

Don't Make A Move Without Us



TC ACCIS



Wishing you peace and prosperity for the coming year.

Volume III Issue 5

<http://belvoir-tcaccis.army.mil>

November/December 1998

TC ACCIS Newsletter Soon to Become the DEPLOYER

Proving again that nothing is so constant as change, the TC ACCIS Newsletter will soon end its distinct identity and will become the DEPLOYER. The DEPLOYER will not only bring you articles of interest on TC ACCIS, but also developments with TC AIMS II.

Expect the flavor of the DEPLOYER to gradually become less Army and more joint services as the ascendancy of TC AIMS II occurs.

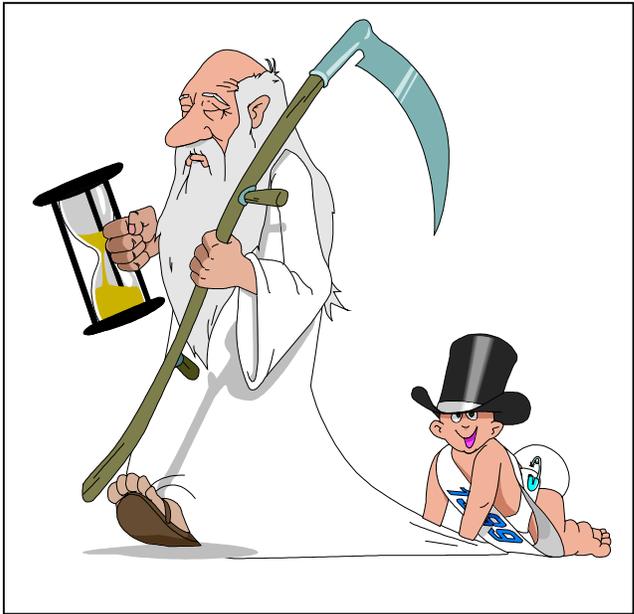
The Newsletter will soon be introducing a Letters to the Editor section. Much as with any newspaper or trade publication, the Letters to the Editor section will be an area where readers

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New Years Day Came Early

Oct 30, 1998 while other offices were looking forward to Halloween, PMO TC ACCIS was celebrating New Year's Day 2000. As part of our exhaustive Y2K test, TC ACCIS servers in Springfield, VA were set to Dec 31, 1999 and allowed to run into the 21st century. Although we all had our expectations that the hardware on which TC ACCIS resides would see the new millennium in without a hiccup, it was vital that we tested it to make sure. ☹



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can dialogue with other system sponsors and customers. Email us with questions or comments on technical issues, release information, procedures, personalities, or schedules.... Anything you feel is relevant to your current or prospective automated deployment system. From the onset, we recognize that some of the discussion may be frank, but we are confident that such exchange is for our mutual benefit. 🖥️

Give it a shot. Email us at:

soranzor@peostamis.belvoir.army.mil

A TDC Reminder

RE-Use Of TDCs

When sites are re-using TDCs (for example in “RS”, “BS”, or “NTC” rotations), site System Administrators **MUST** contact Customer Support prior to processing rail load lists or GBLs. A Customer Support Database Administrator **MUST** delete the old data in the rail load list and GBL of the TDC to be re-used. If the old data is not deleted first, the re-used TDC can cause erroneous or incomplete data to be pulled up into the rail load list or GBL. 🖥️



Y2K Implementing Software Coming At Ya.

Preparing for the New Millennium.

In the mid to late January time frame, if all goes according to plan, shipment of the software by which TC ACCIS becomes Y2K compliant will occur. More so than with any other recent release, it is very important that this software release be loaded as soon as possible. We fully trust that the TC ACCIS community will jump on this responsibility with the usual show of dedication. It is also very important that you alert us to any expected disruptions to this process. Why the rush when January 1, 2000 is a year away? TC ACCIS must be certified as Y2K compliant or risk damaging budget withholdings. The sooner we are able to achieve this compliance, the better. Also, right on the heels of the Y2K software are scheduled releases implementing important updates to ECDF, as well as emergency fixes and the software by which TC ACCIS data will be ported to TC AIMS II platforms. These releases cannot be loaded until the Y2K software has been loaded. 🖥️



