



Media Release

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State to Review Preliminary Business Case for Data Center and Network Consolidation

SALEM – Theresa McHugh, Acting DAS Director announced that a preliminary business case from Accenture, LLP will be presented June 16, 2004 regarding consolidating the state’s largest data centers and networks. The state entered into a contract with Accenture on March 15, 2004 to assess the state’s computing and networking environment and make recommendations for future action (the preliminary business case). This initiative is part of the Governor’s objective to restore public confidence in government through fiscal accountability, efficiency and effectiveness.

“This initiative, directed by the Governor, is a high priority in state government,” stated McHugh. “We have been taking a hard look at our current computing and networking infrastructure to determine ways to enhance efficiency and realize savings. I am pleased that the preliminary figures in the business case regarding potential savings are very encouraging.”

The business case will outline a clear picture of the state’s current information technology (IT) environment in the state’s largest agencies and recommend strategies to create a new environment that realizes specific savings, cost reduction opportunities, efficiencies and enhanced capacity.

A governing board comprised of the directors of 12 participating agencies will engage in a detailed review of the business case over the next two weeks. The board will consider input from agency subject matter experts as the board formulates a recommendation to Governor Kulongoski on whether to proceed to the implementation phase of the initiative. The board is considering a broad range of issues both financial and non-financial including the effect on state employees and appropriate facility selection.

One criterion in the governing board's evaluation of the business case is that one-time investment costs must be returned through savings over a 24 to 36 month period while at the same time maintaining or improving service levels.

If the state proceeds with consolidation, a detailed implementation plan will be developed in the fall of 2004. The first data center consolidation could occur as early as this biennium and would proceed over a period of 18 to 24 months.

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