

CDOL Tip of the Week. April 16, 2012

CDOL Editing: Incorrect data displaying and how to fix

This week's tip came to mind after an email came in from a user. The user was trying to add an individual to an assignment but the drop-down pick list was not showing the positions the user was expecting to find. The user sent a screen shot with the pick list expanded and asked for help. The positions listed were for a completely different organization type than what the organization unit number and unit name indicated at the top of the page. Thinking that perhaps others have experienced a similar situation, I wanted to briefly write about this.

On a summary page, using the browser navigation arrows is not a problem, as the data is being pulled from a single static view, composed for display. However, when a user is in "edit mode" the data becomes "live" and if the browser back arrow or forward arrow are used to navigate within CDOL, the common data on the page does not always automatically refresh because the data in the various fields are being pulled from multiple data tables and using the navigation arrows rather than using a data link can break the application's active links to those tables, although the header data does refresh and so appears to be on the desired page. Indications of this situation include data that does not seem to fit, incorrect field labels, incorrect or missing associations, missing positions, etc.

Now for the tip: If you use the back or forward arrows while in edit mode, after navigating to a page and before performing any edit tasks, **update the data on the page by using the browser "refresh" button** (usually an icon that looks like two curved arrows chasing each other). Once the data has been refreshed check to make sure the page displayed is what you expected. If the page is correct then proceed to make any edits.