

TC ACCIS



The PM Corner

Bosnia, Archive/Unarchive, Y2k fill the TC ACCIS plate

As spring reawakens, the attention of TC ACCIS turns to the 2nd ACR, now deployed in Bosnia but destined soon to come home to Ft. Polk.

In August 1997, the 2nd ACR was moved out of Ft. Polk using TC ACCIS. They shipped 2492 pieces aboard the USNS Yano, USNS Bellatrix, and the USNS Algol.

But instead of using TC ACCIS to redeploy, the 2nd ACR is the chosen model case to demonstrate the feasibility of using TC AIMS II.

TC AIMS II to finish what TC ACCIS started

TC AIMS II is committed to a highly ambitious undertaking in bringing to fore a rich collection of advanced technology to redeploy the 2nd ACR—and TC ACCIS is helping.

TC AIMS II plans to further demonstrate the capability of 2D barcodes, Radio Frequency Transceivers and remote data entry.

continued on page 2

TRANSCOM Wants TC ACCIS for Intransit Visibility

TC ACCIS offers AMC cargo manifests now

Someday very soon the Air Mobility Command's (AMC) requirement to know exactly what Army equipment is loaded on its planes will be met by the joint system TC AIMS II, but until that time ol' reliable TC ACCIS will meet the charge.

TC ACCIS – CAPS II Interface Provides ITV

Thanks to TC ACCIS's CAPS II interface, installations can download onto a floppy a modified ATCMD for upload into the Air Force System, CAPS II.



TC ACCIS is providing InTransit Visibility at Far-Flung Locations.

Inside This Issue

2	Y2K and TC ACCIS
2	Desert Thunder
3	Aaron Mack: How is he?
3	Alphanumerics in Linindex
4	CAPS II Interface
4	TC ACCIS Website
5	Technical Tips

How is TC ACCIS helping? TC ACCIS will be assisting in the redeployment of all current in-theater units, save for the 2nd ACR.

As it regards the 2nd ACR, we will interface with TC AIMS II on a daily basis, providing them with a quick-start alternate platform to facilitate continuity of operations.

TC ACCIS & Y2K

If TC ACCIS is called on to perform past the year 2000, we'll be ready.

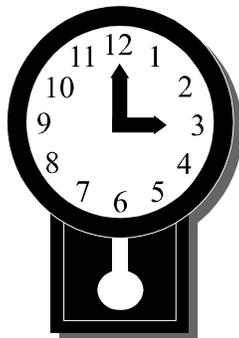
By now, most have heard about the Year 2000 problem. This is the problem where certain Automated Information Processing Systems may fail because they store 2-year digits instead of 4-year digits. With such systems the 00 of year 2000 may be interpreted as 1900. Without a solution, this problem could bring sorting errors, forecasting errors and complete system failures.

The Y2K problem can occur in a system's hardware, software, or its interfaces.

TC ACCIS is not currently Y2K compliant, but we are in a better position than many other systems. Our Operating System, the Relational databases Management System and substantial parts of our hardware are Y2K compliant.

Furthermore, we estimate that our first event horizon (our first potential year 2000 failure) is not until June 1999.

Are we going to fix TC ACCIS to be Y2K compliant? You bet! Our schedule calls for this to be done no later than 1 Dec 1998.



TC ACCIS Installations Respond to Desert Thunder

The Long Arm of America is reaching out to enforce the UN Security Council Resolution calling for inspection of Iraqi weapons sites. The Long Arm of TC ACCIS has played a role as well.

On 20 February, TC ACCIS published a unique tailoring of the existing TC ACCIS - CAPS II interface at the Ft. Stewart location to provide for some requirements recently communicated to us by the local AF representatives. This Ft. Stewart unique software is not part of the TC ACCIS product proper. The Ft. Stewart unique software features executable files that tailor the existing TC ACCIS Modified ATCMD, the report sent to CAPS II in the TC ACCIS - CAPS II interface.

The TC ACCIS Modified ATCMD was originally developed to feed reports directly to WPS in cases where IBS was not available. In Nov 96, we expanded it to also allow feed to CAPS II. Therefore, both WPS and CAPS II can share the same report.

