

6.0 Managing Exercise Data

Training and readiness are evaluated through exercises. The FEMIS system supports training or exercise of any aspect of the system's use while still maintaining the integrity of the real world data and situation. In Exercise mode, FEMIS uses copies of the real data so the exercise can be as similar to real world use as possible.

An exercise situation can be set up to meet your exercise objectives. Over 90 of the tables in the relational database are used for exercises, and each table can contain data for many exercises. This section describes how to manage this type of data.

When you are in Exercise mode, a bicycle icon is displayed on FEMIS windows.

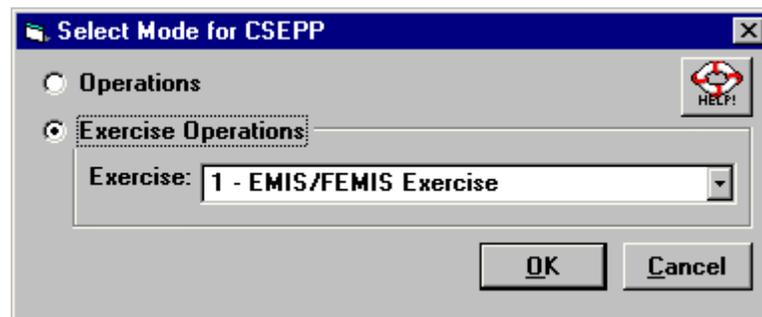


6.1 Selecting Exercise Modes

Exercise mode is used for training or formal site exercises. There is an Exercise mode for Operations (the examples used below) and for Planning Functions (Utility → Planning Functions on the FEMIS menu bar).

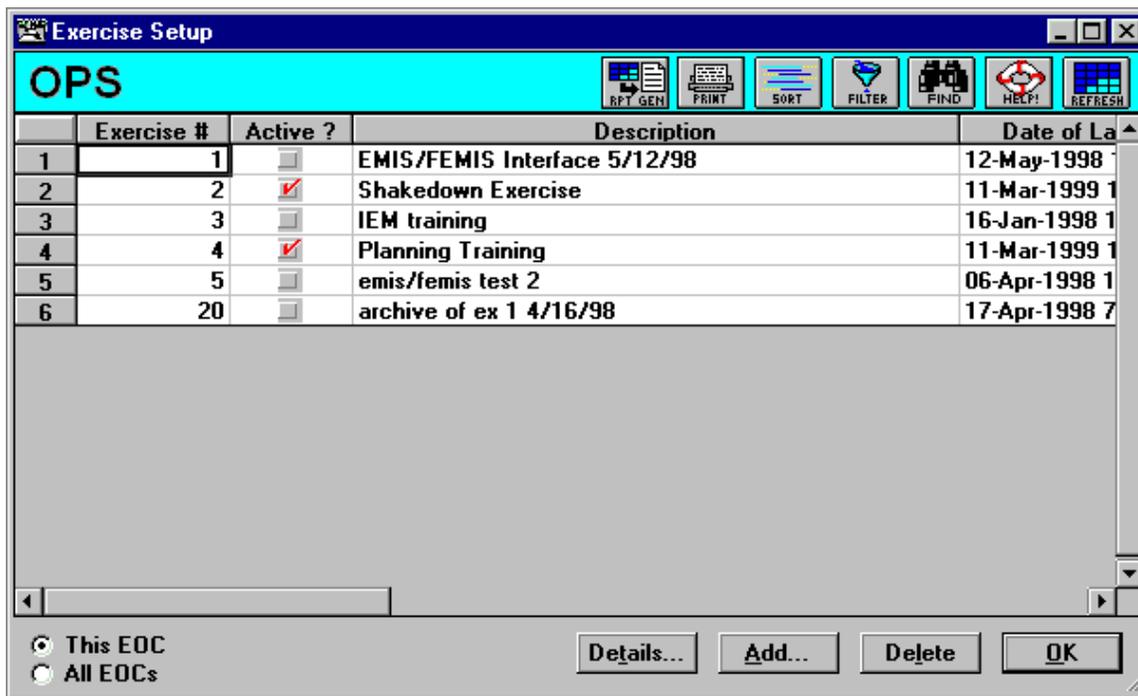
From the Select Mode window, click on the Exercise Operations radio button, and select an exercise from the Exercise drop-down list. After you have selected an exercise and clicked OK, the FEMIS Workbench is displayed or updated if already open.

