National Finance Center Customer Notification

December 12, 2008

Subject: Upgrade of NITC Storage Area Network (SAN) Brocade Switches

System(s) Affected: *EmpowHR*

To: All *EmpowHR* Customers

Dear Customer:

The National Information Technology Center (NITC) will apply a Micro Code Level (MCL) update and firmware fixes to the Brocade network switches and the Hitachi Data Systems (HDS) disk units on Saturday, December 13 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (CT). This affects the Storage Area Network (SAN) storage at the Kansas City, MO and George Washington Carver Center (GWCC) Beltsville, MD locations. Customer network connectivity verification may begin as soon as the installation process is complete.

This upgrade will not change any SAN configurations or operational processes. The SAN will have at least one network path available to support continuous service. However, midrange customers and system administrators who utilize the SAN should plan to monitor or administer their data-path features to ensure the host-bus adaptors (HBAs) or multi-path programs function properly.

"Tip of the Week"
In Employee Self Service (ESS) the TSP deduction field amount has been modified to allow employees the ability to increase/change their TSP deduction amount up to $9999.00.

All *EmpowHR* environments will be unavailable on Saturday, December 13, 2008 due to the SAN maintenance window outage from 8:00 AM (CT) to 1:00 PM (CT) and regular scheduled maintenance at 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM (CT).

If you have any questions regarding this notification, please contact NFC's Client Management Branch at **Customer.Support@usda.gov**.

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