



## Department of Information Resources Application Portfolio Management Questions and Answers

The following are questions that the Department of Information Resources (DIR) received during the informational webinar hosted on Friday, February 27, 2015 or via email regarding the Application Portfolio Management Product Previews.

1. Is it possible for the March 9 or 12 vendor presentations to be delivered remotely? **Answer:** DIR requests that the vendor provide an onsite representative to directly answer and guide the presentation. It is acceptable for the vendor to leverage remote subject matter experts as panelist on the webinar.
2. Since the presentation will be broadcasted out anyway, why can't vendors present remotely with the ability for DIR personnel to ask questions live over the phone? We welcome this opportunity; however, there are cost and time concerns for vendors who will need to fly out for a presentation that can be delivered remotely with the same level of interaction. **Answer:** See answer to Question 1.
3. Can you discuss the layout of the rooms where the presentations will occur? Will there be internet access? **Answer:** Each conference room will seat approximately 20 comfortably. The room provides a conference phone designed for group conference calls. A projector and screen are provided. Guest wireless is available upon check-in at the DIR receptionist desk and may be used for vendor access to the webinar location for presentation purposes (PowerPoint or remote access to demo systems).
4. Will presentations (Vendor Product Previews) be recorded for later replay? **Answer:** No.
5. How do we request sessions that are not on the 9th or 12th? Current scheduling makes those dates impossible. **Answer:** Submit your request via the online form (<https://txdir.wufoo.com/forms/request-to-present/>)
6. Will a list of vendors who are selected to present be posted publicly prior to the date of the presentations, after, or ever? **Answer:** DIR will post the schedule for the product previews on our website. [Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> schedule](#). [Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> schedule](#).
7. Is the intent for vendors to present their Application Portfolio Management (APM) solution to all Texas agencies and then each agency can choose the vendor they like the best or do all agencies have to agree to one solution? **Answer:** DIR intends that the product previews serve as a means to provide the APM pilot agency participants, and the broader set of agencies who engaged in the Legacy Systems Study (LSS), with an overview of how APM is being successfully served in the market today. The previews will serve as a launch pad for dialog among the agencies and an exposure to the terminology and concepts associated with APM. DIR expects to follow the tenants of the LSS and promote shared services and commodity purchasing.
8. Will the solution be centrally managed by DIR with perhaps 1-2 users per agency being responsible for the maintenance of their own application information? **Answer:** DIR expects the pilot to be a shared solution with appropriate governance and managed services. The final implementation and model will be determined by the pilot team of participating agencies and DIR.
9. If one vendor is chosen for the pilot project for the state, can each agency choose to participate or will participation be mandated? **Answer:** The pilot is based on voluntary participation by approximately six agencies.



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10. Where will the funds for the APM solution originate from? DIR? State legislature? **Answer:** DIR is reviewing options for funding.
11. Have funds for the APM solution already been allocated or do they have to be appropriated? **Answer:** See answer to Question 10.
12. What is the timeframe for implementing an APM solution after vendor presentations are complete? **Answer:** DIR is initiating pre-work for the pilot to develop an implementation strategy and timeline with governance and requirements.
13. Does DIR expect to host the multi-tenant APM solution in the DIR Data Center Services program? **Answer:** DIR will evaluate hosting logistics based on the priorities and recommendations outlined in the LSS recommendations.
14. When would you expect the actual pilot to start? **Answer:** See answer to Question 12.
15. Is it the intent to have the solution discover all the software applications within the agencies as well as the application interdependencies? **Answer:** The APM solution will leverage various sources of data on software, hardware, and business applications. The APM solution should be able to contain and report on various business application dependencies.
16. Are there any technical preferences or technical "must haves" or "must run on" when you decide on the vendor applications to be included in the pilot? **Answer:** See answer to Question 13.
17. Is an APM solution, a software tool that identifies all the various applications that may exist within an agency? (For example, identify which machines are running Windows XP, or running Windows 7, or running Windows 8, etc...) **Answer:** See answer to Question 15.
18. Which agencies have expressed interest in participating in the pilot? **Answer:** DIR will post the agencies participating in the pilot on its website.
19. We are a Value Added Reseller (VAR) with experience implementing the tools. We assume this is open to VARs and Systems Integrators (SIs)? **Answer:** The focus of the product previews is to describe the current purpose-built APM solutions in the market today. A product vendor is welcome to include a key VAR or System Integrator in support of describing the product.
20. Does the state anticipate using an APM Tool to review the inventory of state business applications and their components for business function and value, and minimize redundancy and investment costs? **Answer:** Yes.
21. In addition to a tool, are you also looking for services related to application portfolio management, such as applications rationalization services? **Answer:** The focus of the product previews is to describe how the solutions meet the tenants of the APM definition provided by DIR and the LSS recommendations.

Please email [legacy.study@dir.texas.gov](mailto:legacy.study@dir.texas.gov) with additional questions.