

No.	Date	Question	Response
1	8/6/2012	We were wondering if you had more information on, or samples of, the original forms on which the data is stored. Are these paper forms from which you would like the data extracted and entered (as specified)? If so, are the forms structured/standardized? I realized the data contained on them is proprietary, but if you do have even a blank sample of the original form in which the data is collected (and from which it will be entered), it will help us in crafting our submission of information.	User provided data is input into standard html forms in ieFACMAN, which upon submittal is stored in our oracle database. Data stored may include text fields, number fields, dates, etc. The particular form fields vary per transaction. Webforms are dynamically generated by the ieFACMAN application. That data is then stored in an Oracle SQL database. The format of the data should be fairly consistent. Data is sent from the ieFACMAN application to an IBM mainframe and to the SPS application. The IBM mainframe is a combination of Datacom/DB dbms (12), CICS (4.1), and CA IDEAL (11). The SPS system is currently built on a combination of a PowerBuilder 10.5 based GUI and Sybase 15.5 database, but the requirement is to get something that can interface with an upgrade that includes PowerBuilder 12 based GUI.
2	8/16/2012	Can you please define "automatic" in terms of the solution you are seeking? Specifically, are you looking for one of the following? A solution that enables the manual entry of data through one interface (similar to ieFACMAN, if not ieFACMAN itself) by a user, and automatically populates SPS and FIS with that data? Or, are you looking for a solution that takes data from a source, like a spreadsheet or database, and automates entry of that data through a web-based interface and data source connections into ieFACMAN, SPS, and FIS?	The users would fill out fields in ieFACMAN and then hit a button, and the data is then stored in an Oracle database. Immediately afterward, and this is where the potential solution comes in, a process would kick off that propagates the changes to SPS and FIS as appropriate. Our current solution accomplishes this by logging into the systems and navigating each screen/form and filling out data as it goes.
3	8/16/2012	How will users interact with the new solution? Can you please provide a use case?	ieFACMAN would continue to be the front end for the users. There could be some custom development to get ieFACMAN and the new solution to interact, but it should be very minimal. The new solution shall be transparent to the users.
4	8/16/2012	Will this solution replace ieFACMAN or work in conjunction with ieFACMAN to get data into ieFACMAN, SPS, and FIS?	The new solution will not replace ieFACMAN. However, the Government is open to other solutions as long as it is in conjunction/interact with all three business system.
5	8/16/2012	Can you provide information on the reason for a COTS-focused solution instead of a customized solution?	We've decided to use COTS solutions because it would in theory reduce costs and be a better tested product. Having many users generally means the product goes through more use cases.