Figure 6.1. Select CSEPP Mode Window



To create, modify, or delete an exercise, click on Utility → System Utilities → Exercise Setup on the FEMIS menu bar, and the Exercise Setup window displays. By clicking on the All EOCs radio button, you can see all of the exercises for all of the EOCs for a site.

Figure 6.2. Exercise Setup Window



6.2 Creating an Exercise

FEMIS enables the appropriate environment to be created for a desired exercise. Because exercise objectives may require particular circumstances, the user should have a clear understanding of the new exercise before proceeding.

On the Exercise Setup window, click the Add button to display the Create Exercise window.

To create a unique exercise, click on the drop-down list to display the available choices for the Source of Data to Copy to This Exercise. Usually you will want to use real operational data as the basis of the new exercise, so you will select 0 - -> Real Operations data from the list. You can also select an existing exercise, assign it a new number, and later modify it serve your exercise purpose (see Section 6.3, Modifying an Exercise).

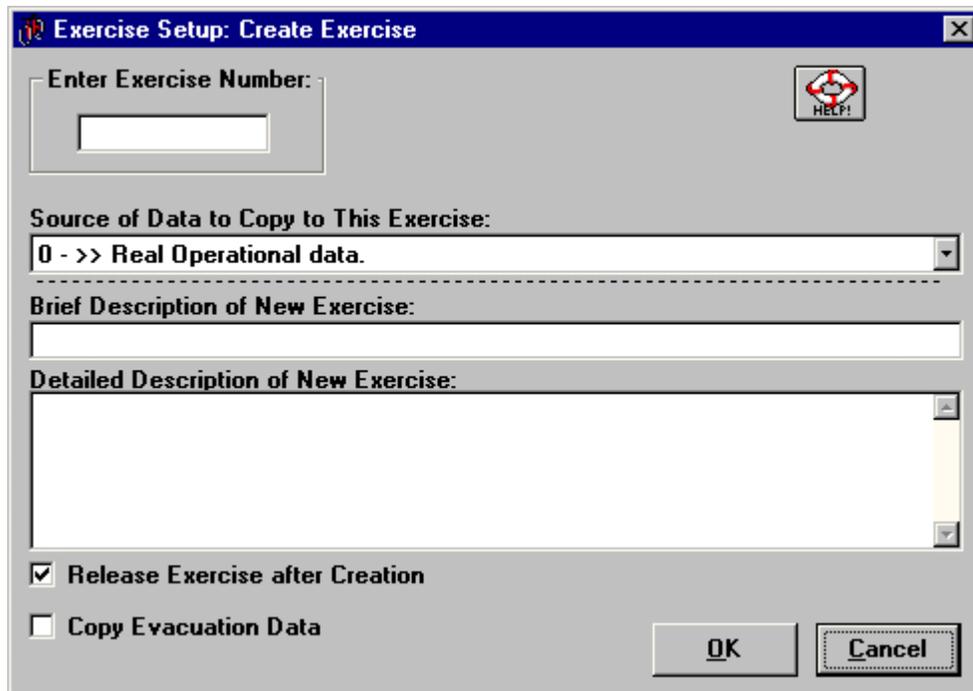
The Copy Evacuation Data checkbox allows the Evacuation tables to be copied. Due to the size of these tables, use this option sparingly. The Release Exercise after Creation checkbox is used to manage releasing the new exercise so users can start using it for a site exercise.

