

# THE DEPLOYER

ON THE MOVE!

## LTG STEVENSON VISITS PM TIS

On 30 June, LTG Mitchell H. Stevenson, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, visited the Software Development Facility (SDF) in Springfield, VA, for a comprehensive briefing and demonstration of PM TIS products and services. Also in attendance were Mr. Carlos Morrison, Army G-4; Ms. Cathy Doolos, DPEO EIS; and Mr. Lee James, RF-ITV Systems Lead, representing the Product Manager, Joint – Automatic Identification Technology (PM J-AIT).

[WWW.TIS.ARMY.MIL](http://WWW.TIS.ARMY.MIL)  
SUMMER 2009



*APM Archie Mackie describes interactive demonstrations to LTG Stevenson and PM Tami Johnson*

PM TIS, Ms. Tami Johnson, provided a capabilities overview to LTG Stevenson and members of the G-4 staff where she described our structure, partners, locations, software development schedules, interoperability, basis of issue plan, and our Southwest Asia (SWA) fielding.

APM for Deployment and Distribution, Mr. Archie Mackie, escorted LTG Stevenson and other VIPs through interactive demonstrations to view real-time displays of the following capabilities: Unit Movement and Deployment; Cargo Movement Operations System; Theater Operations; Automated Movement Flow Tracking – In-Transit Visibility; Air Movement Request; and TIS Globe. The demonstrations

concluded with graphical displays of the next six month's milestones and a discussion of alternatives to consider as the program moves forward.

### INSIDE

- 1.... LTG Stevenson Visits PM TIS
- 2 .... AMFT-ITV
- 2.... Future Builds
- 2.... Fielding and Training Update
- 3.... TIS Globe
- 3.... PM Corner
- 4.... Meet MAJ Lawson Brannan
- 4.... MRXs
- 4 .... Customer Service Center



## AUTOMATED MOVEMENT FLOW TRACKING—IN TRANSIT VISIBILITY (AMFT-ITV)

By Mike Martinson,  
*Logistics Management Specialist (CASCOM)*

AMFT-ITV is a PM TIS-hosted Web-based tool that provides automated support to gather and assemble Radio Frequency In-Transit Visibility (RF-ITV) data into useful charts and reports providing commanders and staff with a simple mechanism to track deploying equipment from home station to a Tactical Assembly Area (TAA). AMFT-ITV automatically queries/extracts data from the RF-ITV server based on user defined criteria and allows authorized users to view a variety of useful charts that reflect graphically where all of their deploying equipment is located with a drill down capability ultimately providing bumper number level of detail. Users can also print/export a variety of detail/summary reports. Best of all, once configured, the process requires no user intervention. Users no longer have to manually assemble information from various RF-ITV pages/spreadsheets. Over the last year, AMFT-ITV has been used successfully to support multiple deployments/exercises and will soon be used in support of redeployment, reset, and retrograde operations. The most significant comment from our users/Warfighters: “*You don’t know how many hours you just saved me for reporting to my Chain of Command. You just saved me three hours that I can spend with my family instead.*”

## FUTURE BUILDS

By Jeremy Hiers, *APM Enterprise*

PM TIS is currently developing two future software releases. The next release will be version 5.3 in 1Q FY10. This version will provide users with the ability to generate a sustainment Transportation Control Number (TCN) within the unit move Business Process Area (BPA). It also includes the creation of deployment-formatted TCMDs; Total Asset Visibility (TAV) files for export to the ITV server; and deployment-formatted Military Shipping Labels (MSLs) using the sustainment TCN. Following version 5.3, PM TIS anticipates releasing version 6.0 (a.k.a the Barstow build) in 4Q FY10, which will incorporate additional functionality and significant technical enhancements.

## FIELDING AND TRAINING UPDATE

By Ivan Vallebrignoni, *Chief, Fielding and Training Branch*

PM TIS Fielding and Training Branch is on the move. In the next 90 days, we will be fielding and training units in Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Korea, and Alaska. We are transitioning all units in Europe from Transportation Information Systems – Theater Operations (TIS-TO) to Theater Operations (TOPS). We are providing functional and training support to units in Hawaii and Japan for current deployments to the Theater Area of Responsibility (AOR). Additionally, FTB will assist the Puerto Rico Army National Guard (ARNG) on a conference for all Standard Army Management Information System (STAMIS) with a demonstration of our systems and over-the-shoulder training. We will issue over 1,000 systems with our new build Lindenhurst 5.2.1 to the Army, United States Army Reserve (USAR), ARNG, and train over 500 Soldiers and civilians on TOPS.

