

Say it ain't so, ECOS is going away?

WBSCM is the new Web-Based Supply-Chain Management system. It will replace the Electronic Commodity Ordering System (ECOS). Still in the design phase, the new paperless system is bound to be a dramatic change. What does this mean for us here in Connecticut? Well, it means that our office and schools will be learning the new system together. USDA recently announced the delay in the go-live date of WBSCM to July 2010. We will keep you posted on the progress of this project.

If you are interested in learning more about the new WBSCM application, here's a link to the USDA website: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/WBSCM/default.htm>

The Market Place has many useful documents including the RA Processing Handbook from the Bidding Seminar held in 2008. Here's a link to the web site: http://www.das.state.ct.us/FedFood/bidding_seminar.htm

Food Communications Emails:

Please read Food Communication emails for any changes or additional survey and commodity offerings throughout the school year. Emails that we send to all of the schools or to the processors will be posted on the Market Place and can be found under "Special Notices" on the homepage.

Processing:

Check out the Marketplace under "Pertinent Processing Information" for procurement guidance material, processors contact info and the value pass through they are approved for. If you need end-product pricing information, you need to contact the processor or broker directly.

In November 2004, the USDA eliminated pricing information on the End Product Data Schedules (EPDS), "Because the pricing information on EPDS is misleading. Many recipients believe that the state has sought competitive pricing in compliance with procurement regulations, when in reality, the processing agreement and instructions state the pricing represents the maximum amount a processor could charge. Not understanding this, many recipients could determine that processing donated foods is prohibitively expensive."

To read the USDA Policy Memo in its entirety, click on http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/policymemo/pmfd038_SP-EPDS-PricingInfo.pdf

Important Reminder regarding Net Off Invoice:

If you are participating in Net Off Invoice (NOI) please remember, sales verification is required by the federal government.

Rebates: Federal regulation 250.30 states, refund applications shall be submitted within 30 days from the end of the purchase month.

DOD Program:

\$1.6 million has been allocated to thirty-nine districts for SY 2011.