

CONNECTIONS WEEKLY SYSTEM UPDATE



Memo

To: CONNECTIONS Implementation Coordinators

From: CONNECTIONS Communications

CC: LAN Administrators/Security Coordinators, Keyusers, OCFS -Directors of Services, CONNECTIONS Project Team

Date: August 14, 2003

Re: Activities for the week of August 15, 2003 – August 22, 2003

1. **CONNECTIONS Build 15.4**

CONNECTIONS Build 15.4 was successfully implemented on Friday, August 8th, 2003.

2. **NIS Sharepoint (Update)**

****Please Note Date Change from Last Week's Notice****

Over the last several months, several Network WinInstall Packages were distributed to CONNECTIONS workstations that contained new client software. An example of this would be LearnLinc. Because NIS Agencies are not part of the Network WinInstall Environment, they are unable to receive software updates through these packages. OCFS IT/CONNECTIONS and OFT are pleased to announce that an NIS sharepoint has been identified that all NIS agencies may start using beginning **Friday, September 5th, 2003**. IT staff at NIS agencies or sites that have a need to update software (CONNECTIONS or Network related) are instructed to contact OCFS IT Operations for instructions on how to access the NIS sharepoint. Cathy Vallee, who works for the OCFS IT Operations Unit has been designated as the contact person for this initiative. Please feel free to contact Cathy via email, Cathy.Vallee@dfa.state.ny.us on or shortly before September 5th.

For those who are not familiar with Network Integration Services (NIS), NIS is an ongoing project coordinated with the NYS Office for Technology's Network Architecture Bureau intended to assist local districts, voluntary agencies and state agencies with the integration of state and local networks. The main objective of the Voluntary Agency NIS initiative is to allow voluntary agency staff access to the CONNECTIONS Application from voluntary agency PCs. Questions related to NIS should be forwarded to DFA-IT Customer Support Services (CSS). For

information regarding NIS, please visit the Customer Support Command Center at <http://sdssnet5/hsasc/lisc/>. To view NIS procedures and Online NIS Form and Survey, click on the NIS Form and Information Box. All completed NIS requests/surveys must be submitted electronically to COMCTRUP.

3. NYC RAS Dial-up Services

NYC Remote Access Services (Dial-up) will not be available for a short period of time on the morning of 8/15/03 so that maintenance to the RAS telephone circuits may be completed. NYC RAS Dial-up users will not be able to dial up during the following time-frame:

Friday, 8/15/2003 from 9:00 am - 9:30 am

4. CONNECTIONS-In-A-Box (CIAB) Replacement Project (CIAB Sites Only)

The plans for the CONNECTIONS-In-A-Box (CIAB) Replacement Project will become finalized within the next few weeks. An announcement and materials will be forthcoming.

5. CONNECTIONS System Down Time

Due to regularly scheduled maintenance CONNECTIONS will be unavailable on:

Friday, 8/15/2003 from 5:00 am - 7:00 am

Tuesday, 8/19/2003 from 5:45 am - 6:30 am

Friday, 8/22/2003 from 5:00 am - 7:00 am

6. Microsoft Exchange Servers

Due to regularly scheduled maintenance on MS Exchange E-mail 5.0 servers, all Exchange E-mail 5.0 servers will be unavailable on:

Sunday, 8/17/2003 from 1:00 am - 6:00 am

Sunday, 8/24/2003 from 1:00 am - 6:00 am