

# Overview of Equipment Authorization System (EAS) Redesign

Office of Engineering and Technology

Laboratory Division



#### Overview

- Current EAS Overview
- New EAS Information
  - Implementation Plan
  - Status of Redesign
  - General Process and System Changes
  - Form 731 Changes
  - Draft views of pages
    - CORES Usernames and FRNs
    - EAS Entity Association
    - Grantee Codes
    - Form 731
    - Sample Requests and Market Surveillance



#### **Current EAS**

#### Current EAS

- Became operational 1998
- TCB program implemented in 2000
- KDB System implemented in 2005
- Original plan was to implement a process to allow files to be submitted electronically to FCC
- System became a process management tool for entire equipment authorization process

October 3, 2018 TCB Workshop 3

#### **Current EAS (External Processes)**

- External Managed Processes
  - Grantees
  - Telecommunication Certification Bodies (TCBs)
  - TCB Designating Authorities (TDAs)
  - TCB Accrediting Bodies (TCBAs)
  - Test Firm Accrediting Bodies (TFABs)
  - Accredited Test Firms
  - 2.948 Listed Laboratories (program expired)
    - Data read only for older applications
  - Public Searches
  - KDB Publications and Inquiries



# **Current EAS (Internal Processes)**

- Internal Managed Processes
  - External Entity Management
  - KDB Inquiry and Response
  - KDB Publication
  - KDB Draft Publication Comments
  - Market Surveillance
  - Form 731 Management
    - Equipment Classes, Validity Checks, Rule Parts, Exhibit Types, Correspondence processes, etc.
  - Database
    - Over 3 terabytes of data
      - Mostly 731 Attachments



# **New EAS Implementation**

- Flash Cutover Planned for January 2019
  - Specific date under discussion
    - Dependent on multiple factors
      - System programming complete
      - System tested acceptably
      - High volume filing dates and holidays
      - Network Support
      - Form 731 Approval
    - FCC will publish date when it is determined
  - Transition plan under discussion
    - Due to complexity of EAS and potential issues of running old and new systems at same time the old system won't be publicly available when new system comes online
    - May be several days where system is not accessible (i.e. grants not approvable or searchable)

# **New EAS Redesign Status**

- Requirements gathering completed at end of 2017
- Programming started April 2018
  - Database created
    - User groups and group privileges established
  - Username accounts and login/password process already existed in production CORES and has been adopted by EAS and is currently available
  - Entity management process programmed
    - Entity processes testing by FCC in progress
  - Form 731process being programmed now
    - FCC user acceptance test (UAT) starting soon
    - 731 API will be developed after UAT completed
    - Form 731 Regulatory Approval in progress
      - Expected completion January 2019
  - KDB Inquiry and Publication process is next phase
  - After KDB any remaining processes will be programmed and UAT fixes will be implemented and the full system will be retested
    - System documentation and user training

# **New EAS Highlights**

- System is being developed taking into account current rule and process requirements
- Information collected will not change significantly
- Programming platform and flow of process will change significantly
  - Each user will have their own user name/login and password to the system
    - Passwords are managed by FCC Commission Registration System (CORES) – www.fcc.gov/cores
      - CORES registration is available now
      - Improved security and validated email addresses



# **New EAS Notable Changes**

- Individual Username/Login and password
  - Initial one time process
    - Get username account from CORES
    - Associate username with FRN
      - Requires FRN owner approval
    - Associate username with EAS entity
      - Requires Entity approval
- Grantee codes will be requested in a process similar to the current process but the grantee code will not be provided until grantee code payment is received by FCC
- Updated 731
- PAG Integrated into 731
- Market Surveillance samples requested thru EAS webpage
  - Annual surveillance reports will be managed through sample request page
- TCB Scopes changing from A1-B4 to match 18 test laboratory scopes
- All entities will need to provide FCC with company phone number and email



# New EAS Form 731 Change Summary

- Composite original applications will be filed on single 731 form.
  - Equipment classes will be included on line entry
  - After original application is granted any new equipment classes will be added as permissive changes
- 731 Questions will change slightly
  - RF Exposure, HAC, Agents, TCB Decision Makers, TCB Reviewers, Multiple test firms, Confidentiality, signature section, etc
  - Draft 731 demo later
- Permissive Change and Change in FCCID Applications
  - Option to reference attachments from previous grants
    - Non-confidential only
  - Option to reference line entries from previous grants
- New application type:
  - Change in FCCID/Class II permissive change
- All Entered Contacts will need valid FCC username
- Grant Image will be updated

#### **New EAS Form 731 API**

- A Form 731 Application Programming Interface (API) will be created to allow TCB database to talk to equipment authorization database
  - This process will happen after 731 programmed, tested and mostly final
  - TCB's will have to develop/program their side of the system to upload and handle error messages
    - Process will allow information upload.
    - Issuing Grant of Certification is a separate step
  - Manual 731 submission option will remain option

#### **General Comments**

- Development is still work in progress and some things may change based on UAT, rule changes, for better usability/flow, and/or policy changes
- There is a learning curve for the system as it is in a different programming platform and the flow is changed
- UAT has shown issues with Microsoft Edge browser
  - Other browsers have fewer issues
- Search options and URL location of system are still under discussion
- This presentation is not an all inclusive list of changes but intended as a high level summary
- After considering new names for the system and the effort to rename we have opted to continue referring to the new system as the Equipment Authorization System (EAS)
- FCC planning to reach out to various user groups to help test new system when appropriate



#### **Draft Views of New System Pages**

- CORES Username
- CORES Association with FRN
- EAS Join an Entity
- Obtain a Grantee Code
- Form 731
- Sample Request
- Market Surveillance Report