

THE DEPLOYER

ON THE MOVE!

BARSTOW RELEASE

By Clarence Jackson, IT Systems Analyst

PD TIS has exciting news for users of Transportation Coordinators' – Automated Information for Movements System II (TC-AIMS II). We have been working on a new major release named Barstow that will provide significant enhancements over all previous releases. We have included modifications that will significantly improve functionality and system performance through all modules of the application.

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 SUMMER 2010



Unit Move (UM) has been enhanced to support the modification of Sustainment Transportation Control Numbers (TCNs), and exporting movement documentation to the Integrated Booking System (IBS). The Theater Operations (TOPS) module is now one of the systems of

record for distribution management in Europe and South West Asia (SWA), and has been updated to provide greater flexibility within the mapping capabilities by using Google Earth technology. The modification of the Transportation Movement Release (TMR) functionality has enhanced the user's ability to conduct cargo operations, along with the capability to add Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) numbers to TMRs. Users in the field have been greatly anticipating all of the new enhancements, and PD TIS plans to have the release out at the end of 4thQ FY10.

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NEW LINE ITEM NUMBER FOR PDK

There is a new standard Line Item Number (LIN) for the Deployment Kit-RFID (DK-RFID) System. In Apr 10, PD TIS completed the requirements of AR 700-142 by establishing a standard LIN for the DK-RFID, also known as the Portable Deployment Kit (PDK). Effective 1 Jul 10, the LIN for DK-RFID changed from Z01050 to the new standard LIN D44050. The National Stock Number (NSN) for the DK-RFID remains 5895-01-567-6037.



PD TIS...ON THE MOVE!

Highlights of PD TIS accomplishments for the first half of 2010 include the following:

- Conducted fielding and training for units at 15 installations
- Conducted 9 New Materiel Introductory Briefings (NMIBs) and 13 transitional meetings
- In addition to normal New Equipment Training (NET), conducted 23 TC-AIMS II classes in support of the US Army Reserve and National Guard
- Fielded TC-AIMS II equipment to 94 military units that include: 1095 workstations; 308 AIT suites/ Interrogator Sets; 180 PDK/RFID; and 2 servers
- Provided life cycle replacement of equipment to United States Army, Europe (USAREUR) and 5 installations of 414 workstations and 119 AIT suites
- Conducted RFID ISO upgrades of 35 installations
- Provided support of Operation Unified Response in Port-au Prince, Haiti

2010 PD TIS PROGRAM ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Customer feedback is a top priority for PD TIS. Feedback from our customers is critical to help us improve delivery of our products and services to the Warfighter. PD TIS obtained the services of an independent survey research company to develop the on-line survey, as well as conduct focus groups and interviews at Regional Offices with trainers, Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), and System Integration Managers (SIMs) who interact closely with end-users around the globe. After a debrief of the survey results in Aug 10, a summary of the findings will be posted on the PD TIS Web site.

BARSTOW 6.1.0 IN DEVELOPMENT

By Clarence Jackson, IT Systems Analyst

With the release of Barstow 6.0.0 just around the corner, PD TIS has two new updates that will be included in the development of Barstow 6.1.0. Enhancements have been made to create Total Asset Visibility (TAV) files that will assist in correctly differentiating between UM and sustainment cargo when burning RFID tags.



The Worldwide Port System (WPS) has been designated as GATES-R. The average user will only see the name changed to GATES-R when generating an export file. This might only seem like a small change to the user, but PD TIS developers and database personnel have updated each screen that required a name change and all tables that have a link to the WPS export.

EXERCISE TEAM UPDATE

By Joseph Shaw, Chief, Exercise Branch

Summer 2010 is a very busy time for the Exercise Support Branch (ESB). The ESB participated in Golden Cargo and the 184th Expeditionary Sustainment Command (ESC) Command Post Exercise-Sustainment (CPX-S) training events. During those events, the ESB implemented TOPS, and for the first time, incorporated the Air Movement Request (AMR) module and Automated Identification Technology (AIT) training and demonstrations.

In Jul 10, the team provided TOPS and AMR support to the 185th Theater Aviation Brigade (TAB) Aviation Training Exercise (ATX) at Camp McCain, MS. The ESB provided training and on-site support for all participating units. Additionally, the team participated in the Turbo Transition Exercise at Lakehurst, NJ, in Aug 10. This was a US Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM) event and its purpose was to rapidly establish initial theater Aerial Port of Debarkation (APOD) deployment and distribution operations. The

joint and expeditionary requirement is comprised of air and surface elements to support rapid port opening. The ESB implemented TOPS, along with AIT devices, to support the Reception, Staging, Onward Movement, and Integration (RSO&I) operations.

