

# THE DEPLOYER

ON THE MOVE!

## WE HAVE IGNITION: PD TIS LAUNCHES BARSTOW 6.1.1

*By Chief Functional, Charlie McCracken*

Version 6.1.1 of the Transportation Coordinators'—Automated Information for Movements System II (TC-AIMS II) is nicknamed "Barstow." Barstow 6.1.1 introduces significant improvements to the Unit Move, Theater Operations, and Convoy components and the Enterprise system.

Unit Move supports a new User Account Manager (UAM) capability. The UAM serves as the primary point of contact for the creation and maintenance of TIS Enterprise accounts for the unit level users.

Theater Operations allows modification to the destination, stop, sequence, special interest, mode and priority of the Transportation Movement Request (TMR) number. Radio Frequency Identification tag numbers to cargo screens of the Simple Movement Request (MR) and TMR may now added. The TMR Cargo Container Number Field is increased to 11 digits.

Convoy Operations supports Halt Points that may be added to controlled routes. Highway regulators have the capability to create ad-hoc convoys to support emergency operations, modify routes submitted with a convoy request and update dashboard notifications. Multiple Traffic Circulation Plans may now be created to manage cross boundary convoys.

A few system specific updates include: Replacement of the Sybase Relational Database with SQL server and the addition of the Commercial Joint Mapping Toolkit (CJMTK) to TIS Globe (Google Earth).

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# FIELDING AND TRAINING UPDATES

There are two important training updates for the PD TIS user community. First, PD TIS is providing “gap” or “delta” training in concert with the release of the Barstow version (6.1.1) of the Transportation Coordinators’-Automated Information for Movements System II (TC-AIMS II). TIS is providing training for system operations and components that have changed since the Lindenhurst release. This includes changes to the Unit Movement and Theater Operations components, as well as System Administration and Data Base Administration. The training will be coordinated with each installation upgrade.

Second, PIS is implementing a change in training policy for post-NET (New Equipment Training) TC-AIMS II training. TC-AIMS II has now been fielded to a majority of organizations. Accordingly, PD -TIS currently plans to announce Full Operational Capability (FOC) status by the end of this fiscal year. With FOC will come significant changes to the PD TIS training and support mission and operations. Organizations that have already been fielded with TC-AIMS II and received NET will be provided further training on a cost reimbursement basis. Training costs include trainer travel and salary, since the trainers are not PD TIS organic personnel. This cost reimbursement policy does not apply for the Barstow “gap” training provided with fielding.

Units or installations desiring additional training should contact their Regional Office. A map/locator for the Regional Offices and complete contact information is available on the TIS Web site at: [www.tis.army.mil/OP\\_Regional\\_Offices.htm](http://www.tis.army.mil/OP_Regional_Offices.htm)

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SECOND ANNUAL ARMY MOBILITY SYSTEMS CONFERENCE

The Army Mobility Systems Conference was co-hosted by PD TIS, PD Battle Command Sustainment Support System, PM Joint-Automatic Identification Technology, and PM Movement Tracking System, on 25-28 April in Newport News, Virginia. A total of 356 mobility systems leaders, professionals and industry representatives participated – a 27% increase over last year’s attendance. Program highlights included:

- A keynote speech by BG John R. (Jack) O’Connor, Director, G-43 Operations and Logistics Readiness, laying out key objectives for future mobility system efforts.
- An end-to-end mobility systems demonstration.
- Program updates from each of the host PMs/PDs.
- Panel discussions on current Afghanistan operations, led by COL Jerry Thomas, OSD AT&L Transportation Policy.
- A total of 42 workshops spanning 19 topics; PD TIS led a total of 23 workshops encompassing 12 topics. Most workshops were filled to capacity; many had standing room only.
- Live video streaming of general sessions was provided for mobility community members unable to attend in person, and conference content will be further leveraged by posting links and video files of these sessions on the PD TIS Web site and AKO. Available presentations are also available through the AKO site. <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/560678>



*End Users meet with an Exhibitor in the Exhibit Hall to go over a demonstration.*



*BG O’Connor, Director, G-43 Operations and Logistics Readiness, was this year’s Guest Speaker.*

## THEATER OPERATIONS AND AIR MOVEMENT REQUEST UPDATE

In January 2011, United States Forces – Afghanistan (USFOR-A) published a Joint Urgent Operational Needs Statement (JUONS) requesting PD TIS to implement an enterprise movement control system. The JUONS noted that a single theater system should have the capability to request, track and manage commercial and military air movements; confirm delivery of air cargo; and allow users to monitor both inter-theater shipments and intra-theater surface movements across all services. Currently, movement requests are managed manually using spreadsheets and email. The data is obtained from various in-transit visibility (ITV) systems, web portals and reports that are being used to track inbound cargo.