The TC ACCIS Modified ATCMD is not a full-fledged, MILSTAMP compliant ATCMD in that it lacks prime data TCMD for shipment units loaded in containers and other MILSTAMP qualifying data.

We published the Ft. Stewart unique version to the modified ATCMD to meet emergent needs associated with Desert Thunder. Specifically, we have allowed units to change the output to include--

Priority code Expedite handling code

The application modifications also include a process that will insert the DMOD of F into the position now occupied by the MPE code (character 27) if the move is an AMC move.

Aaron Mack Update

Aaron was moved this month from the University of Virginia Medical Center to the Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center, a life skill center that teaches how to become self-sufficient. Aaron checked into the short-term Rehab on Tuesday, March 10. The rehab center is located in the small scenic town in Fishersville, VA. He shares a very spacious room with three other patients.

For the first few days, the staff evaluated his status. After the initial consultations, the real work began. He said it would be hard work. He is beginning to have more feeling in his legs, accompanied with a little movement. His finger dexterity has improved. He is now able to get in and out of his wheelchair, without assistance.

Aaron spent his first weekend out of the hospital at his in-laws home in Stanton, VA, the first weekend in March. His wife and mother-in-law gave him a surprise party. He said he was very surprised. While he resides at the Rehab center, he has the liberty to spend weekends away from the center.

Aaron is happy to be moving on. He still has a lot of work ahead of him, but if anyone can succeed, he will. He has the patience to take it slow, along with the faith and perseverance not to give up. Below, you will find his new address. Once again, he thanks you all for the cards and calls. This helps keep his spirits high. ☺

Aaron Mack III
Short Term Rehab Center, Room #8
P.O. Box 1500 - W389
Fishersville, VA 22939

TC ACCIS Responds

Although this tailoring of the existing interface seems to have addressed a number of previous limitations, the approach is not the optimal solution, as it has not been fully tested under multiple scenarios.

Moreover, other changes are needed to the TC ACCIS – CAPS II feed to make it more fault-tolerant, and flexible. The current product has limitations to how it handles “bad” floppy disks, the selective aggregation of units onto those disks, and automated email capability. The ATCMD variant now exists at Forts Stewart, Bragg, Hood, Bliss and Camp Doha, Kuwait.

USTRANSCOM directed TC ACCIS to make those changes, assuring more visibility of cargo moving through the Defense Transportation System until the objective system, TC AIMS II, handles it all. ☺

Alphanumeric Linindex (AI 2104)

We have some good news. TC ACCIS has the **capability to accept an alphanumeric linindex** in the Equipment List screen, as well as in the Load screen, either through the F6 Help key or through direct input. The new ECR data with alphanumeric linindices will therefore be made available to EL processing when we field the next release.

The only restriction is in the Temporary ECR maintenance where the input is limited to numeric linindex. ☺

RELEASE

4.0.274

ECDF CHANGE

WAIVER CORRECTIONS

Limitations of the TC ACCIS – CAPS II Interface

The TC ACCIS CAPS II interface was developed in response to a possible emergent condition at the direction of CINCTRANS in Nov 96. At the time that we developed the product, we realized both that it was an improvement and that it had shortcomings.

From the onset it was understood that the exact data layout that TC ACCIS provides CAPS II in some areas is either extraneous, incomplete, or inaccurate *from their perspective*. Because the feed was not exactly what CAPS II wanted, they are required to “massage” the data. This can be time-consuming.

The TC ACCIS - CAPS II interface process begins in TC ACCIS at the UMO level. The UMO logs into TC ACCIS, selects menu item "Create ATCMD," selects a TDC, Transportation Accounting Code and Project Code, and thereupon selects the POE, POD specific TCN level items that will be

subsequently reported on the TC ACCIS - CAPS II feed. The normal TC ACCIS convention is to allow the user to press F6 to have the full range of selection in any one field (where applicable) displayed. In the instance of POD/POE, the only selections provided are the ones maintained by the ITO. Procedures for maintaining POD/POE information can be found on page 7 of the newsletter.

