

Medicare Beneficiary Database Suite of Systems (MBDSS)

Northrop Grumman has successfully developed and supported the Medicare Beneficiary Database Suite of Systems (MBDSS) since the project's inception in 1998. We are responsible for providing computer software services to support the MBDSS, including maintenance, developmental enhancements and special projects as required by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

MBDSS is the single, enterprise-wide, authoritative source for Medicare beneficiary data. It provides full support for the wide array of benefit plans and beneficiary choices. One of the major functions of MBDSS is to serve as the primary integration point for most CMS mission-critical systems. These include those systems that support Medicare Beneficiary Eligibility, Entitlement and Enrollment and the Customer Contact Center Activity, as well as the activities of other business partners, including Part D Plans, Coordination of Benefits, the Retiree Drug Subsidiary, the TROOP Facilitator, the Drug Data Processing System and Medicare Appeals System. In total, MBDSS touches approximately 22 interfaces. This level of integration support requires the ability to work effectively and in collaboration with the many IT contractors who support these systems at CMS. Our successful track record in contractor collaboration and support is unsurpassed.

Northrop Grumman provides full life-cycle development and maintenance support for the MBDSS, including requirements engineering and management, design, development, testing (unit, systems, integration and UAT), implementation and post-implementation services. In addition to SDLC activities, we are responsible for overall program/project management (planning, monitoring and control), quality assurance, configuration management, risk management, performance measurement and financial and earned value management (EVM) activities. We have improved system performance, throughput and automation of MBDSS through innovative design strategies and ongoing maintenance efforts. We have also worked to optimize existing MBDSS processes to reduce maintenance costs.

The Northrop Grumman Team began developing the Beneficiary Database Prototype (BDP) in 1998. In 2000, the Team successfully demonstrated to CMS that beneficiary data could be stored, tracked, accessed and maintained effectively. We accomplished this significant CMS objective by using updated, modern tools that increased performance and security of the Privacy Act data while ensuring consistent data integrity. In 2001, MBDSS moved successfully into production. MBDSS currently provides a comprehensive national view of beneficiary information that is consistent throughout the Medicare program, which benefits CMS' operational and customer service business goals. In 2005, Northrop Grumman designed, developed, tested and implemented 17 new MBDSS interfaces resulting from new requirements generated by the Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA).

In 2006, we implemented Phase 1 of the MMA common tables, involving MBD and Medicare Advantage Part D (MARx). This change eliminated the need for each system to maintain redundant beneficiary data. In July 2007, we successfully implemented Phase 2 of the MMA Common Tables Initiative involving the integration of the Enrollment Database (EDB) into the Common Tables environment. These accomplishments involved surmounting major technical challenges and required extensive cross-contractor communication and collaboration with other CMS maintainers to ensure implementation of consistent interfaces in a timely manner. This initiative also involved our completion of successful data conversion of all Common Tables and the coordination of integration test efforts between EDB, MBD, and MARx. Our Team's completion of the Data Dissemination Phase 1 ensured that MBD could process peak volumes of beneficiary transactions during the open enrollment and rollover season.

Northrop Grumman has consistently demonstrated our commitment to high quality delivery, our ability to be flexible and agile in response to the CMS changing environment, and our commitment to outstanding customer relationship management. In February 2008, CMS selected our team over seven other major competitors based on our past performance and other considerations to continue to support MBDSS under the Enterprise System Development IDIQ. This task order extends our support of MBDSS through the year 2013.