

PROCESS AUTOMATION - BPSCM

WHAT IS IT?

The Bioastronautics Planning System Configuration Management (BPSCM) tool automates the common Space Life Sciences Directorate (SLSD) Configuration Control Board (CCB) Configuration Management (CM) functions and provides the flexibility to support the unique aspects of each CCB.

Using BPSCM, authorized individuals can create, process, evaluate, and dispose change requests and directives while maintaining configuration control. Additionally, action items can be created, assigned to an actionee, and when complete the actions' closures can be reviewed and approved. The BPSCM provides support for scheduling and cancelling CCB meetings, managing the agenda and presentations, and creating and publishing the meeting minutes.

The data created and stored in BPSCM are used to automatically populate the CCB data in the <http://sa/cm> web pages and the CCB meeting schedule in the CM calendar.

WHY IS IT INNOVATIVE OR SIGNIFICANT?

The BPSCM tool was designed and built on the TieFlow process automation engine to reduce the size and complexity of the code, which in turn reduces the development time and maintenance costs.

BPSCM is also designed so that all boards share the same processes, electronic forms, and user interfaces. As a result, the tool provides a consistent look and feel and behavior for all boards and consolidates the work and data associated with those boards into a single on-line location. Additional boards can be dynamically added with no additional development.

BPSCM is designed to support the distinctive differences between boards, as well. The tool provides a set of preferences that allows each board to customize the data and behavior for that board.

BPSCM provides data privacy and security between boards. Only authorized users can perform work within the board. High-level data (meeting information) for a board can be viewed by anyone internal to JSC.

BPSCM provides users with insight into the work within each board. Users have real-time access to all work within their board(s), including submitted CR evaluations prior to the board meeting.

- **Web-based**
- **TieFlow process automation**
- **Support of CCB functions**
- **Personalized worklists**
- **Real-time reporting**
- **On Behalf Of functionality**
- **Notification preferences**
- **Graphical process status**
- **Data security**
- **Dynamic creation of new boards**



BENEFITS

- **Integration of a distributed workforce**

Web-based application allows users from any location with access to internal JSC resources to work as if they were local.

- **Improved work quality**

Following the same automated process for each CCB provides standardization and ensures that work is performed and reviewed in the proper sequence by the appropriate people. Automatic error checking on the forms ensures a minimum level of quality before the work can advance in the process.

- **Improved efficiency**

Work is instantly and automatically routed to the next assignee(s) who receives an email notification of the new work. Additionally, reminders and timeouts help maintain predefined timelines..

- **Higher productivity**

CM Administrators are relieved from manually updating static web sites, performing duplicate data entry of CR, directive, and action item information, and manual coordination and entry of CR evaluation data.

CR Initiators can begin responding to evaluations as soon as they are submitted. CR Initiators may also use previously submitted CRs as the basis for a new CR without having to re-enter all of the duplicate information.

- **Elimination of single-point failures**

Work can be instantly reassigned from one user to another. Backup role assignments and multiple assignees per activity provide failover.

- **Better work tracking**

Data is centralized and always up-to-date, so users can determine the real-time status of any and all work in the system at any time.

- **Automatic audit trail**

The assigned date and time, the assignee(s) of the work, and the completed date and time of each activity are automatically tracked and available in reports.

- **Continuous process improvement**

Process metrics allow the identification of bottlenecks and areas for process improvement.

