



Summary of ROSS Issues

Issue #	Description	Resolution	Status						
1	<p>Assigning Individual Agency Charge Codes</p> <p>With the current financial management systems, each agency creates its own charge codes (account numbers) for an incident, and often, uses multiple charge codes for a single incident. These charge codes often continue to be used months after an incident is over. In addition, this creates an inability to adequately track/compile expenditure of funds on an incident. Physical design of the current system prevents financial networks from crossing agency boundaries.</p>	<p>It has been determined that this issue is outside the scope of ROSS. ROSS will provide means to document multiple charge codes to a single incident as is done currently.</p>	Closed						
2	<p>Organization Identifier (formerly Unit ID Code)</p> <p>Used to identify an organization and its associated state. Current identification system does not follow any standard. State organization's Organization Identifier does not adequately identify the actual unit. The automated system requires unique identifiers.</p>	<p>The Unit Identifier will be composed of three components:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1087 748 1635 846"> <tr> <td>XX</td> <td>Country Code (default is U.S.)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>XX</td> <td>State/Province Code</td> </tr> <tr> <td>XXXX</td> <td>Org. Name Code</td> </tr> </table> <p>Examples:</p> <p>US-ID-BOF is equivalent to: United States, State of Idaho, Boise National Forest</p> <p>US-MN-MLK is equivalent to: United States, State of Minnesota, Moose Lake District Office for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources</p> <p>CN-AB-D005 is equivalent to: Canada, Province of Alberta, Department of Natural Resources</p> <p>For existing codes, the last character of the Organization Name Code may follow the current pattern established in the 3-Letter Identifier Book. The third character was used to identify the kind of organization. However, any new organizations added to the system may not follow this pattern.</p>	XX	Country Code (default is U.S.)	XX	State/Province Code	XXXX	Org. Name Code	<p>Closed</p> <p>NWCG Approved (June 1998) giving control of unit identifiers to the Geographic Area Coordinators. NICC wrote a letter (on 2/26/1999) explaining process for administration of identifiers.</p>
XX	Country Code (default is U.S.)								
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XXXX	Org. Name Code								



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3	<p>Event Number</p> <p>The current event number system is implemented various ways across the U.S. The automated system requires a unique number for each event. Some offices use the financial code as the event code, which causes a problem when (if) the financial code is changed.</p>	<p>The ROSS Event number is defined as a 10-character code. The first 4 digits must be entered by the ROSS user, and can be used to further categorize the event (e.g. by organization, area, etc.). The last 6 digits will be a sequential number automatically assigned by the system.</p> <p>Example: 0341-000234 BOF-123534</p> <p>The use of a financial code as the Event Number is not allowed. The Event record contains a field in which the Financial Code is entered; this code can be made visible to the user along with the Event Number.</p> <p>The year is not included in the event number. Using the EVENT INITIAL DATE/TIME field can derive the year.</p> <p>The Organization Event Number is a stand-alone field that does not require the presence of the Organization ID (formerly Unit ID Code); however, the Organization Code will most likely be displayed to provide the dispatcher with location and organization information.</p>	Closed NICC will provide direction to the field at the time ROSS is implemented.
4	<p>Definition of Equipment</p> <p>Originally, equipment was defined as wheels and antennas. With new technology enhancements, more items are being added to the equipment category, making the distinction between equipment and supply harder to define.</p>	<p>This issue has evolved into #8, Equipment/Supply and Service issue paper.</p>	Closed



