

ILG National Conference | August 1 -4, 2017

ATS Musical Chairs Stop the Music

Presented by:

Tim Trittin, PHR *Diversity and Compliance Director* JobTarget

Nicolas Paul

Director of Compliance Kairos Services, Inc.



Tim Trittin

Tim Trittin is the Diversity and Compliance Director at JobTarget, a recruitment advertising company with 1,000+ small to Fortune 500 clients/companies.

Tim's expertise is in OFCCP compliance as it relates to outreach, talent acquisition, data management, and ATS implementation and reconfiguration to ensure compliance. Through the years Tim has worked with small and Global 500 Federal Contractors, helping them achieve OFCCP compliance through a common sense business centric approach. Tim's enthusiasm for compliance and exceptional customer service has helped the program almost quadruple in size since 2015.

Prior to starting his human resources and compliance career, Tim served 8 years as a Combat Engineer with the U.S. Army Reserves.



Nicolas Paul

Nicolas Paul, Director of Operations for Kairos Services, Inc., is responsible for directing Kairos' staff in the preparation and implementation of Affirmative Action Programs as well as providing technical assistance to Kairos clients.

Prior to joining Kairos, Mr. Paul served as a team and squad leader with Special Operations' 3rd Ranger Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Speaking from his first-hand experience as a disabled combat veteran, Mr. Paul regularly presents compliance strategies to Federal Contractors covering new and forthcoming regulatory changes at local, regional and national ILG Conferences. Mr. Paul graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Texas at Dallas.



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Applicant Tracking System

Definition & Purpose

Internet Definition - An applicant tracking system (ATS) is a software application that enables the electronic handling of recruitment needs. An ATS can be implemented or accessed online on an enterprise or small business level, depending on the needs of the company and there is also free and open source ATS software available. An ATS is very similar to customer relationship management (CRM) systems, but are designed for recruitment tracking purposes. In many cases they filter applications automatically based on given criteria such as keywords, skills, former employers, years of experience and schools attended.

The principal function of an ATS is to provide a central location and database for a company's recruitment efforts. ATSs are built to better assist management of resumes and applicant information. Data is either collected from internal applications via the ATS front-end, located on the company website or is extracted from applicants on job boards...

Our Definition - A software application that allows the electronic processing of certain recruitment functions, and enables employers to more efficiently handle and track the recruitment, selection and hiring process.



Learning Objectives

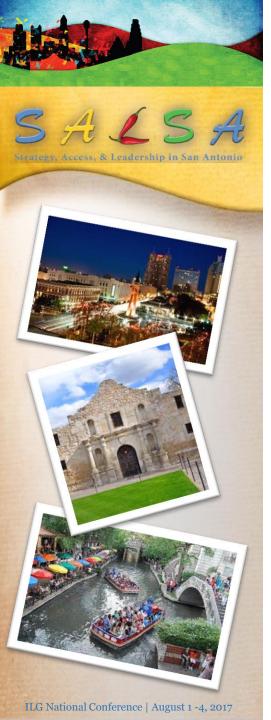
- Discover the key reasons contractors change applicant tracking systems
- Learn how to evaluate your current applicant tracking system to determine if it is meeting your organization's needs.
- Understand what to consider when the decision is made to change your ATS
- Gain a better understanding of the steps needed to effectively select and launch a new ATS
- Understand your responsibilities when working with the ATS provider during and after implementation



In Session Handouts

- Handout 1 ATS Gap Analysis Template
- Handout 2 New ATS Implementation Checklist
- Handout 3 Website Compliance Checklist
- Handout 4 Reference Library and Access URL





- Review of case study data
- Review of survey data
- There is no single applicant tracking system solution

<u>Reporting</u>

- Compliance reporting not sufficient or customizable
 - Cannot report on certain steps within the applicant tracking system
 - Inability to track jobseeker's status $\ensuremath{^{R}}$ accurately
 - Inability to track gender, race, veteran status, disability status, and recruitment source
- Additional reporting does not meet the contractor's needs, and/or cannot be customizable for recruiting purposes
 - Reports such as time to fill, interview to hire ratios, cost per hire are missing, insufficient or cannot be customized



Training Difficult for New Users

- Training webinars and/or training materials complex
- System not intuitive to non-technical users

