

# **PROCURE-TO-PAY**

**TRAINING SYMPOSIUM 2019** 

# Robotic Process Automation (RPA)

Panelists:

Erica Thomas, OUSD(C) John Lockwood, DLA Mitch Winnans, IRS Tom Sutton, Lockheed Martin rlando









## What is RPA?

RPA IS:			RPA IS <u>NOT</u> (common misconceptions):					
Software			Mechanical or actual robots					
Rules-based			Cognitive / AI / machine learning					
Programmed to conduct manua	l, repeatable tasks	Able to access any system it is not programmed to access						
Able to mimic common tasks su cut/paste functions, and data m	ch as queries, data pulls, erging	Intended to eliminate the need for human decision making or approvals						
New E	mployee   Description   Both Res   A computer   LAN access   Security credential (PKI)   Standard software   Shared drive/space	equire:	"Robot"         Image: Constrained on the second on the s	Bots are capable of running both in attended & unattended states. DoD is in the process of working towards unattended				



## **The Automation Journey**





			Ke	y Capabilities	5		
	Enables the automation of rule-based p	end-to-end f repetitive, processes	Teo Worł (ERP, D	chnology Agnostic – ks with any applicatio DB, MS Suite, PDF, 0	on Citrix)	Utilizes existi interfaces t ERP (legacy	ng manual o bridge ) systems
				Benefits			
Αςςι	racy & Quality	Complia	nce	<b>Cost Reduction</b>		Efficiency	Employee Morale

Reduces	RPA increases	Deliver more work	Increase process	Increased
processing	compliance and	with same people,	volume and frees	employee
errors and rework,	auditability and	increase	up humans to	satisfaction by
increases	reduces risk of	productivity	focus on higher	reduction of
standardization	fraud		value work	monotonous tasks

Adoption of RPA facilitates PMA CAP Goal #6 & OMB Memo M-18-23: Shifting from Low-Value to High-Value Work



# **Spotting Automation Opportunities**

RPA is best applied to processes that exhibit a strong mix of specific characteristics:





## Video – RPA Overview (Recap)

(90 seconds)





#### DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY THE NATION'S COMBAT LOGISTICS SUPPORT AGENCY







### **Robotic Process Automation (RPA)**

John Lockwood

April 23, 2019

WARFIGHTER FIRST FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

# DLA BOTs & Artificial Intelligence

- Robotics "BOTs"
  - Computer programs or programmable machines that carry out a series of actions attended or unattended
- Artificial Intelligence
  - Computer programs to complete tasks which would otherwise require human intelligence
  - Learning, perception, problem-solving, language-understanding and/or logical reasoning







- <u>Attended bots</u>
  - Useful when the entire end-to-end process can't be automated
  - Work alongside humans to deliver attended automation
  - Users/humans access = CAC (PKI)
- Unattended bots
  - Execute tasks independent of human involvement
  - Scheduled or triggered by events
  - BOTs have own PKI Certificate to access CAC enabled sites
  - BOT has a name, Active Directory (AD) account and Email account







- Analysis Do it or not?
- Design 2 weeks
- Development 2 weeks
- Test 2 weeks
- Production 2 weeks
- 8 weeks for standard
  - Complex BOTs take longer
- Team effort with the customer Agile

## Current Request process:

- Questionnaire
- Analysis Meeting
- Process Owner/SME



# **Audit Uses**



### **Evidentiary Matter**

- WAWF for Receiving reports and Invoices
- EDA for Contract Documentation
- LDG for Order Acceptance and Fulfillment
- Posting Logic- O2C / Evidential Matter
- Posting Logic P2P / Evidential Matter
- EBS Invoice Screenshots MIR4
- EBS Crosswalk (Phase 1) ME23N
- GR Screenshots MIGO





### Audit related

- F Status Retrieval
- Trial Balance Retrieval
- Posting Goods Receipts in EBS
- Execute Domestic and EFT Payment Runs within EBS
- Fuel Invoice Authorization Transmittal (FIAT) Process
- Generate SALR Report
- OF-39 Error Resolution



# **G-invoicing**



G-invoicing standardizes the Intragovernmental Transaction (IGT) reimbursable order process.

- Aids DLA Agreement Program and the auditability of IGT.
- BOTs completed on March 29<sup>th</sup> "Inbound"
  - Force Sync –queries SharePoint data and synchs with G-invoicing and ensures Data in SharePoint is current, constant and correct.
  - Reconciliation –Compare existing DLA's SharePoint records with G-Invoicing and add newly created GT&C records to DLA's SharePoint.
- G-Invoicing scheduled to be completed on or before April 30<sup>th</sup> "Outbound"
  - Agreement Creation –populate 7600A form, which the SAM will attached to a TMT tasker for concurrence and signature.
  - GT&C Approval SAM initiates BOT to update G-invoicing record with the initial and final official signature data.
  - Periodic Force Sync ensure SharePoint stay current with G-Invoicing







WARFIGHTER FIRST



# Considerations



- RPA as a Service
- Anti-Bot strategy
  - PKI Certificates for CAC enabled sites Hardware Security Module (HSM)
  - Access work within DLA/DoD Network environment
- DoD Policy works
- Level of Bots
  - Automate current processes "current cost"
  - Automate new process "should cost"
  - Create processes that are normally too complex/time intensive
  - Your imagination....



#### Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller): Financial Management Reform's RPA Journey





## RPA Bots Developed by OUSD(C), DCFO, BIO/FM Reform Team

- OUSD(C)
  - Financial Management Policy and Reporting (FMPR) DDRS-AFS
    - Purpose: Automates the process to generate, save, compare, and prepare pivot table on DDRS-AFS reports used in the quarterly financial statement review process
  - DRCED CarePoint Data (currently in test)
    - o Purpose: Automates the scrapping of healthcare data from CarePoint website and load into DRCED (monthly)
  - DRCED / PB SF132 (OMB GTAS data) (currently in test)
    - Purpose: Automates the process to pull and format approved apportioned amount reports for upload into DRCED and B2A (daily)
- DAI
  - WHS FMD Unmatched Disbursements
    - o Purpose: Automates the posting of disbursement information in DAI to clear unmatched disbursements
  - WHS FMD Unmatched Disbursements Receipt Creation
    - o Purpose: Automates the creation of UMD receipts for validation
  - WHS FMD Update Task Owning Organization
    - o Purpose: Automates the process to update task owning organization
  - WHS FMD Update Key Members, Project Name, and Project Owning Organization
    - o Purpose: Automates the process to update the aforementioned fields in DAI from Excel load file

#### As of April 15, 2019: Nine automations developed (seven deployed; two in test)



#### • DAI (4<sup>th</sup> Estate focused)

- WHS FMD Overhead Cost Transfer
  - Purpose: Automate reports pulled from OBIEE by moving the execution posted from WHSFMD\_OVERHEAD\_ADMIN to the correct Project and Task
- WHS FMD Status Of Funds Report
  - Purpose: Automate the generation of report that provides the end user with the status of all accounts with project level details (daily report)
- WHS FMD Trading Partners
  - Purpose: Automate the process to load trading partners by vendor type into DAI and create the trading partner database
- WHS FMD Posting of Interest Payments in DAI
  - o Purpose: Automate the posting of interest payments to clear unmatched transactions
- WHS FMD Allocate Interest Payments to Related Contracts
  - o Purpose: Automate the interest payment cost allocation to the related contract
- OUSD(C)
  - DRCED OPM Fed Scope Data
    - o Purpose: Automate download and load of Fed Scope data into DRCED staging environment
  - PB Comptroller Information System (CIS) and Program Resource Collection Program (PRCP) Report Download & Pivot Data (Two automations) – pending software load on SIPR
    - Purpose: Automate report downloads from CIS & PRCP, to include formatting, pivot, etc., so report is immediately consumable for analysts.

#### And many more... Current pipeline has 40+ ideas, and growing (in size and complexity)



## **DDRS – AFS Quarterly Reports Automation**

(2 min, 40 Seconds)

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# IRS RPA Tool for Responsibility Determinations

- Background Justification
  - Diminishing resources and reduced staff
  - Q4 Spend
  - PMA CAP Goal #6 and OMB Memo M-18-2
    - o Shifting from Low-Value to High-Value Work
  - New EO Maintaining Leadership in AI (2/11/19)
  - IRS FY18-22 Strategic Plan
  - IRS Procurement Strategic Plan
  - FAR 9.105



- Description of RPA Tool for Contracting Officer Responsibility Determinations
  - Cloud-based Robotic Process Automation (RPA or "bot") solution.
  - Automates the critical but repetitive/manual tasks of searching, collecting, and analyzing documentation required by FAR 9.105.





# What Does the Bot Do & How Does It Work?

- What Does the Bot Do?
  - Searches, collects, and analyzes publicly available info from the following websites:
    - System for Award Management (SAM)
    - Federal Awardee Performance Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)
    - Dun & Bradstreet
  - Checks for red flags
  - Formats into report with time stamp
  - Sends back to IRS CO
- How Does the Bot Work?
  - Unattended Bot: Works relatively independent of human involvement
  - Trigger Point: E-mail with DUNS # sent to vendor as inputs to bot
  - Execution and Results: Emailed back to IRS in form of a report (e.g., PDF, Word)
  - Off-prem solution
  - No PII, FTI, or sensitive data involved in bot searches or extracts
  - No direct network connections to IRS or IRS systems







# **Benefits, Considerations, & Next Steps**

- Benefits/Impact
  - Improved utilization and productivity of COs
  - Reduced costs and time burden on staff
  - Reduced errors
  - Increased compliance
  - More robust/scalable process in case of volume increase
  - Consistent results, reporting, and audit trail
  - Support making better informed contracting decisions
  - Learning opportunity to explore RPA capabilities

#### • Challenges, Considerations, and Next Steps

- Getting started
- Governance and security
- Iterative development, user testing, and deployment
- Training and adoption
- Integration with non-public sites/data
- Guinea Pig Learning Curve/Opportunity
- Internal/External Awareness Pay it forward





# Lockheed Martin

- Began RPA assessment in Finance domain in 2016
- Formed RPA CoE in late 2017
  - Platform architecture and provisioning
  - Automation standards, best practices
  - Automation development and sustainment (as needed)
  - RPA Community of Practice



- Over 40 automations in production supporting Finance, Engineering, Manufacturing, Sustainment, and IT domains
  - Legacy contract system retirement support
  - Invoice submittal (EDI and WAWF)
- Future plans focused on infrastructure scaling, automation code re-use, technical collaboration across development teams, and additional technology platform integration



# **Question & Answer**









2019 Procure-to-Pay Training Symposium



### **Panelist POC Information:**

Erica Thomas, OUSD(C): erica.e.thomas.civ@mail.mil John Lockwood, DLA: john.lockwood@dla.mil Mitch Winnans, IRS: mitchell.d.winans@irs.gov Tom Sutton, Lockheed Martin: tom.sutton@lmco.com

### **DoD RPA Consortium Site:**

https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/rpa-consortium

