FMNet Message

March 17, 2017

FMNet Members:

Congratulations to the FY 2016 ASA (FM&C) Financial Management Award Recipients! https://www.milsuite.mil/book/message/696894#696894

The Aviation Center of Excellence Force Design Update establishing the S8 capability (O3 and E7) in the Combat Aviation Brigade is approved through the requirements determination process at TRADOC, and is now at HQDA for approval and subsequent implementation in FY19. This is a follow-up to the Brigade S8 Gunnery STRATCOM (https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-325202) and the 18 November FMNet Message (https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-327177). We will continue to work with HRC for future manning and push updates in this forum.

The FMNet Message is best viewed in HTML at https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-356658.

Announcements:

1. Save the date to attend the 2017 Finance Corps Regimental Ball on 12 May at the Columbia Marriott, 1200 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC. https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-356164
2. FMNet membership only increased by 35 over the previous week and added 16 'followers'. 'Joining' (becoming a member) allows access to the site and all of its contents. 'Following' ensures you receive updates to content items in the Community of Interest you are following. You have to do 'join' and 'follow' each COI you are interested in knowing about. Monthly metrics with this week's analysis is available https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-350781#comment-405135.
3. On behalf of the Finance Corps Association President, the Annual Essay Scholarship Competition is underway through 31 March and awards six $500 scholarships. The memorandum describing the criteria and topics is available at https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-345251.

General News and Information:

1. The deadline for the 31 March USAR/ARNG Wave 1 Certification is quickly approaching. Many are completing their final tasks as we are now within the last two weeks before the deadline. Please remember, once FM Certification is complete all users are required to maintain certification by earning Continuing Education Training, https://www.milsuite.mil/book/community/spaces/afms/fm-certification/blog/2016/07/26/once-you-are-certified-a-new-journey-begins.
2. A recent survey of GFEBS Cost Management class 001-17 regarding the effectiveness of the "GFEBS Automated Spend Plan" overview returned favorable results. The survey polled twenty-two students yielding nine responses. Seven of the nine indicated the overview helps them in their current position; of the two it does not help, one does not use the tool but gave praise for its usefulness and the other is not in a budget position. Class 701-17 starting 17 April will see this overview as a block of instruction with practical exercises. The block of instruction is scheduled for implementation in FY18 GFEBS Cost Management classes.

An article by MAJ Mary E. Johnson and Ms. Maria A. Webley in the Armed Forces Comptroller Winter 2016 publication tells how they used this capability at USARCENT to develop accurate spend plans and track costs (the article is available at https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-356534 or the entire publication at https://www.flipsnack.com/5DAED858B7A/afcomptroller-vol-61-no1.html).

3. The Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution (PPBE) Distributed Learning (dL) course is no longer resourced or provided via Army Learning Model System (ALMS), and students have until 12 May 2017 to complete the course https://www.milsuite.mil/book/thread/172376.
4. Happenings from ASMC HQ, March 2017 including the Winter Edition of Armed Forces Comptroller ("Making every dollar count… Managing Cost: Initiatives and Results") and PDI information https://asmc.informz.net/informzdataservice/onlineversion/ind/bWFpbGluZ2luc3RhbmNlaWQ9NjM5NzQ2NiZzdWJzY3JpYmVyaWQ9MTA2OTU4MTA5Ng==.

FMNet Moderator Point of Contact:
Grant Robitzsch Office: (803) 751-3877 -or- virgil.g.robitzsch.ctr@mail.mil

5. The 376th Financial Management Support Unit invites you to the Transfer of Authority and Award Ceremony for Bravo Detachment, 15th FMSU and 628th Financial Management Support Detachment, 728th CSSB. The ceremony occurs 21 March at 1000 in the Zone 6 Chapel, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. Please RSVP to SPC Michael Gardley, michael.h.gardley.mil@mail.mil.

