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~ The CONNECTIONS WEEKLY ~
August 25 ~ September 1, 2006

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The CONNECTIONS Program Improvement Plan Update…

The CONNECTIONS PIP (CPIP) team continues to monitor the system to track performance and asks that if users experience any issues with the application they report them to the NYS OFT Enterprise Help Desk at 1-800-NYS (697)-1323. The CPIP team thanks you for your continued assistance in this regard!

Activities for the week of August 18 ~ 25, 2006

It should be noted that Post Build 18.7.4 timings have been conducted on the following application activities: FSS Progress Notes Print, FSS Progress Notes Search, Person Search in the FSI, Log On, FASP Safety Assessment, FASP Risk Assessment, Workload, Case Search, Navigate Approval To DO-FASP, Person Merge-Save and the timings conclude that for the majority of these activities the timings Pre-Build 18.7.3 scaled longer than those Post-Build 18.7.4. Significant improvement in timing recall was seen with the FSS Progress Notes Print function. Please note that the sites where the timings were calculated are sites that have an HSEN connection to the network. For your review, the timings are posted on the CONNECTIONS intranet on the Home page. We caution those that access this document that it be used by agencies as a reference point only. If your agencies performance is deemed "slow" we ask that you, as you normally would in the course of business, contact the OFT Enterprise Help Desk to report this issue.

Noisy Alert …
**Please note that this issue pertains only to local districts.

A fix was recently implemented to correct the Noisy Alert server issues that districts were sporadically experiencing. All districts that use the Noisy Alert system to denote when an SCR report is being transmitted should be on board with the implementation of this fix.

A Note About the District Agency (DAP) Profile…
As we reported in the Weekly last week, the District Agency Profile has been revised and updated! Earlier this year we canvassed the user community, as well as CONNECTIONS Implementation staff members, to ask which areas of the DAP were most useful, as well as other areas that they thought would be important information to collect. Since that time Implementation staff have been busy revising and editing the DAP to accommodate user/team needs.   The DAP now has an advanced Search capability, users can search on both the alphabetic name of the agency or district or, search using the agency/district code.   The Contact page has also been revised to include the CONNECTIONS Implementation Lead, as well as email information on the contacts listed. Another feature of this revision is the ability that agencies/districts now have access to the contact information of each agency/district listed in the DAP.

It should be noted that access to the DAP is maintained by either the agency Implementation or Security Coordinator. These individuals can give access to the DAP to agency personnel. If it appears that no one in your agency has access to the DAP you should contact your CONNECTIONS Regional Implementation team member.

*****Please note:*** We ask that you complete the requested information contained on the Staff Build 18.9 page ~ Staff by Function ~ by **September 15th**. This information is critical to the training and support plan that we are developing for the implementation of Build 18.9.*

Info on Build 18.8.5…
The implementation of Build 18.8.5 is scheduled for late September '06. This Build is scheduled to include changes to CONNECTIONS to support a new process for SCR Database Checks that will impact the State Central Registry only. Additionally, several fixes to CONNECTIONS application functionality are included. Among these are: new stages on the workload will no longer remain grey following access, pagination will be supported within the INV stage CPRS Progress Notes, the copy Progress Notes feature will be supported from an Initial INV to a subsequent INV when there is an FSS in the case and from an FSS to an INV, and correction of the Address Validation functionality in the Resource address detail. This Build will also add new security attributes to support Build

18.9. The Build Release Notes, which are expected to be available by the beginning of September, will have a detailed description of each fix.

Did You Know...
How to Delete Cookies and Temporary Files?
- just right click on your Internet Explorer icon
- click on *Internet Properties*
- you should see the *Delete Cookies* and the *Delete Files* buttons right in the middle of the dialog box under *Temporary Internet Files*. (Some PCs will only have a Delete Files button.)
- Click on *Delete Cookies*, click *OK*
- Click on *Delete Files*, put a checkmark in the Offline content box, click *OK*
- Just wait for the hourglass to go away, then click *OK* at the bottom

New Postings to the CONNECTIONS Intranet...
The following document(s) were recently posted to the CONNECTIONS intranet website:
- The CONNECTIONS Weekly
- Regional Staff Contact List
- PIP Timing Comparisons document

Weekly System Maintenance...
CONNECTIONS Application Downtime...
**Please note the additional downtime for Wednesday, 8/30.

- ***Friday, 8/25/06*** from 5:00 AM – 7:00 AM
- ***Wednesday, 8/30/06*** from 1:00 AM – 1:45 AM
- ***Wednesday, 8/30/06*** from 5:00 AM – 7:00 AM
- ***Friday, 9/1/06*** from 5:00 AM – 7:00 AM
- ***Wednesday, 9/6/06*** from 5:00 AM – 7:00 AM