If the floppy cannot be written to, the entire process must begin again or use the Unix workaround (described further on)

Once UMOs have provided their input, the information can be aggregated, processed and outputted at the ITO level (a separate section of TC ACCIS). It is at this point that the aggregated information is downloaded onto a DOS-formatted floppy. However, if this download is unsuccessful (e.g., process encounters a bad disk), the whole process must begin again if the ITO wants the application to write the file to disk. This could mean that the several units, who have indicated their equipment selection for subsequent aggregation and download, must do so again. The difficulty of coordinating this re-entry underscores the importance for the ITO to absolutely ensure that they have a

Continued on page 7

Our Website is Online

TC ACCIS has a homepage! In our never-ending attempt to keep you, the customer, fully apprised and involved, we have exploited the promise of the Internet and produced a homepage. Although it's a modest start, we plan to expand its offerings. In fact, this edition of the newsletter will be on the homepage. We also plan to have the entire user's manual posted there. This effort alone will save incredible costs involved with the upkeep, printing, reproduction and shipment of this unwieldy document. As we also plan to include installation profiles, we are relying on you to keep us honest in that area.

`HTTP://belvoir-tcaccis.army.mil`

Technical Tips

Accessing TC ACCIS through EWAN (telnet)

Problem: The version of "telnet" that comes with Windows95 does not allow the TC ACCIS user to add, modify, or delete loads for Vehicles and Special Handling. Specifically, the user cannot exit [either ESC, CTRL-C, or F9 the Loads section of the Equipment List screen (FICEUF012) after having added, modified, or deleted loads.

NOTE: The Function keys in this version of "telnet" are emulated, such that CTRL-O = F6, CTRL-N = F9

Solution: Within Shareware, there is an Ewan version of "telnet" which allows the user to use the Function keys (F1 - F9) [less F5] within the TCACCIS application.

To download and install the EWAN version of "telnet" to your Personal Computer (PC) with Windows95 or Windows 3.1 and access to the Internet, follow these instructions:

1. Logon to the Internet and go to "http://www.shareware.com".
2. Do a "Quick Search" on "EWAN".
3. Select "ewan1052.zip".
4. Select a location from which to download data. Suggestion: If you are in the USA use any USA site.
5. Download the file to your PC. Keep track of where you download the "ewan1052.zip" file.



6. If your PC has a program to unzip files, you can unpack it. [Do not use pkzip if your OS is Windows95]. If not, download an unzip program from "http://www.shareware.com":

7. Search for either:

Winzip95.exe for Windows95 or
Winzip31.exe for earlier versions of Windows

8. Download and install the unzip program.
9. Use the unzip program to unzip the "ewan1052.zip" file to a temporary directory: C:\tmp
10. Install "ewan1052". It will create its own directory.

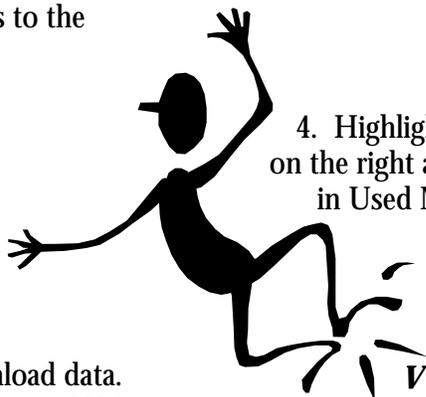
Once installed, to setup and access EWAN you must complete the following steps:

1. Click on **Start Programs EWAN-winstockTelnet EWAN**
2. Cancel opening screen.
3. Click on **Options Edit Configuration New Keyboard**

4. Highlight **VT100KEY.KEY**. Click on the right arrow key to put your selection in Used Mappings. Click on **OK**.

NOTE: If the VT100Key.Key option is not available, select VT102Key.Key.

5. Name the configuration, for example '**TCACCIS**'. Click on **OK**.



6. Click on **OK** again.

7. Click on **File**
Open
New

Enter the following information, then click on **OK**

Name (i.e. *Belvoir*)
Network address (*111.111.11.1*)
Configuration*

*Select TCACCIS configuration for new connection - Click on **OK**

8. Click on **OK** to connect to the site that was just added.

If you have any questions with the download of this free Shareware software, please call the RAM hotline at 1-800-635-0921, ext. 1060. 