In response to the JUONS, PD TIS plans to consolidate the Theater Operations (TOPS) portion of the Transportation Coordinators' – Automated Information for Movements System II (TC-AIMS II) with the Air Movement Request (AMR) System, to provide a single automated system for all air and ground movement requests using military and commercial surface assets. The consolidation of these two systems will also reduce work hours, eliminate input errors, provide more reliable ITV data, and allow managers to focus on improving the theater distribution system.

### PD CORNER

*PD TIS, Jeremy Hiers*

The past few months have been very productive for the PD TIS team. First, we have continued fielding TC-AIMS II v6.1.1 (nicknamed "Barstow") to Army installations; our regional offices are busy coordinating with units and Installation Transportation Offices (ITOs) to upgrade servers and workstations to this new build.

Second, we recently completed co-hosting the second annual Army Mobility Systems Conference (AMSC). We saw a 27% increase in attendance from last year and all four co-sponsoring systems received exceptional feedback from end-users on how to make the MTS, BCS3, ITV, and TC-AIMS II systems operate more seamlessly in today's operational environment.

Third, in coordination with other transportation/distribution systems and the larger DoD transportation community, PD TIS has begun work to address several Joint Urgent Operational Needs Statements (JUONS). While the requirements originated in Theater, the enhancements that are being made to the system will benefit everyone. You will see more integration between the ground and air movement request process, an association of ITV data and the transportation movement request generated in TC-AIMS II, and additional automated interfaces for ordering air, ground,

and water strategic lift. The bottom line is that when we are done addressing these requirements, the TC-AIMS II and Air Movement Request (AMR) applications will be much more automated and multi-service friendly than they are today.

We have a busy path ahead of us. In addition to meeting these JUONS requirements, we will be releasing TC-AIMS II v6.2 in 4QFY11. This release contains several unit move related enhancements as well as fixes to known software defects. We will also be making some changes to our customer support by migrating to a Remedy based trouble ticket system that will enable us to be more responsive to your needs and enhance collaboration with you and other stakeholders as we work through issues.

We are looking forward to working with you over the next several months as we continue to move forward. As always, please don't ever hesitate to reach out to us by contacting our Customer Service Center at (866) 822-4672 or E-mail at [tishelpdesk@conus.army.mil](mailto:tishelpdesk@conus.army.mil). You can also find information related to upcoming product releases at <http://www.tis.army.mil>.



## MEET ANTHONY PARKER



Mr. Anthony Parker joined PD TIS in January 2011 as the Supply Management Specialist overseeing property, equipment and supplies. He is responsible for processing transfers of PD TIS equipment fielded to Army units, and maintains inventory control of all equipment and associated supplies.

Anthony brings to PD TIS more than 24 years of logistics and property management expertise. During a 20-year Army career, he was responsible for upwards of \$50 million worth of equipment and supplies. Prior positions include serving as the Property Book Officer for the Joint IED Defeat Organization (JIEDDO) Joint Center of Excellence at Fort Irwin. He was also the Property Book Coordinator and Supply Sergeant for “The Old Guard” (HHC, 3D US Infantry Regiment), the Army’s Official Ceremonial Unit and Escort to the President. He received eight Army Commendation Awards for his achievements, earned Commandant’s List recognition for the Advanced Non-Commissioned Officers Course, and was an Honor Graduate in the Supply Management Course.



## SWA UPDATE

The TOPS portion of the Transportation Coordinators’ – Automated Information for Movements System II (TC-AIMS II) version 5.4.5 went live in February 2011 in Iraq and Kuwait. It is now the official automated movement control system in Southwest Asia (SWA), providing users the capability to electronically process transportation movement requests and track the movement of equipment. It replaces the legacy system, Trans Log Web, retired in March 2011.

The SWA Field Service Representatives continue to provide TC-AIMS II TOPS refresher training to units throughout the SWA.

## PD TIS TO USE SIF FOR ENHANCED CUSTOMER SERVICE

TIS is implementing Single Interface to the Field (SIF) tools to support improved Customer Service. The web-based, CAC-enabled SIF portal is an enterprise platform that provides simplified 24/7 reach back support to Warfighters and forward support personnel in fielding, training and sustaining operations. SIF is accessible to any user with a valid AKO account.

The first tool TIS will implement is the SIF Remedy application to provide operational support for the TIS Customer Service Center (CSC). The Remedy tool enables streamlined issue tracking and resolution. Remedy features provide CSC staff and customers more flexibility and

collaboration capability in requesting assistance. For example, SIF allows customers to open tickets, view their existing tickets, and search the Knowledge database for potential solutions. TIS functional experts will also be able to use SIF along with CSC staff, for streamlined customer response.

TIS will begin using the Remedy module this summer, with plans to also adopt the SIF Software Ordering and Delivery capability for asset management. More information on SIF is available at <https://sif.kc.us.army.mil>. Instructions for obtaining an account and using SIF are posted on the TIS Web site ([www.tis.army.mil](http://www.tis.army.mil)).



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