

This letter was drafted as a way to shed some light on why ITE made the decision on not merging the old record keeping system data to the new system.

There are a couple of valid points many members have made about both systems being computerized systems, the only issue there is the old record keeping system was really an online form (think contact us form) that was rigged to be made work as record keeping system. The reporting that comes out of that from a backend spec or database is a CSV or excel file.

The new system is built truly in a database platform (SQL) and is why it is able to automatically communicate with our Learning Hub system. So, this issue of transferring data will never be a problem again.

You may be thinking that since we can get CSV exports out of the old system we could still move and merge the data - and we could. The issue here is a couple of things:

1- The data in the legacy system leaves no way for us to tell record by record if what was entered (since it was all manually entered) if the credit was an ITE earned credit or something external. Meaning we would have to look at every entry, for every member and then determine that on your behalf to keep there from being duplicates in the new system since it interfaces with our Learningb Hub records.

2- Let's assume double entries from the above was not an issue. The data in the old system matches most of what is needed in the new system, but allowed users to freely enter things in fields - merging data into a SQL database without "cleaning" it for lack of a better term could cause issues or database hangs. If there was a character in the text that SQL couldn't handle. This would mean we again would need to either search all the text from an export or manually clean all the data.

After understandings these roadblocks we knew we did not have the resources to do all this manually for all members, but we wanted to finally truly offer a full real database experience that could be built upon for years to come, that can evolve and change as we do without compromising data ever again.

We knew this would be a pain for some members that have lots of data there, but we needed to move in this direction to give a real offering. Therefore, we are offering the legacy system side by side with the new system and will offer it through a full certification cycle for those TPCB Certificate Holders.

Respectfully,

Stephen Byrd
ITE Director of Information Technology