

Modernizing Federal Procurements

Managing procurements within the federal government is both time-consuming and manually intensive. Critical data is stored in numerous locations making it difficult to plan and forecast purchase requests. Approvals are typically handled through email making it difficult to see where things are being held up. Data calls require numerous staff hours to compile a report providing limited visibility of information that is already weeks in the past. Oracle's Primavera Unifier is a solution that modernizes procurement management by automating processes to **reduce errors** and **increase accountability** of everyone involved. Visibility into all procurement activity is in real-time **ensuring procurements are completed without delays**.

STREAMLINE THE PROCUREMENT PROCESS

Primavera Unifier provides the following capabilities to increase the efficiency for the entire procurement process:

- **Automate processes with a robust workflow engine.** Approvals for purchase requests are typically handled through email that often is lost in people's inbox and requires that each person in the process knows who to send it to next. Primavera Unifier's flexible workflow engine can support even the most sophisticated process of an agency: automatic routing to the correct person, conditional routing based on information provided in prior steps, and chaining of processes to provide a complete end-to-end automated solution.
- **Capture data using flexible forms.** Contracting Officers and Specialists must be flexible to support unique requirements from their customers while still adhering to federal regulations. Primavera Unifier provides an easy-to-use solution for capturing virtually any type of information on a form.

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Key Benefits

- Ensure efficient use of current year budget dollars to meet agency's procurement needs
- Gain greater insight into your procurement activity
- Gain immediate visibility into problem areas
- Plan ahead for next year's budget cycle
- Reduce risk of knowledge loss by storing business rules into the system
- Increase consistency of outcomes in less time
- Fulfill governance and regulatory reporting and auditing requirements
- Utilize granular permissions control and detailed audit log

Validation rules ensure the necessary data is entered at the appropriate time, thus preventing time wasted downstream due to missing information.

- **Automated notifications and alerts.** Keeping track of procurement activities and knowing what needs to be done next can challenge even the most organized Contract Officer. Primavera Unifier generates automatic notifications to alert you when a task has been assigned. Process the task right from your email inbox to reduce the time it takes to complete an action.
- **Communicate with external systems.** Most financial and procurement information are stored in separate systems that do not communicate with each other. By leveraging Primavera Unifier’s industry-standard web services API, less time is spent on collecting and connecting information, and more time analyzing and deriving insights.

Key Features

- Flexible and configurable workflows.
- Configurable dashboards and reporting.
- Detailed audit log
- Industry standard API to communicate with external systems
- Templates for rapid setup and deployment
- Advanced document management
- Automated email notifications, approvals and alerts
- Mobile application for task management

Workflow Progress - Graphic

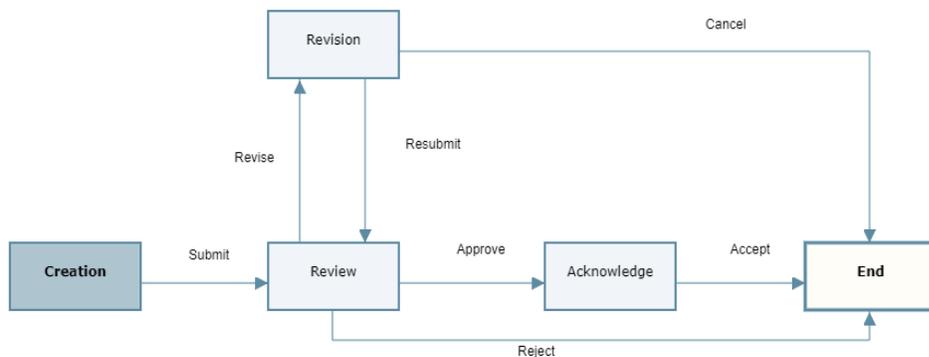


Figure 1. Flexible workflow design to mirror an agency’s approval process.

