction - If a BCP is deleted, certain display only values for CDs subsequent to CD-2 revert to the last approved BCP or CD-2 if no BCPs are remaining.**
- **Correction - Attachments button is no longer active on the BCP screen if there are no BCPs.**
- **Correction - Application defaults to the latest approved BCP when entering the BCP screen.**
- **Correction - Planned Dates on CD screens will automatically update with changes in planned dates recorded on a BCP.**

Budget/Funding Screen

- **Correction - Budget/Funding screen functionality when comparing Funding Profiles**
  - All budget years for the comparison profile are displayed, even if the main profile does not have that budget year. Therefore, the range in the grid is from the earliest period of data or start date to the latest period of data or end date.
  - Comparison Profiles that have multiple budget years will only show the profile that has the same Budget Year as the main profile.
- **Correction - If a Comparison Profile is selected and there is no data for that profile, the following message will display: "No Data For Selected Profile, There is no data for the <comparison profile name> selected in the FY <budget year> budget year."**

Critical Decisions (CDs)

- **Correction - Each Critical Decision screen has unique/individual Updated By and Updated Date fields. This allows Users to see who has updated specific CDs and when.**

CPP Upload

- **Correction - An error message presents in the Error/Warning report when the Status Date entered on the Project Upload screen does not match the Status Date in the upload file.**
  - The report gives a clear error message that the Status Date entered does not match the Status Date in the upload file along with the respective dates for each item so the issue can be corrected.
  - Since the upload is stopped, incorrect data is not entered into the database and the issue with the Timephased dashboard being empty is eliminated.
- **Correction - Changing the Status Date in the CPR Dashboard also changes the Status Date for all other Dashboards, but not the Status Date on the Main Screen Header**
- **Correction - Variance Analysis Narratives now display when the icon is selected on the CPR Dashboard.**
- **Correction - Project Performance screens only display if a project is selected.**
  - If the User does not have a project selected, the dashboard will not display and will present the following message: "You must select a project in order to use this screen."

Project List

- **Correction - Search screen is expanded to include fields for searches Program Office, Program Organization and Capital Asset Project**
  - *Note: the search is still a 'contains' which may return additional projects. For example, entering NA-26 under Program Organization will return all projects that are under NA-26 but also will return projects under NA-265 and NA-266*
- **Correction - Once a sort order is performed, the user can click the Save Configuration button to maintain desired order.**
- **Correction - Selected project stays at the top of the screen (header) and is available for processing during additional sorts and searches until a new project is selected.**

Reports

- **Correction - Shared Reports can only be created or edited by System Administrators.**
- **Correction - Report Description field on the SSS reports screen accepts multi-line input for reports under My Reports**
- **Correction - CPR Format 5 report title has been changed to display: COST PERFORMANCE REPORT FORMAT 5 – EXPLANATIONS AND PROBLEM ANALYSIS**
  - The CPR Format 5 report is used to show variance analysis data that is uploaded in the contractor's CPP EV uploads.

System and Administration

- **Correction - Timeout and loss of project selection resolved.**
    - This release allows for a consistent timeout of 21 or 31 minutes, dependent on what settings are used If there is no input from the keyboard or the mouse, the application logs the user out and requires them to log back into the application to perform processing
    - The user will lose their project selection before the time out process if there is no activity after 12 minutes and 40 seconds. At that time the user must either re-select their project on the project list or refresh the screen.
- **Correction - When a security warning message is encountered, a User can click OK and be returned to the previous screen.**
- **Correction - Single click entry for all grids within the application.**