

New System Creates Paperless Invoicing for State Government

(CHARLESTON)—West Virginia State Auditor Glen B. Gainer III was joined by Fairmont State University (FSU) President Daniel Bradley and FSU's Vice President for Administration and Fiscal Affairs Enrico Porto at the State Capitol today to talk about a new program which could make vendor payments much more efficient.

With the assistance of the State Auditor's Office, Fairmont State University and Fairmont's Global Science & Technology, Inc., developed a program which takes shipping and handling out of the vendor payment equation.

Auditor Gainer said, "The efficiencies found in this program are just beginning to be realized."

As a result of legislation passed in 2005 (SB603), higher education and the State Auditor's Office were authorized to develop a new invoicing system.

The resulting system has eliminated the physical transfer of cover sheets, invoices and supporting documents between Fairmont State University and the State Auditor's Office.

If an error is found or required information is missing, Fairmont State University receives an automated email identifying the problem and requesting that a corrected invoice be submitted. No more marking up, repackaging and sending back while the vendor waits for a payment.

An added benefit is that records are immediately stored electronically which eliminates the organizing, filing and storing of paper. Auditors will not have to spend time digging through a maze of filing cabinets. They can just log in from the office computer.

Bills now under consideration in the House of Delegates (HB-2708) and Senate (SB-342) would allow for the adoption of "Electronic Requisition" programs by all state agencies.

FSU's Enrico Porto said, "It only makes sense that scan technology replace our current paper system and we do away with all paper for any state transactions through the State Auditor's Office."

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