INCREASE TRANSPARENCY

Agencies expect Contracting Officers to plan effectively so that budget dollars that are obligated are aligned with both the mission objectives of the agencies and the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR). Primavera Unifier is an enterprise-wide solution that benefits everyone in the department by providing transparency into the performance of all procurements and a single-source of the truth:

- **Improve the acquisition planning process.** Aligning budget dollars with both new procurements and renewals becomes a challenging task when the information is stored in multiple locations. Primavera Unifier is a single, central platform that captures all information relevant to the department’s acquisition process. Leverage Primavera Unifier’s flexible reporting and dashboards to easily gain visibility into the procurement data across the department. Contract Officers and Specialists are now enabled to make informed decisions for the upcoming budget year.
- **Increase visibility into blocked activity.** Knowing where a procurement request is blocked is critical to meet the deadlines for a procurement request. With Primavera Unifier, you have full visibility into the status of each procurement request: who has the ball in court and how long has it been there. Primavera Unifier’s full audit trail improves accountability across everyone involved so that you always know who did what and when.

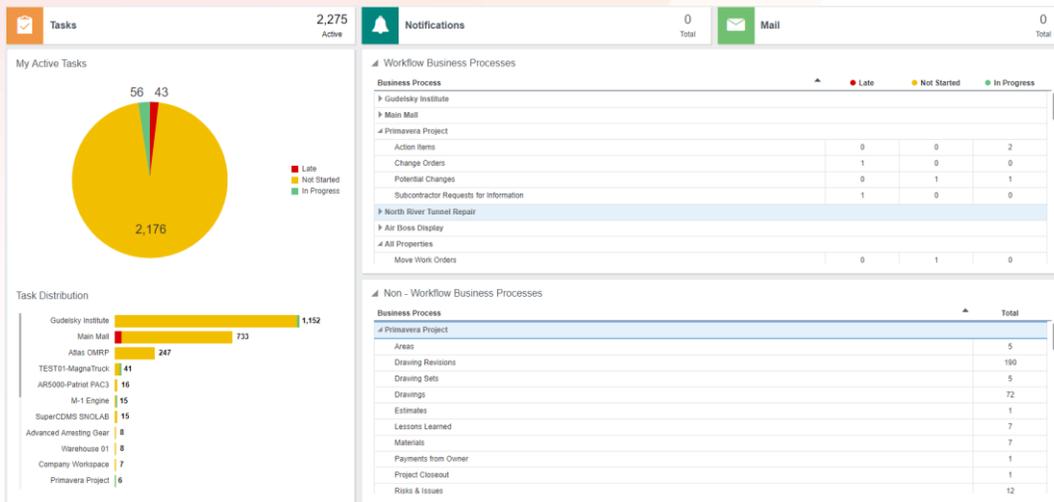


Figure 2. Dashboards provide visibility into all activity across the agency.

KNOWLEDGE DISTRIBUTION

Often, no one has knowledge of the entire procurement process. Instead, portions of the process are understood by different pockets of people based on their specific responsibilities within the procurement process. This presents an organization risk as key information may be lost should a single individual leave the agency or even be temporarily unavailable. The solution reduces this risk by enabling agencies to inject their business rules into the solution. Procurement activities are no longer dependent upon the availability of an individual to process a procurement successfully as the system already knows who needs to receive the request under the appropriate conditions.

- **Reduce loss of critical knowledge.** Primavera Unifier's flexible workflow engine can support even the most unique needs of an agency. Automatic routing to the correct person (or people), conditional routing based on information captured from prior steps, and even establishing dynamic relationships with other processes are all available within the solution. Reduce organizational risk of knowledge lost that is tied to individuals and improve the consistency of outcomes by having the system enforce the rules for every transaction.
- **Reduce time to ramp-up new staff.** Having complete knowledge of the FAR and understanding the unique needs of an agency is a monumental task. With Primavera Unifier's flexible forms, create simple, intuitive forms collecting only the minimal data necessary and automating the rest. Reduce the amount of training for each new person, and spend more time focused on understanding the needs of the agency.

WHAT'S THE TAKEAWAY?

Federal departments are dealing with multiple challenges while executing on their mission objectives: shrinking budgets, new regulations and compressed timelines. It's time to modernize the federal procurement process to achieve the following:

- **Increase visibility by centralizing procurement information into a single platform.**
- **Streamline the process by automating processes.**
- **Reduce risk to the department by institutionalizing critical knowledge.**

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