The team also participated in the 184th ESC's Culminating Training Event (CTE) at North Ft. Hood, TX, and will support Movement Control Teams (MCTs), Movement Control Battalions (MCBs), Combat Sustainment Support Battalions (CSSBs), and the ESC with training, systems integration management, system administration, and subject matter expertise. Finally, the Exercise Branch will support the Transportation School's Deployment and Mobilization Exercise (DMX) transition from Trans Log Web (TLW) to TOPS.



Antoine Christmas provides over-the-shoulder support to a soldier using AMR at Camp McCain, MS.

PD CORNER

PD TIS, Jeremy Hiers

TIS has been very busy over the past three months developing and delivering capabilities to the Warfighter. First, we are making final preparations to release TC-AIMS II version 6 (named the Barstow Build). Our users will be receiving more detailed information in the near future about how and when the biggest software build in the program's history will be fielded. We are structuring the fielding plan to ensure that we optimize our ability to support our customers during the transition from Lindenhurst to Barstow. Secondly, TIS continued to

support units in Afghanistan with implementation of the AMR capability. The AMR system was recently attributed to a reduction in CH-47 blade hours by enabling a "more efficient use" of aviation assets. Third, TIS released its annual customer assessment survey in order to more effectively and efficiently serve our customers. As always, TIS remains "On the Move" and we are looking forward to supporting you with these and many other events over the next several months.



MEET A.J. SIMPSON



Mr. A.J. Simpson is the new Government Lead in Afghanistan and is responsible for strategically implementing TC-AIMS II, TOPS, and AMR in all Forward Operating Bases (FOBs) in theater. He began his new role in Afghanistan in May

10. A.J. joined the TIS team in Apr 09 as a SIM out of the Ft. Hood, TX, regional office.

A.J. retired from the Marine Corps in 2007 after serving 28 years. He spent over ten of those years supervising, planning, and coordinating the logistical support using TC-AIMS II while part of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. During this time, he also assisted with the set up, installation, and imaging of over 400 computers and printers with TC-AIMS II software. A.J. holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration and Logistical Management from the American Military University.

TIS TESTS MOBCON SUCCESSOR

By Dave Rogers, Functional Analyst

PD TIS is conducting Government Acceptance Test (GAT) on TC-AIMS II 6.0 (Barstow Build). Part of the Barstow Build includes the Integration of the Mobilization Movement Control (MOBCON) system functionality. MOBCON was an automated convoy scheduling tool, used by Defense Movement Coordinators (DMCs) from each state's National Guard Joint Force Headquarters, to manage military movements along public roadways in the United States.

The release of the TC-AIMS II Barstow Build will include improved convoy planning and highway regulation tools that will use a Google Earth mapping solution called TIS Globe. TIS Globe is a mapping system integrating the Commercial-Off-the-Shelf (COTS) components of Google Earth, custom maps, and custom software to support convoy planning, scheduling, and de-confliction. The ease of use of Google Earth is combined with military symbols to enable planners to plot routes, establish check points, display route limitations (overpass height, bridge weight capacity, etc.), and provide clearances to users in a timely manner.

AMR AND TOPS IN AFGHANISTAN

By MAJ Lawson Brannan, APM TOPS, and Amy Wentz, Functional Analyst

Through a collaborative effort with the 419th MCB, PD TIS began the implementation of TOPS in Afghanistan. Today, TOPS is the tool used to process all TMRs for FOBs at Bagram Airfield, Jalalabad, Kandahar Airfield, and Camp Leatherneck. Complete implementation of TOPS in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Kuwait is scheduled for Fall 2010. PD TIS will begin conducting TOPS classes at Joint Base Balad and Camp Arifjan, with mobile training teams visiting many locations throughout Iraq and Kuwait. PD TIS has fielded systems and trained personnel from Army Materiel Command (AMC) throughout Kuwait and Iraq to facilitate the retrograde of equipment.

In the Spring of 2010, PD TIS, with assistance from the 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB), began the implementation of AMR, which now serves as the system for processing all Army aviation AMRs in Regional Command East (RC-East). This is having an immediate positive impact on the reduction of blade hour usage throughout Afghanistan. TOPS and AMR have officially replaced the Excel Request Form process in the Eastern regions of Afghanistan.



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