To save the new exercise, click the OK button. Click Cancel to exit without creating a new exercise. A message window will be displayed when the exercise has been created and will display how many records were copied.

FEMIS will ensure data integrity between exercise, real, and planning data. During an exercise, some data may be entirely simulated while other data may be real. FEMIS enables you to specify when the data is real in as non-obtrusive a way as possible.

During the exercise itself, FEMIS supports exercise control by allowing the controller to inject information into the exercise data, use E-mail, and review the exercise using FEMIS status boards.

Figure 6.3. Exercise Setup: Create Exercise Window



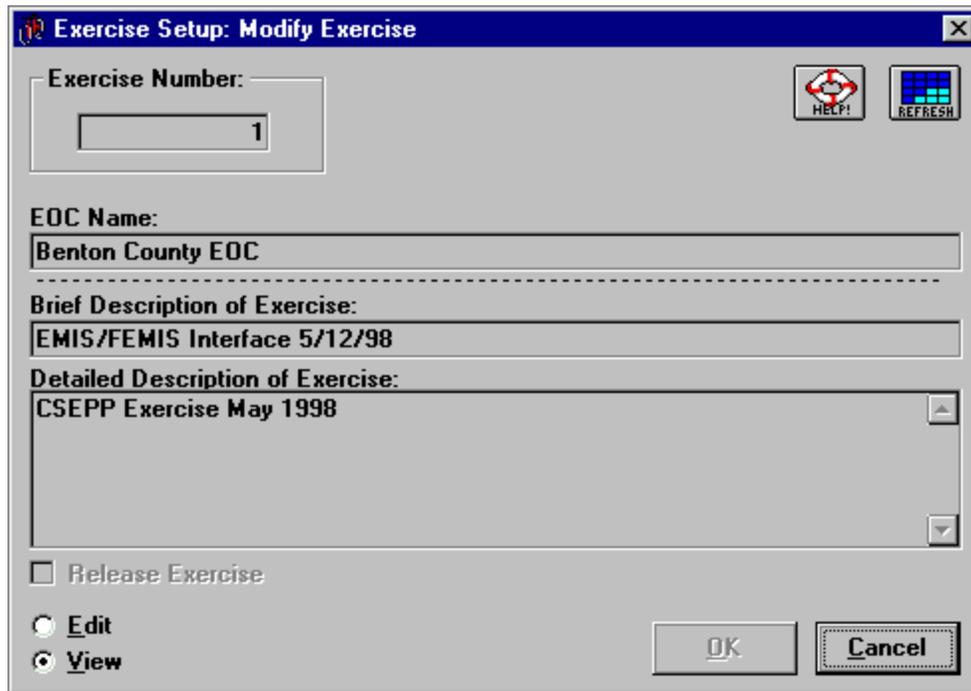
6.3 Modifying an Exercise

FEMIS enables your system manager/exercise director to modify an existing exercise to fit changing EOC requirements.

To modify an exercise, select the exercise to modify from the spreadsheet, and click the Details button on the Exercise Setup window. The Exercise Setup: Modify Exercise window is displayed with the details of the selected exercise loaded in the various fields. Click the OK button to save your changes. Click Cancel to exit without modifying the exercise.

At this point, you can modify the exercise to fit your needs by using the FEMIS user interface and the Data Manager. The Brief Description of Exercise and the Detailed Description of Exercise fields should be modified to indicate details of the modified exercise.

Figure 6.4. Exercise Setup: Modify Exercise Window



6.4 Deleting an Exercise

FEMIS enables you to delete an exercise without affecting the Operations mode.

Exercises take up a lot of database space. To keep your database from filling up with exercises, delete them as necessary.

To delete an exercise, select the exercise from the Exercise Setup spreadsheet, and click the Delete button. To confirm that you want to delete the selected exercise, click the Yes button. Click No to exit without deleting an exercise.

If a user (such as your System Administrator) attempts to delete an exercise that other users are logged into, the person deleting the exercise will receive a message listing the users that are logged into that exercise.