Former MTMC Commander John Stanford Succumbs to Leukemia

The former Commanding General of the Military Traffic Management Command, John Stanford, died of leukemia on 28 Nov 98. MG (Ret) Stanford was Commander during the initial development phase of TC ACCIS. After departing the Command in 1988, MG Stanford went on to USTRANSCOM from where he retired from active duty in 1991. He then accepted a job as the Fulton County Manager. Atlanta, Georgia is located in Fulton County. After about two years in Atlanta, MG Stanford accepted the position of Superintendent of the Seattle Public School System, where he gained nation-wide attention for his innovative and highly successful programs to improve public education. MG (Ret) Stanford cut a wide swath of goodwill during his many assignments. His panache and compassion left an indelible impression on many in the Military Transportation community and elsewhere. He was interred with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery on 3 December 1998. MG (Ret) Stanford leaves a wife, Pat, and two sons, Steve and Scott. He was 60. 🖨

Aaron Mack Update

Aaron and his wife, Wanda, have finally moved into their new home. Aaron says that there is a lot of room for him to move about. He is almost unpacked. He has even connected his computer, so you can write to him at amackiii@aol.com

A physical therapist will be evaluating him at his home over the next two weeks. At the end of the two-week period, she will give Aaron's doctor her recommendation. His next step will probably be outpatient rehabilitation. He is looking forward to getting back into his rehabilitation. 🖨

David Sauerbry Retires

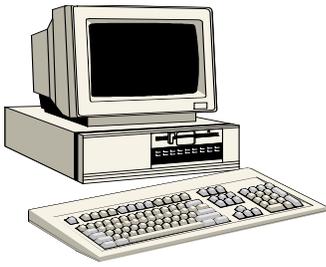
October 1988 to November 1998

Over the years, many have left our employment, and in this newsletter we announce the departure of David Sauerbry. For those of you who knew him, this is the end of an era. Dave has had a long career in communications, 13 years in industry after having had 22 years in the military. Communications is one of the most important aspects of TC ACCIS.

Dave was responsible for implementing the following interfaces: ASPUR, COMPASS, LOGSA, IBS, GTN, WPS, CAPS, TCAIMS II, CFM/EDI, as well as MMDF electronic mail, Microcomputer Utilities, the UNIX shell port scripts for the conversion of the Unisys 5000/6000 system to the COMPAQ, and the automated version of the TC ACCIS install script.

Dave was equally passionate about other things. He's retiring, and his passions will quite naturally flow to grandchildren, his family, traveling throughout the US, and the inherent truck maintenance requirements that go with the travel.

We will all miss him. 🖨



Firewalls

In the last several months, a number of installations have had firewalls placed on their systems. The firewall prohibits uninvited users (everyone off-post that has not had access specifically configured by firewall personnel) to access the system. Unfortunately, firewalls cause havoc in the area of communications. When a firewall is put into effect, all Internet related services stop. This includes telnet access (used extensively by TC ACCIS support personnel), EWAN access by remote users, E-mail, and all transmissions, e.g., COMPASS, IBS, etc.

A related issue is that systems behind the firewall are usually not permitted to have dial in access. This impacts modems and microcomputer utilities! As you can see, depending on the implementation, a firewall can eliminate all off-post contact, effectively making your site a stand-alone system.

It would be very helpful for us to know in advance when a firewall is anticipated at any of the installations. In this way, we may at least avoid finding the problems at the most critical time - for example: a movement or a system failure. The firewall personnel tend to be more cooperative at resolving issues immediately after implementation rather than months later. 

We Are Back On Line For 1999 !

The TC ACCIS Website is back on line as of December 15, 1998.

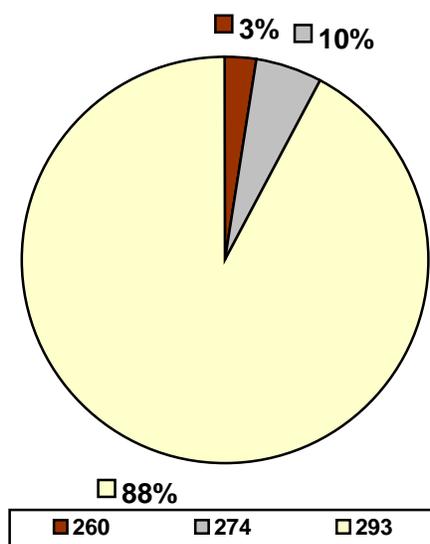
Check it out, at <http://belvoir-tcaccis.army.mil>. 

The Tracking Database

Recently several installations have called asking whether there is a way to find out when a unit last updated their AUEL. For those of you have forgotten or were never made aware of the capability, TC ACCIS has the Tracking Database. The Tracking Database allows the ITO user to generate a report that will identify the last date a unit modified their equipment list and sent a COMPASS or IBS transmission. The report can include all the units in the Chain of Command, or the user can select one or more specific units to be included in the report. The tracking module will display the information for all units that report to them.



Current Site Installation Version Report



Your installation may be called on to adjust your number of laptops/desktops.