Flexibility

- Flexibility with Workflows for End-Users
 - No ability to change the master workflow from jobseeker intake to hire
 - No ability to change workflows by requisition
 - Little or no ability to have secondary applications
- No or little flexibility in adding or creating documents in the process
 - May want to add terms of use documents, background release forms, or other required documents



Limited Integration with Systems

- Internal systems where an integration may be needed or wanted
 - Human Resource Information System (HRIS)
 - Onboarding system
 - Payroll system
 - Performance Management System
- Vendor systems where an integration may be needed or wanted
 - Background check vendor
 - Reference check vendor
 - Compliance vendors
 - Job boards, job aggregators and social media



Why Do Contractors Change ATS Systems?

Jobseeker experience

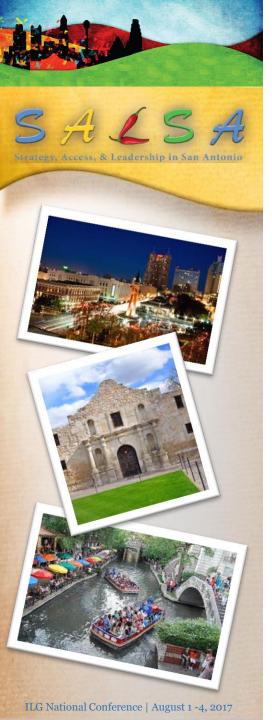
- Inability to upload jobseeker data from social media or resumes
- High jobseeker drop-offs rates
- System is slow
- Extra long application, with no way to change it
- System is not mobile friendly
- No branding throughout the application

Search for Emple	oyment Opp	ortunities
Search	h Job Postings	
Job Category:	All Job Catego	ries
Enter search words or phrases separated by commas:		
Location:	All Locations	
City:		
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Evaluating Your Current Applicant Tracking System

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Compliance

- Reporting
 - Do your current reports ensure proper compliance^R
 - Do the canned/default reports satisfy your needs?
 - Are you able to create custom reports?
 - Can reports be easily exported in a usable format? Does the information reported export matching requisition ID, names, job codes, etc.?

Data collection

- Does the system ask for and collect race^R, gender^R, veteran[/]disability^R status, and recruitment source from jobseekers?
- Are the questions asked in compliant with the regulations?



Compliance (cont.)

- **Disposition codes**
 - Are you able to add or deactivate disposition codes^R?
 - Are you able to add customized disposition codes at certain stages in the jobseeker lifecycle?

Status codes

- Are you able to add or deactivate status codes^R?
- Are you able to add customized status codes at certain stages in the jobseeker lifecycle?

Templates in the application

 Can you add templates and/or ad hoc information into the application to ensure OFCCP, state, county and city compliance?

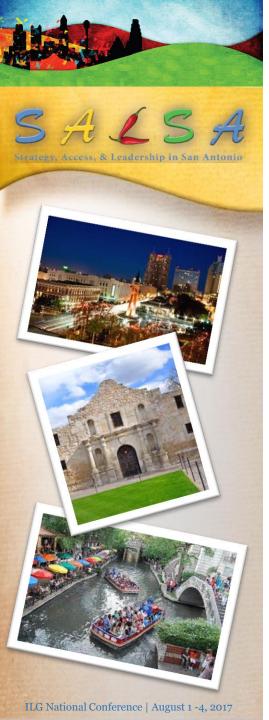


Compliance (cont.)

- Careers site (if run by the ATS provider)
 - Are you able to add documents and custom language (EEO is the law poster ^R, Pay Transparency Nondiscrimination Provision ^R, reasonable accommodation statement ^R, etc.) to the careers site?

Ease of Use

- Can you easily find information in the system?
- Can others easily be trained on the system?
- Are self-service changes in the system easy?
- Can you easily and quickly move through the system with little lag or redundancy?



Integration

- Do you need your ATS to be integrated with additional internal and/or external systems?
 - HRIS, Payroll, Onboarding, etc.

Pricing

- Can you afford your current ATS? Do you have more budget to upgrade or add-on?
- What is the 'true' cost of your current ATS provider? Do you feel the cost is a good value?

Social Media and Job Boards

• Does the system satisfy your social media and job board needs?

