



# ACQUIRING TIMES

OregonBuys Project Newsletter for the Department of Forestry

February 2017

## Project Update

—by Mark Hubbard

Greetings to all our ForestryBuys Project Followers! Our goal for this project is to improve the procure-to-pay process for the Oregon Department of Forestry. Part of this goal will be accomplished by our moving off of the Forestry Order System (FOS) or as commonly called, the PO System.

As with all projects, things happen. This project is continuing to move along, but dependence upon completion of a number of tasks by the OregonBuys project including the Price Agreement negotiations and the Oracle Gap Analysis has caused a slow down. We are anticipating both of these tasks to be completed by the end of February which will allow us to begin the actual work of our project March 1. If you are interested in finding out more about the OregonBuys project you can contact [me](#) or [Dave Whitbeck](#) (hyperlink to email).

As you'll read in this newsletter in the Project Manager's Report, we have done quite a bit of work on our planning and implement documents, assuring that we are ready to go as soon as we get the go-ahead. You will also read about how the OregonBuys solution will be different from the FOS system in the [FAQ](#) post below.

As a special feature we have an essay by Shannon Rand, ODF Procurement Director, on [The Hero's Journey through Organizational Change](#). This will walk you through the 4 primary steps we experience during times of change and transition.

Again, we thank you for your participation and commitment to making this project the best that it can be.



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*"I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination."*

- Jimmy Dean

## Project Manager's Report

### Upcoming Activities

During the upcoming month the ODF Project Team will be working on several tasks. Finalizing the Work Order Contract (WOC) with Periscope, the new OregonBuys solution provider; finalizing the Project Management Plan; and completing a Work Order Contract (WOC) for Organizational Change Leadership (OCL). The OCL WOC will identify work to be done by a contractor to help ensure a smooth transition from the current processes to the new processes on the OregonBuys solution.

### Accomplishments by the ODF Project Team

Completion of a draft Project Management Plan. The plan is currently being reviewed by the Office of the State Chief Information Officer (OSCIO). The Project Management Plan details the work necessary to guide us through the process of configuration and implementation of the OregonBuys solution.

Two draft Work Order Contracts (WOCs) have been completed. The first will WOC is for development of a joint plan with Periscope, the OregonBuys solutions vendor, to design the configuration of the solution. The second WOC will include completion of the configuration and roll out of the OregonBuys solution to ODF staff.

## FAQ's ([click here for additional FAQ's](#))

### *What will be new or different about the new system?*

- ◆ You will be able to enter multiple addresses (locations) for a single vendor. Our current system only allows one address per vendor.
- ◆ There will be additional payment flexibility with the ability to create reoccurring, split, or multiple payments.
- ◆ When goods are received you will be able to compare what was ordered with what was received within the system and make notes on the record.
- ◆ When goods are received you will be able to receive a partial shipment and return later to receive additional items or to complete the order receipt.
- ◆ You will have the ability to generate ad hoc reports using any or all data fields, print any report generated, and export reports using industry standard formats (e.g., .xml, .csv, .pdf, .xlsx).
- ◆ Help functionality will be available from any screen without leaving the screen.
- ◆ OregonBuys will include spell check capabilities.

## The Hero's Journey through Organizational Change



As humans, we are hardwired to maintain the status quo, protecting ourselves by staying in our comfort zones. We are programmed to move away from discomfort—which change inevitably causes. However, with changing technology and the complicated processes we must navigate in our daily jobs if we are to avoid things that make us uncomfortable we will stagnate. The moment an organization begins a major process change, we enter on a valiant quest called the “hero's journey”. The American Scholar, Joseph Campbell, identified this journey while studying different cultures throughout the world; from this research the steps of the journey were created.

As ODF begins the implementation of a new eProcurement system (OregonBuys) we will be taking the path of the hero's journey. Although there are many steps within the journey, there are four primary stages we will experience during this time of change and transition.

#### **1. The Ordinary World**

The first step in the journey is for the organization to realize they need to leave the “ordinary” world; or the way things are before setting out on the quest to change. In this first stage the organization is not happy with the way things currently are.

#### **2. The Call for Change**

After the organization travels through the ordinary world long enough something happens that calls for a major change of some kind. At this point, organizations typically see their current processes as difficult, with too many unknowns, and requiring super human feats to complete.



#### **3. The Path of Trials**

There comes a time in the journey that every organization needs to go through the “ordeal”. This is the time in the journey that an organization and its people show what they are really made of. In the hero's journey, this is the point at which the organization confronts its greatest fear in the journey; whether it be success or failure. Every organization must face this challenge at some point in order to move forward in a successful endeavor.

#### **4. The Master of Two Worlds**

At this point, the organization realizes they have accomplished a heroic feat and can look back at the path taken to get to success and take pride in their accomplishments. It is time for the journey to go back to the beginning but this time with all the skills and knowledge needed to permanently transform their world.

**What does this all mean to me?** As we journey down the path of implementing OregonBuys, we are all going to be making the hero's journey toward success. It is much easier for an organization to navigate the journey if they know where they are on the path and can see where they have been (and the success they have had) as well as planning for where they are going. ODF has left the “Ordinary World” because we heard the “Call for Change”. There are many challenges ahead of us (the “Path of Trials”) but with the help and support of each and every one of you, we are confident in coming to a successful end of this project. We are all heroes of our own stories; each and every day.

## Contact Us

Didn't find the answers you need? Don't hesitate to contact us and get more information!

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Visit our SharePoint page: [ForestryBuys](#) (ODF's implementation of OregonBuys)