Upcoming Events (all times Eastern Time):
1. The Ultimate Training Environment System (UTES) is unavailable due to scheduled maintenance (https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-247541): (1) 17 - 25 March 2017, (2) 14 - 22 July 2017, and (3) 22 - 30 September 2017.
2. GFEBS Scheduled Maintenance (ERP, BI, and GRC unavailable during the following 10 hour periods): (1) Unix/Linux Patching from Saturday, 18 March at 1600 to Sunday, 19 March at 0200. (2) Network Maintenance from Saturday, 8 April at 1600 to Sunday, 9 April at 0200. (3) Unix/Linux Patching from Saturday, 22 April at 1600 to Sunday, 23 April at 0200. To receive emails of scheduled outages or if you have any questions, please contact the GFEBS Helpdesk at Army.GFEBS.Helpdesk@mail.mil or 1-866-757-9771 (+1 541 429 6442 internationally). Users can also submit Helpdesk requests through Self-Service at https://remedyweb.gfebs-erp.army.mil.
3. GRC 10.1 Cutover and Deployment Suspense Announcements. The GRC 5.3 system will be offline on 24 March at 1200, https://www.milsuite.mil/book/thread/177210.
4. The 2017 FORSCOM G8 Summit occurs 11 and 12 April at FORSCOM Headquarters, Fort Bragg, NC. The workshop is for all FORSCOM Corps, Division, Direct Reporting Unit G8s and Brigade S8s. https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-343196
5. American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) 2017 National Professional Development Institute (PDI) is 31 May to 2 June in San Diego. Registration for the PDI is open http://pdi2017.org/registration.

Training Opportunities (all times Eastern Time):
1. The next Ultimate Training Environment System (UTES) monthly recurring training is 20 April 2017 from 1000 to 1045 via DCS covering Battle Drill #5 "Process (P2P) Paying Agent (PA) for Field Ordering Officer (FOO)" https://www.milsuite.mil/book/events/34358. For other monthly training topics https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-347074.
2. USAFMCOM hosts quarterly Electronic-Commerce Systems training at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, the Treasury appointed Fiscal Agent for all DoD Stored Value Card Programs. This training is mandatory for select personnel of FORSCOM deploying Financial Management Organizations. Training dates for 2017 are: (1) 30 April to 5 May, (2) 30 July to 4 August, and (3) 12 to 17 November. Deploying units should contact Mr. Charles "Tony" Taylor, USAFMCOM EagleCash Program Manager, at their earliest opportunity to schedule course attendance as the training audience is capped at 30 attendees. Contact information (317) 212-5378, DSN (312) 699-5378, or charles.a.taylor40.civ@mail.mil. A typical course agenda depicting the training subjects and outline is available at https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-340991, and additional information https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/fsservices/gov/pmt/eagleCash/eagleCash_home.htm.

MILPER, ALARACT, Army Directives, DFAS, & FORSCOM Resource Management Messages:
1. MILPER messages are available on the HRC MILPER web page at https://www.hrc.army.mil/Milper
2. ALARACTs are on AKO at https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/550282.
3. Army Directives are on the Army Publishing Directorate at http://www.apd.army.mil/ProductMaps/PubForm/ArmyDir.aspx
4. DFAS MilPay Messages are available at https://dfas4dod.dfas.mil/centers/dfasin/library/milpay/policy17/index.htm

5. DFAS Manual 7097.01 and DFAS-IN 37-100 each with change 32, dated 14 and 15 March, respectively. DFAS-IN 37-1 chapters 4 and 16 updated 14 March.
https://www.asafm.army.mil/offices/LinksDocuments.aspx?OfficeCode=1200
6. FORSCOM Resource Management Message 170078 "Recent Changes to Mandatory GFEBS Training in ALMS" is available at https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-355162, other FORSCOM RMMs are available at https://www.milsuite.mil/book/community/spaces/afms/brigade-s8/content?filterID=contentstatus%5Bpublished%5D~category%5Bforscom-resource-management-messages%5D.

Social Media: Send the links to your peers.

milBook: Join **and Follow** the FMNet by visiting the Army Financial Management School's milBook Community https://www.milsuite.mil/book/community/spaces/afms. Sign-in to milSuite with your CAC (signing in establishes your milSuite account if you do not have one). When you reach the Army Financial Management School Community page (the FMNet) look for the "Join" widget on the left and click it. Next, click "Follow" in the upper right and select all available options to follow all activity on the FMNet. Approval is automatic.

FMtube: Visit the FMtube for video job aids
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrFUP9pi9QR6d4mDZ4-cW8Q

One Stop: Visit us at the Home of the Army Financial Management School on the One Stop where you will find websites you frequently use all in one location
http://www.finance.army.mil/