U.S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

NATIONAL INTEGRATED BALLISTIC INFORMATION NETWORK

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NIBIN Infrastructure Upgrades

At the June 2014 NIBIN User Congress in Phoenix, AZ, the NIBIN Program presented information on three major infrastructure upgrades that were in the works.

1. Consolidate the existing 12 correlation servers into 2 servers in California and Maryland. Each of the new servers have processing and storage capabilities that exceed the existing twelve servers combined.
2. Consolidate 27 data concentrators into 2 virtual host systems in California and Maryland. Each host will run 10 virtual data concentrators.
3. Deployment of the TRAX 3.0 software.

The deployment schedule was moved out while we worked to address technical issues identified during acceptance testing in October 2014. A new multi-phase deployment strategy was developed and NIBIN successfully completed acceptance testing of Phase 1 in February 2015. Please see below for the phases, status updates and scheduled deployment dates.

We will continue to provide the user community with information and updates during all phases of these important upgrades.

Phase 1 – New Correlation Server Deployment

Deploy two new correlation servers at the ATF sites in Maryland and California. Data from the existing 12 servers will be copied and then continually replicated to the new servers. This phase pre-positions the servers and data to speed up the timelines of the next phases.

Update: NIBIN and Forensic Technology continue to make progress with consolidating the existing 12 correlation servers into two new servers. During the week of February 23, 2015, NIBIN conducted acceptance testing of the new correlation servers and approved Phase 1 deployment.

Deployment: March - June 2015

Phase 1a – Data Concentrator Pre-Consolidation

In preparation for Phase 4, Forensic Technology is transferring data from 11 data concentrators to temporary systems in the ATF sites. This step resolves two issues. It provides additional storage for several data concentrators that will run out of space by the end of the year. Also, data will be physically located where the new data concentrators will be deployed shortening the time needed to deploy Phase 4.

Update: Letters are being emailed to sites on the list for data concentrator pre-consolidation.

Deployment: April – August 2015

Phase 2 –International Correlation Server (ICS) Upgrades

Additional memory and disk space will be added to the ICS and data prepared for Phase 3.

Deployment: May – July 2015

Phase 3 – TRAX 3.0 and Correlation Server Consolidation

Deploy TRAX version 3.0 and migrate NIBIN sites to the two new correlation servers. More information will be coming out about what to expect.

Update: Phase 2/3 acceptance testing is scheduled for June 8-19, 2015.

Deployment: July – December 2015

Phase 4 – Data Concentrator Consolidation

Consolidate 16 of 27 data concentrators. Two new host systems will be deployed at the California and Maryland ATF sites. Each host system will be running 10 virtual data concentrators. ATF will conduct performance benchmark testing on the new systems during May 2015 and then acceptance testing in July 2015. The total storage capacity will increase by 500% and meet the needs of NIBIN for 5-10 years.

Deployment: August – December 2015