



2010 Consolidated Messaging Project Talking Points

In his 2008 State of the State/State Budget Message, Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter stressed improving the efficiency and effectiveness of messaging services throughout state government. As a result, a team of state employees across multiple agencies formed together with private sector partners to begin the Consolidated Messaging Project.

The State of Idaho Consolidated Messaging Project is charged with the design and implementation of a consolidated statewide messaging system and building the infrastructure to support future consolidation efforts.

The project supports Governor Otter's call for more efficient and effective government as well as advancing the State of Idaho's Information Technology Strategic Plan. Final Operating Capability will have repurposed or eliminated the need to purchase an estimated 84 servers (6 servers will replace these 84) and software licenses at an estimated saving of over \$600,000.

Business benefits include the cost effectiveness of disaster recovery for all state agencies as well supporting smaller agencies' access to enhanced features such as increased security, reliability and improved functionality. The system will also enhance employee ability to work remotely; provide a statewide global address book, shared calendaring and resource scheduling; and enhance the state's ability to reach employees through one message in case of an emergency.

The Idaho Consolidated Messaging Project is on schedule and within budget. The Department of Administration is using the new system now with additional migrations planned each month.

In 2008, State employees from 13 agencies contributed over 10,000 hours of time to the project. Together with cash and personnel contributions from state agencies and in-kind services from our private partners, the project has leveraged over a half a million dollars in support, nearly doubling our actual FY09 project budget.

The Department of Administration is asking for 1.25 million dollars to continue the project in FY10. Based on this year's budget allocation the project is scheduled for completion in FY11. In FY11 agencies will begin paying a "per seat" charge of approximately \$5 per month, per user. This cost is competitive with private and public sector hosting organizations.

Continued funding for the project is critical. Only when all agencies are migrated will the true efficiency and effectiveness of the system be realized. Without continued financial support the project runs the risk of losing momentum and the institutional knowledge built within the project's private and public resources.