# TIS GLOBE

*By Archie Mackie, APM Deployment and Distribution*

PM TIS, in support of the ARNG, participated in a “Proof of Concept” with the State of Alabama and demonstrated the TC-AIMS II TIS Globe capability and its ability to interact with the State’s “Virtual Alabama.” Both systems use Google Earth. Dr. Dave Boyd from the Department of Homeland Security, Science and Technology, brought representatives together from eight states across the southeast to explore the possibility of integrating data from “bottom up” systems into a net-centric environment that would then provide a Common Operating Picture (COP) to all levels (from local to Federal) without requiring system changes.

Critical assets coming in to provide support were identified in Virtual Alabama and that information was then uploaded into TIS Globe. Seeing the same common picture, routes were identified in TIS Globe to support those areas with convoys and then shared with Virtual Alabama.

Virtual Alabama noted a bridge outage and flooding on the route chosen and shared this information with TIS Globe.

Convoy routes were re-routed around those areas in TIS Globe and again shared with Virtual Alabama. These data exchanges took less than 15 seconds between the two systems.

Virtual Alabama and TIS Globe also shared pre-determined data, such as fixed RFID interrogator sites. Using this data, decisions could be made on the placement of portable interrogators to provide additional asset and in-transit visibility.

The TIS Globe and Virtual Alabama demonstrated the ability to share “real time” and fixed data. Providing a COP brought rave reviews from the audience.



## PM CORNER

*PM TIS, Tami Johnson*

Summer 2009 is proving to be a very busy period for PM TIS. I recently returned from a trip to SWA which is a top priority for me and the entire PM TIS team. The training has begun, the equipment will be shipped, and the users will start using Lindenhurst 5.2.1. I’ve deployed additional staff to assist with the fielding and training as well as to provide subject matter expertise on both the TC-AIMS II hardware and software. Back here in CONUS, my team continues to push hard on enhancing the software to better meet your needs and requirements. The regional sites are fully engaged; the newly formatted Web site is up; and the Customer Service Center now has available a Self-Service Web interface. On behalf of myself and my entire TIS team, I thank you for the great feedback we’ve been receiving as well as your continued support.



## MEET MAJ LAWSON BRANNAN



MAJ Lawson Brannan joined the PM TIS team in January 2009 as the TOPS Assistant Product Manager (APM). The National Guard Bureau (NGB) G6 is sponsoring MAJ Brannan's 24-month tour with PM TIS.

He is currently fielding TOPS in SWA and frequently travels there to coordinate with the units due to receive both hardware and software. He has served as a Corps Support Battalion Support Operations Officer (SOO) and used the TIS database and spreadsheets for tracking shipments of cargo.

MAJ Brannan holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Southern Mississippi and a Law Degree from Tulane University.

## MISSION REHEARSAL EXERCISES (MRXs)

*By Rob Rodriguez, Chief, Exercise Branch*

The Exercise Support Branch's mission is to support Soldiers assigned to MCTs, MCBs, CSSBs, Sustainment Brigades, and Sustainment Commands (Theater and Expeditionary). This is done through Command Post Exercise-Sustainment (CPX-S), MRXs, and Distribution Management Exercises (DMXs). The exercises are focused on sustainment units who perform sustainment and movement control missions in Theater and who will use TC-AIMS II TOPS. The team provides user training prior to the exercises, as well as over-the-shoulder training during the exercises. The team is currently supporting exercises at Ft. Carson, CO, and Ft. Hood, TX. The team has also traveled to Kaiserslautern, Germany, and Ft. Lee, VA.



## THE WEB SITE ADDS A SELF-SERVICE OPTION

*By Terry Rivenburg, PM TIS Customer Service Manager*

The Customer Service Center (CSC) has added a new feature to further enhance our support of PM TIS customers as well as our employees. A Self-Service Web Interface has been established so that users now have the ability to open their own tickets online. This interface also provides the ability to:

- Search for a solution (knowledge database)
- View the Top 10 Solutions used by PM TIS customers or employees
- Look up existing tickets
- View announcements

Located on the TIS Web site ([www.tis.army.mil](http://www.tis.army.mil)) in the

CSC Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) section. We have included SOPs for both customers and employees to provide information on the available features and functionality of the interface.

PM TIS employees should contact the CSC to verify their login information. You will need to use your Local Area Network (LAN) account name and password to access the interface. If you do not recall your password, we can assist you with resetting it. PM TIS customers will need to contact their local IT support or DOIM to get their LAN account name and password. The next step would be to contact the CSC so we can add the account name to the system and then verify a successful login. An upcoming enhancement will be to have the interface CAC-enabled.



Product Manager, Transportation Information Systems  
200 Stovall Street, Suite 9S23 • Alexandria, VA 22332-2700  
(703) 428-4086 • [www.tis.army.mil](http://www.tis.army.mil)