Mobile Capability

• Easy mobile apply



From Initiation to Launch and Beyond

- Initiation
- Budget

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Launch and

- Gap Analysis
- Research
- Demos
- Selection
- Implementation
- Launch and Continuous Monitoring



Initiation

<u>An ATS Change has Been Requested by a Department or Individual</u>

Talent Acquisition and/or Human Resources

- Easier to use
- Integration with other systems
- User friendly interface
- Better customer service
- Enhanced jobseeker experience
- Etc...

Finance/Accounting/Payroll

- Integration with other finance systems
- Cost

Compliance

• Meet federal, state, county and/or city compliance needs



Initiation

<u>An ATS Change has Been Requested by a Department or</u> <u>Individual (cont.)</u>

I.T.

- Meet company or contract security compliance needs
- Integration with other systems

• HRIS

• Integration with other systems

• Operations/Hiring Managers

- Ease of use
- Access to enter requisitions and/or to see jobseekers that applied



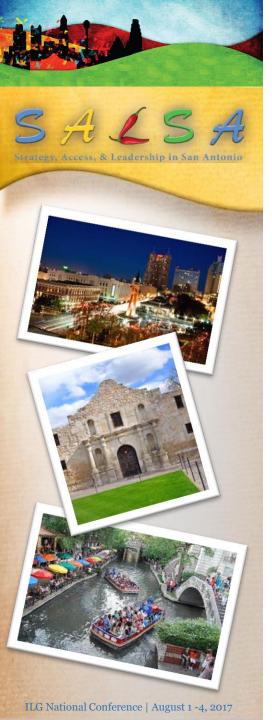
The Budget

Make the Case for the Proper Budget

- Who controls and has influence over the budget within your department and your organization?
 - Speak with your department head, and/or an influential executive, to have them assist you persuading others

Cost saving with a new ATS?

- Savings on the actual system costs
- Savings on labor over your current system
- Cost of customization
- Cost of 'custom reporting' resulting from customization (if required)
- Fill open positions quicker
- Reduce risk/better compliance
- Enhanced company branding



The Budget

Once a Budget is Established

- Can the budget be sustained year-over-year?
 - Do you have the ability to sign a multiple year agreement?
- Does Finance need flexibility on payment terms?
 - Do they need to spread out payments or can they pay one lump sum?
- If you free up funds from somewhere else, can you apply them to the new ATS?
- Can the ATS budget be increased if your organization grows?
- Will there be a cost to transfer your historical jobseeker data from your current ATS?



In-depth Gap Analysis^R

Requirements, Needs and Wants

Requirements

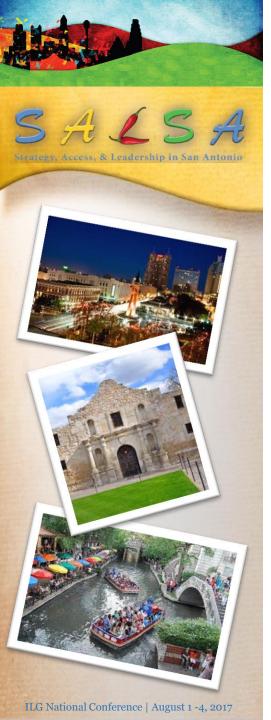
- Ability to collect data
- Proper reporting
- Jobseeker tracking
- Satisfies all other compliance requirements
 - Dispositioning, disability/veteran status, etc.

• Needs

- What is missing from your current ATS that is needed?
 - Integration with other systems, friendly user interface, etc.

• Wants

- What would be really nice for the new ATS to do?
 - Extract information from social media or resumes
 - Allow easier communication between hiring managers and talent acquisition
 - Etc.



The Research

Ask for Recommendations

- Speak with co-workers and industry colleagues and explain what you need in your new ATS
- Consult with your Affirmative Action Advisor(s)
- Consult with experts that specialize in applicant tracking systems

Do exhaustive independent research

- Google research
- Recommendations from LinkedIn groups



The Introduction and Initial Demonstration

- Have your initial questions ready before the demonstration
 - Pricing and payment terms
 - Service order and terms & conditions
 - May want to get a sample of the service order and terms & conditions for your legal, contracts and/or finance departments to review
 - Customer service support
 - Average length of open ticket
 - Average type of client
 - Security on the system and backup of data
 - What is included and where would there be extra charges?
 - Is the system able to input historical data? If yes, in what format? How long does the system store historical information?