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5	<p>National Cache Restock Redistribution</p> <p>Cache Managers do not have the authority to order direct from one another, requiring the use of the dispatch system to process NFES requests during period of heavier activity. This in effect slows down the process by adding needless workloads, extra communication links and adding valuable time to delivery during critical periods.</p>	<p>This is no longer an issue as cache procedures changed in FY98 allowing cache-to-cache ordering during national Preparedness Levels 1 – 2.</p> <p>In Preparedness Level 3 through PL 5, caches are required to place all orders to the National Interagency Supply Cache Coordinator who adjudicates all Supply request/orders. Declared non-issue with the ROSS Business Group. Removed from the list of action items.</p>	Closed
6	<p>Direct to Cache Ordering</p> <p>June 1997 - When an NFES Cache is not able to fill a supply request, the current business rule requires the unfilled orders/requests routed back through dispatch channels, rather than allowing the cache to fill the order from other NFES caches. This requirement places an undue workload on dispatch offices.</p>	<p>As of Spring 1998, Cache Managers process Supply orders/requests within the national Cache system during national Preparedness Levels 1 & 2.</p> <p>In Preparedness Level 3 through 5, caches place all Supply orders to the National Interagency Supply Cache Coordinator (at NIFC). The National Incident Cache Coordinator adjudicates all Supply request/orders and places those orders/requests with the appropriate national cache.</p> <p>Because of these changes, this was removed from the list of ROSS issues.</p>	Closed
7	<p>Assignment of local food service provider to fill caterer (Equipment) requests.</p> <p>A discrepancy exists when a local food service provider is used to fill an Equipment request when meal quantities do not warrant ordering a local caterer or when national contract mobile food service vendors are not readily available. When the ROSS Business Group evaluated the definition of a local food service provider, it was determined to be a Service, not an Equipment item. The process for assigning Service is significantly different from the process for assigning equipment.</p>	<p>When a local food service provider is assigned, the request must be generated as a Service. If a local food service provider will be used in place of a national contract mobile food service vendor, the Equipment request must be canceled; and a Service request must be initiated.</p> <p>Further explanation of Service can be found in the resolution section under issue #8 below.</p>	Closed



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8	<p>Equipment, Supply and Services</p> <p>During the ROSS Business Requirements Analysis, the need for clarification of the definitions of equipment and supplies was identified. Equipment was originally defined as an item that had wheels and/or antennas. As more resources are added to the catalog, the distinction between equipment and supply became harder to define. The processes for trackable, non-trackable, and vendor-provided service are different and warrant different procedures in an automated system. Presently, the modeling process is confused by the fact all three types (trackable, non-trackable, and vendor-provided service) exist in both the equipment and supply categories.</p>	<p>Equipment: A vehicle, which transports resources and/or performs wildland fire suppression or support activities. Includes equipment services*.</p> <p>Supplies: Materials, goods, or services* used by the wildland fire community not defined in any other resource category. The Supply category is made up of, but is not limited to all NFES items, including telecommunication devices.</p> <p>*Service is a sub-category of the Aircraft, Equipment, and Supply categories and is a defined activity, which is directed and accomplished by an external provider. Service is either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A capability (phone communication service, cellular phone service, temporary land rental, transportation services); or; 2) An action (ice delivery, restaurant meals, newspaper delivery, providing airspace closure, airspace management, road slide removal). 	<p>Closed NICC will brief the Geographic Area Coordinators</p>
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9	<p>Personnel Groups</p> <p>The way groups of overhead personnel are dispatched (e.g. crews, teams, etc.) is not consistent. Crews are dispatched as a single unit, without update to individual overhead status; while Incident Management Teams are dispatched as individual overhead. Other Support crews (e.g. engine crews, flight crews, etc.) are assigned as an attachment to the equipment/aircraft request, without an update to individual overhead status. The Overhead Inventory cannot be accurate without a standard procedure for tracking <u>all</u> overhead assignments. The ROSS Business Team recommends modification of personnel-related Resource Categories to Personnel, which would include two sub-categories: Individuals and Groups. This would result in the same procedures for all groups (Crews, Incident Management Teams, etc.) and will ensure the Overhead Inventory is updated with each assignment for every group member.</p>	Current Resource Categories will not change; however, ROSS includes the capability to group resources to make ordering more efficient.	Closed Will be implemented with ROSS.
10	<p>Multiple Qualification Systems</p> <p>Multiple systems that do not interface with each other will require an enormous amount of maintenance for the ROSS system in maintaining inventory qualifications within the system.</p> <p>The ROSS Group proposes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a Data Steward who will be responsible for establishing standards for new technical specialist descriptions that must be added to the ROSS system. 2. Long-term Goal: Implement a single interagency qualifications system, so that users have one automated system, regardless of agency. 	ROSS will import data in a standard format from the three known systems (Department of Interior IQS/SACS, State IQS, and US Forest Service REDCARD).	Closed