DOH LIMS Project Abstract

The Department of Health (DOH) State Laboratory Division (SLD) Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) project, budgeted at approximately $1.9M, will:

- meet required electronic reporting format;
- track specimens;
- implement privacy controls;
- enable electronic data exchange with clients and regulatory agencies;
- collect and analyze required quality assurance data; and
- replace existing stand-alone applications and manual processes with an integrated system.

LIMS was certified on:

- 12/05 for $155,000 to develop the project charter and initial detail requirements; and
- 7/06 for $845,000 to execute the IV&V contract; hire a LIMS implementation specialist to develop as-is and to-be workflow diagrams, compare COTS solutions, refine and finalize detailed requirements, develop the RFP; publish the RFP; and select the implementation vendor; all of which has been accomplished.

The $845,000 certification was intended to cover the implementation phase; however, the five RFP cost responses exceeded original estimates significantly. Although there is approximately $600,000 remaining from that certification, it is insufficient to execute the implementation contract, regardless of other implementation expenses.

Currently the project is in protracted contract negotiations to finalize the implementation scope of work with a target date to execute the contract by January, 2008. A new IV&V contract is in the signature phase and anticipated to be executed in December, 2007.

The project experienced an initial delay causing forfeiture of $100,000 in grant funds while waiting for approval of a social services architecture upon which all HSD and DOH computer enhancement fund IT projects were dependent for release of funds in FY06. Additional delays in the original schedule stemmed from the extensive work required to ensure a comprehensive set of requirements.

The project is on track with its revised schedule to close in 08/09 and a plan is in place to stay within the appropriated funds. The instrument interfaces will be phased in according to a prioritized list. Those outside the scope of the project will be handled as enhancements when funding permits.

The project is especially timely as ground will be broken this fiscal year on a long-overdue, new, expanded facility.