Initial demonstration

- Have them walk you through processes
 - Creating, opening and closing a requisition
 - Dispositioning jobseekers
 - Jobseeker apply to hired
 - Social media apply
 - Jobseeker application process
 - Running a reports
 - Does the system seem intuitive?
 - Manager view
 - Access to sensitive information from manager view, talent acquisition, and human resources



The Introduction and Initial Demonstration (cont.)

Questions during the initial demonstration

- What is customizable and what is hardcoded
- Can you add documents?
 - If yes, where is it allowed and where isn't it not?
 - Are additional forms in HTML format, PDF, text, popups, etc.?
- Can you change workflows?
 - If yes, can this be done per requisition or just on the master template?
- Disposition codes
 - Can you add and change disposition codes?
 - How many disposition codes are allowed?
- Reporting
 - Can you create your own custom reporting by time, requisition ID, etc.?
 - Does the reporting pick-up custom fields?
 - Are reports exported easily? In what format?
- Is the system mobile friendly (if applicable)



• Reporting in a usable format

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<u>Final Demonstrations – final two to three ATS providers</u>

- Ask the ATS provider to have an implementation expert available during the final demo
- What stakeholders^R may be interested in the final demo
 - Talent Acquisition
 - Human Resources
 - Affirmative Action Advisor(s)
 - I.T.
 - HRIS
 - Accounting/Finance
 - Hiring Managers
- Have the attendees ask their own questions during the final demo



The Selection Process

Your Top Two ATS Providers Have Been Selected

• Pricing

- Ask for final pricing with the features you want
- Ensure the cost of additional/ongoing support is included often an expensive oversight when calculating cost (think new regulations/changes to regulations)

References

• Ask for references, ideally from similar industries

Request a test environment/sandbox

- Give access to Talent Acquisition team, Human Resources, Affirmative Action Advisor(s), etc.
- Run and export reporting
- Test the customization
- Add jobseekers and run them through the process
- Complete a jobseeker application
- Add documents
- Adjust workflows



The Selection Process

Final ATS Provider Determined and Selected

- Do you need final approval?
 - Get buy-in from stakeholders that can influence and support you
 - Have your business case fine tuned
 - Why does your organizations need this ATS?
 - Is there a cost savings?
 - The new system is cheaper?
 - Will there be labor savings long-term?
 - Does it integrate with other systems?
 - Will it give the jobseeker a better experience?
 - Will it help fill open positions faster?

Get the final service order submitted to Contracts and Finance

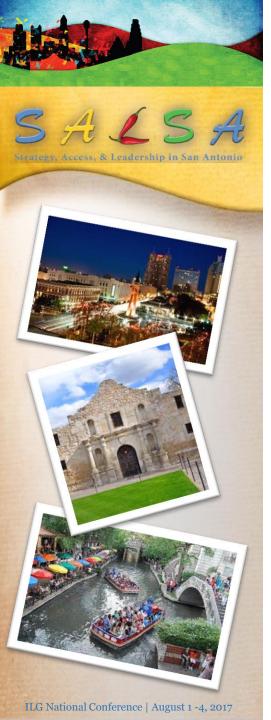


Understand the Expectations

- Timelines and milestones
 - What is the 'go-live' date?
- Data transfer from your previous ATS
- Your responsibilities
 - Who in your organization will be responsible for what
- What is the ATS provider's responsibility? What do they need from you?

System Set-Up

- Create and/or input templates
 - Standard requisition/job posting templates
 - Confirmation emails to jobseekers once applied
 - Phone screen invites
 - In-person interview invites
 - Offer letters
 - Rejection emails
 - Onboarding documents



System Set-Up (cont.)

Company user set-up

- Jobseeker application set-up
 - Fields set-up and organization
 - Custom application fields, if needed
 - Upload or create custom templates for the application
 - Input standard knockout questions
 - Required forms
 - Vets Self ID form
 - Disability Self ID form
 - Race Gender Self ID forms
- Create custom disposition codes
- Create custom status codes
- Create restriction for certain users
 - Hiring Managers
 - Other users



System set-up (cont.)

