

March 19, 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICERS

FROM: Steven VanRoekel

Federal Chief Information Officer and Administrator, Office of E-government and information Technology

SUBJECT: Implementation Guidance for the Federal Data Center Consolidation Initiative (FDCCI)

This memorandum provides further implementation guidance and an updated schedule of deliverables under the FDCCI. $^{\rm 1}$

<u>Overview</u>

By shutting down and consolidating under-performing data centers and optimizing the data centers in our Federal inventory, we stand to save taxpayers billions of dollars and curb spending on underutilized infrastructure. This means a shift from a model that risks procuring duplicative and wasteful infrastructure that utilizes only a fraction of the computing power purchased to a newer model, where that risk is reduced as the government purchases IT infrastructure as a service, deployed in a scalable and rapid fashion.

Updated Definition of a Federal Data Center

This memorandum formalizes an updated definition of a data center that was developed by the Federal Data Center Consolidation Initiative (FDCCI) Task Force throughout 2011. When the FDCCI started in 2010, agencies catalogued a diverse collection of facilities used for data center operations. At that time, in hopes of creating a common government baseline definition, the FDCCI defined a data center as any room greater than 500 square feet in area devoted to data processing, and meeting a tier (I, II, III & IV) classification defined by the Uptime Institute.

After more than a year of work under the FDCCI, the Task Force has now developed a standard to define their data center environments that will better assist agencies in locating inefficient IT assets and consolidation opportunities. The Task Force has made it clear that facilities below 500 square feet in area that do not meet an Uptime Institute classification also consume

¹ Additional FDCCI guidance can be found at http://www.cio.gov/fdccia

significant amounts of resources. Shutting these facilities down increases agency IT efficiencies and enables agencies to deliver better services to the American taxpayer.

Accordingly, under the FDCCI, a data center is now defined as a closet, room, floor or building for the storage, management, and dissemination of data and information. Such a repository houses computer systems and associated components, such as database, application, and storage systems and data stores.² A data center generally includes redundant or backup power supplies, redundant data communications connections, environmental controls (air conditioning, fire suppression, etc.) and special security devices housed in leased (including by cloud providers), owned, collocated, or stand-alone facilities. Under this revised definition, neither square footage nor Uptime Institute tier classifications are required to define a facility as a data center.

Scope of FDCCI Quarterly Reporting

The July 20, 2011 FDCCI Memorandum set a schedule of deliverables in order to help meet the goal of consolidating at least 800 data centers by 2015. Included in these deliverables is the requirement that agencies publicly report on a quarterly basis, the number of planned and actual data center closures.³ That provision reads:

Quarterly Reporting of Data Center Closures: Beginning October 1, 2011, and every quarter thereafter, agencies and all subordinate organizations shall make available a current list of planned and completed data center closures and consolidations on Data.gov. These consolidation plans will be cross-posted on CIO.gov.

To comply with this provision, agencies are expected to release a current list of planned and completed (actual) data center consolidations, in accordance with the updated schedule below. The Task Force and FDCCI Program Management Office (PMO) at the General Services Administration (GSA) will work ahead of these dates to validate the release of this information both for data quality and to ensure that releases take into account agency information security concerns.

Agencies Report Data to GSA FDCCI PMO	Public Release of Data	Report Actual Closures Through
March 16, 2012	March 30, 2012	End of Q1 FY12
April 30, 2012	May 11, 2012	End of Q2 FY12 (First time planned FY13

Fiscal Year 2012 (Remaining)

² This definition excludes facilities exclusively devoted to communications and network equipment (e.g., telephone exchanges and telecommunications rooms).

³ This Memorandum can be found at http://www.cio.gov/documents/FDCCI-Update-Memo-07202011.pdf.

		planned closures made public)
August 3, 2012	August 17, 2012	End of Q3 FY12
October 26, 2012	November 9, 2012	End of Q4 FY12

Fiscal Year 2013

Agencies Report to	Public Release	Report Actual Closures Through
GSA FDCCI PMO		
January 25, 2013	February 8, 2013	End of Q1 FY13
April 26, 2013	May 10, 2013	End of Q2 FY13 (First time planned FY14
_		planned closures made public)
July 26, 2013	August 9, 2013	End of Q3 FY13
October 25, 2013	November 8, 2013	End of Q4 FY13

Fiscal Year 2014

Agencies Report to	Public Release	Report Actual Closures Through
GSA FDCCI PMO		
January 24, 2014	February 7, 2014	End of Q1 FY14
April 25, 2014	May 9, 2014	End of Q2 FY14 (First time planned FY15
		planned closures made public)
July 25, 2014	August 8, 2014	End of Q3 FY14
October 24, 2014	November 7, 2014	End of Q4 FY14

Fiscal Year 2015

Agencies Report to GSA FDCCI PMO	Public Release	Report Actual Closures Through
January 23, 2015	February 6, 2015	End of Q1 FY15
April 24, 2015	May 8, 2015	End of Q2 FY15
July 24, 2015	August 7, 2015	End of Q3 FY15
October 23, 2015	November 6, 2015	End of Q4 FY15

Change in Reporting Criteria from Calendar to Fiscal Year

In order to better align FDCCI activities with agency budget and acquisition cycles, future agency reporting of consolidation targets, as well as planned and actual closures, shall be in fiscal, rather than calendar, year. This change will better allow agencies to plan for closures and report on savings once closures occur. This change is effective as of the March 2012 quarterly update.

Full Inventory Update

As explained in OMB's February 26, 2010 memorandum, agencies continue to be required to update their asset inventories annually by the end of the third quarter of each fiscal year.⁴ The next update should be submitted to the GSA PMO by June 30, 2012.

Update of Consolidation Plans

By the end of the fourth quarter of each fiscal year (September 30), participating agencies and all subordinate organizations shall complete all missing elements in their respective consolidation plans and submit them to the GSA FDCCI PMO. Along with the plan resubmission, agencies shall provide a signed verification letter from their CIO which attests to the completeness of the agency and subordinate organization consolidation plans, actions taken by agencies to verify their asset inventories, and any limitations of inventory and/or consolidation plan information. Updated plans for fiscal year 2012 should be submitted to the GSA FDCCI PMO by September 30, 2012.

By that same date, to the extent practicable and subject to valid restrictions, agencies and all subordinate organizations shall make publicly available agency consolidation plans on their public websites. These consolidation plans shall also be cross-posted on CIO.gov.

Reflection of Consolidation Execution in Agency Fiscal Year Budget Submissions

As also explained in OMB's February 26, 2010 Memorandum, agencies continue to be required to reflect changes in asset inventories and account for execution of data center consolidation plans in agency budget submissions.⁵

⁴ This Memorandum can be found at http://www.cio.gov/documents/Federal-Data-Center-Consolidation-Initiative-02-26-2010.pdf.

⁵ Ibid.