HQDA Orders Redistribution of TC ACCIS Laptops/Desktops

As it happens with the best laid plans, adjustments must be made. The original TC ACCIS to TC AIMS II equipment upgrade effort involved not only the improvement of the server in terms of performance and memory capacity (both RAM and hard-disk storage), but also the replacement of the current dumb terminals with either laptops or desktops. The initial approved plan was to replace each installation's dumb terminal with either a laptop or desktop. Typically the plan called for a site to receive a 60/40 replacement ratio favoring the desktops; therefore, if a site had 10 dumb terminals, it was slated to receive six desktops and four laptops.

This is, in fact, the distribution plan we started in July. Sometime later, after some hardware had been shipped, HQDA (the TC ACCIS sponsor), in concert with FORSCOM, TRADOC, USAREUR, and USAPAC, reassessed the distribution scheme and ordered an adjustment. In order to reach this new distribution, a redistribution according to the following scheme must be made. ☐

Laptops			Desktops		
From	To	Amt	From	To	Amt
Stewart (Aug)	Schofield Mbl.	2			
Rucker	HQDA	1	Roberts	Hood	1
NC Guard	HQDA	6	Roberts	Rucker	1
Leo Wood	HQDA	5	Roberts	Bragg (NC NG)	4
Lewis	HQDA	1	Roberts	Stewart	4
Gowan	HQDA	2	Knox (Attbry)	Stewart	2
Richardson	HQDA	2	Shelby	Stewart	1
McCoy	HQDA	5	Shelby	Richardson	2
Grayling	HQDA	2	Shafter Mobil	Schofield	2
Ripley	HQDA	2	Shelby	Shafter	1
Jackson	HQDA	4	Shelby	Schofield	3
Roberts	HQDA	8	Baton Rouge	Buchanan	2
Sacramento	HQDA	1	Shelby	PR Guard	2
Knox	HQDA	4			
Atterbury	HQDA	2			
Schofield	HQDA	8			
Buchanan	HQDA	5			
PR Guard	HQDA	2			
I-gap	HQDA	1			
MSNG	HQDA	2			
Shelby	HQDA	9			
Baton Rouge	HQDA	1			
Gordon	HQDA	1			
Shafter	HQDA	1			

We will be contacting some of you in the future with the specifics as to how this redistribution will be accomplished.

HQDA Issues Policy Regarding Loading Of Other-Than TC ACCIS Software On New Laptops And Desktops

The new laptop/desktop purchase introduced both promise and peril. Although the hardware replaced TC ACCIS dumb terminals, it offered far more in terms of computing capability. For example, the laptops offer 64M of RAM, 3.2 Gigs of Hard Drive, a CD ROM drive, and onboard PCMCIA modem and network card. This kind of computing power has proven very seductive to some installations which have loaded other-than-TC ACCIS software on them (foreign software). Our position about that is this: While not condoning such use we cannot quarrel with installations wanting to use the vast computing power that the desktops and laptops offer, but all must understand that loading such software complicates, or even prevents, our ability to diagnose

some types of problems (memory conflicts, etc.). Furthermore, understand that although these laptops and desktops have far more potential than simply running the TC ACCIS terminal emulation software (Microcomputer Utilities), they are, after all, purchased to accomplish TC AIMS II work...a system with far more demands on computer resources. When, in the near future, TC AIMS II software is released, expect technicians to erase the contents of all desktop and laptops to prepare them for the initial loading of the TC AIMS II software. In the TC AIMS II era, a new policy will be issued regarding the loading of foreign software. That policy may be different than what we are now communicating. 

Nearly year-long effort called a success

End is near for TC ACCIS to TC AIMS II Equipment Upgrade Effort

The TC ACCIS to TC AIMS II Equipment Upgrade effort, which first began in March with the analysis and acquisition of necessary equipment, is now nearing completion as TC ACCIS and TMA-contracted personnel complete installing both the server upgrade and PCs to replace existing dumb terminals. All that is left of the effort is seven sites, including visits to some sites which had to be rescheduled for various reasons. The entire effort is scheduled to be completed around 12 February. The upgrade effort is designed to render the existing TC ACCIS computers ready for the requirements of TC AIMS II. As many of you already know, this upgrade certainly does not install TC AIMS II software; i.e., you will not be able to run TC AIMS II after its completion.

The upgrade effort involved a tremendous amount of time and travel for the TC ACCIS personnel. Overall, the effort has been a success. However, an adjustment to the original distribution scheme is a task still hanging over us (see accompanying article on page 5: HQDA Orders Redistribution of TC ACCIS Laptops/Desktops).

Thank you for your understanding and assistance in making these efforts a success. 