 Create your changeable and static fields within the requisition template

Create workflows

- Requisition approval
- Applied to hired
- Application process
- Hiring approval

• Reporting

• Create custom reports

Set-up Social media feeds and other sites (if applicable)

• Customize your careers $page^{R}$

- Your company data and language
- Compliance posters
- Logo
- Social media



Testing

Enter a few requisitions

- Does approval workflows work?
- How do the requisitions display on the careers page?

Complete several jobseeker applications

- Have others within you organization complete an application and provide feedback
- How is the flow?
- How long did it take you?
- Any glitches?
- Any redundancies?
- Does the jobseeker confirmation email work?

Reject jobseekers

- Rejected jobseekers in different stages using disposition codes
 - Do the rejection emails work?



Testing (cont.)

- Hire a few jobseekers and close out requisitions
 - Does approval workflows work?
 - Does the offer letter template work?
 - Does the integration work with other systems?
 - Do requisitions close properly?

• Reporting

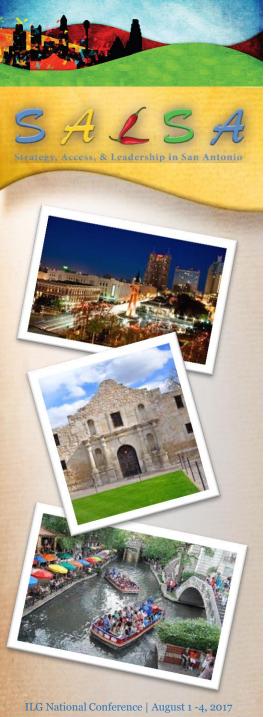
- Run a report after a few test jobseekers are hired and requisitions are closed
- Does the reporting show all the information needed, including custom fields?
 - Double check the data against information input into applications

User restrictions testing

- Do the restrictions work
- Does the restricted user have enough access to be effective?

• Final testing

- Test the final system with your Affirmative Action Provider(s) to ensure compliance.
 - This can save you a lot of additional work when reporting for AAPs is due and/or during a compliance audit
- Test the final system with the talent acquisition team and other that will be using the system.



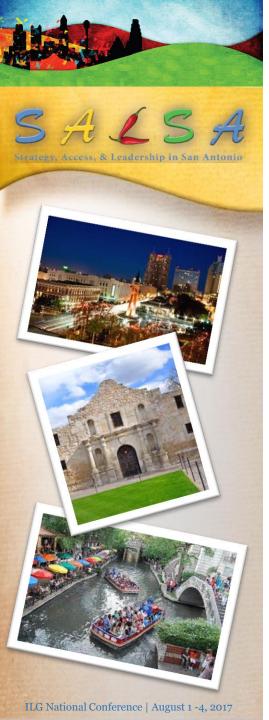
<u>Training</u>

ATS provider training

- Does the ATS provide personalized live training?
- Is there webinar trainings?
- Are there step-by-step training manuals?

Training by your organization

- Create recorded trainings for all those that will have access
 - Training may be different for those that have different access levels
- Create step-by-step training manuals based on access levels
- Have ongoing/refresher training for all users



Launch and Continuous Monitoring

Go Live and Beyond

- Work closely with your ATS provider after launch
 - Immediately report issues to the ATS provider after launch

Log and report ongoing issues and errors

- Regular and formal feedback on the ATS from users
 - Administrative users
 - General users (recruiters, human resources, etc.)
 - Hiring managers (if applicable)
 - Jobseekers once hired

Provide regular feedback to the ATS provider

- Issues and/or errors encountered by all parties
- Enhancements you would like to see



Resource Library

- Disability Self-Identification Form CC-305
- Disposition Codes List
- EEO Tagline for Job Ads
- Employment Agency Outreach Letter
- Pay Transparency Non-Discrimination Provision
- Race-Ethnic Identification
- Race-Gender Self-Identification Form
- Recruitment Letter to ESDS
- Semi-Annual Recruitment Source Letter
- Status Code List
- Veteran's Pre-Offer Self-Identification Offer
- Veteran's Post-Offer Self-Identification Offer
- Website Compliance Checklist
- Gap Analysis Template
- Individual with Disabilities Resources
- Veterans Resources
- State Workforce Agency Resources
- ATS Selection and Implementation Checklist
- Stakeholder Handout
- And more!