More Technical Tips

Mailing AUELS/DELS and Passenger Manifests



TC ACCIS offers you the ability to mail your AUELS/DELS and Passenger Manifest to a user. The procedures are listed below:

1. Equipment List

The user must first create the print file in the FORSCOM Format. On the TC ACCIS Main Menu, select menu option:

- 1 – **Equipment List Processing**
- 4 – **Equipment List Reports**
- 1 - **Equipment List Report – FORSCOM Format**

Enter Type Data Code, press **ESC**
Select the UIC by placing an “X” in the selection field. Enter your Sort Selection.
Select option:

- 2 – **File/Diskette**

Enter 3 character ID, press **ESC**.
This print file can be e-mailed to any user.

2. Passenger Manifest

On the TC ACCIS Main Menu, select menu option:

- 8 – **Passenger Manifest**
- 1 – **Passenger Manifest**
- 5 – **Print**

Enter the mode, Passenger Manifest ID, press **ESC**. At the prompt:

Do you need to print remarks? Y/N
Enter **Y**.

In the Output Options screen (PAS020), select option:

- 2 – **File/Diskette**
- Press **ESC**.

Enter the Loading/Unloading information and Press **ESC**.

Enter the 3 character ID and press **ESC**.

This print file can be e-mailed to any user.

3. Electronic Mail

On the TC ACCIS Main Menu, select menu option:

- 9 - **Electronic Mail**
- 2 - **Send Mail**

Enter the name of the recipient(s)

(i.e., oges@peostamis.belvoir.army.mil)

Subject of message:

Copies to:

The edit screen will be displayed.
To retrieve the specific file you want to e-mail, type:

! ls -lt /trans/tcaccis/comm/auel | more

Select the most recent file created (by date) with the 3 character ID. This file will be at the top

of the list. It is important to write the specific file name down.

The file name will be:

p r t n n n n . x x x

where 'nnnn' represents a number and 'xxx' represents the 3 character ID. Enter the return key to continue. To import your file into the mail message enter the following:

```
:r /trans/tcaccis/comm/ael/prtnnnn.xxx
```

Enter shift ZZ to exit the file.

You are back at the e-mail command line.

Press the enter key. The message "Mail send complete" will appear.

Type CTRL-C to exit e-mail. 

Continued from page 4

Limitations of CAPS II Interface cont'd

good DOS-Formatted disk.

Work Around

In this next section, we describe using the Unix work around to write the file to a diskette after encountering a bad disk error.

When the ITO selected option 7, "ATCMD Download," the ATCMD file was created in the **/trans/tcaccis/comm/atcmd** directory of the Compaq 4500 under the file name "qnnnn" where "nnnn" is the process id. To copy to a floppy, insert a formatted and writable floppy in the floppy drive:

Log in as **root**

cd /trans/tcaccis/comm/atcmd

ls -lt (to list files sorted by time modified) to identify the file to copy

doscpc "qnnnn" a:

dosls a: (to verify that the file was indeed copied to the floppy).

At the point where the ITO choose to aggregate all previous unit-selected

equipment, the system is set up to pull-in **all** equipment selected by **any** unit since the last such aggregation process after one, and no other unit, the selections process is complete.

POE/POD

POE codes have been populated in the POE table in the Shipment Planning Reference table. There are approximately 2400 codes. The instructions can be found in the End User Manual (EUM) 1996 date, on page 11-62.

Login as ITO

3 - Shipment Planning

6 - Reference Table

K - Port of Embarkation (POE) Codes

1 - Add

At the POE Code field, press F6

At the Port Code Help screen, press ESC to select all.

Select the POE you need and press ESC.

Complete the rest of the Port of Embarkation (POE) Codes screen and press ESC. Exit the Main Menu.

1 - ITO ELP

7 - ATCMD

Enter the TDC

Select the pieces of equipment, press ESC

At the ATCMD screen, in the POE field, press F6 and the POE that was added in the

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 7

Shipment Planning Reference table will appear as one of your selections.

At the POE Help screen, press ESC to select all

Select the POE you need and press ESC.



Our Address:

**TC ACCIS
7435 Boston Blvd.
Springfield, VA
22153**

Newsflash!

As we go to press with this newsletter, we are just finishing the latest of our contingency missions. On 24 March 1998, CENTCOM requested immediate assistance from TC ACCIS to travel to Kuwait and “assist units with DEL input, transmit data to FORSCOM, and print logmars labels for all Army units in theater..” We responded by sending a three-person team of contingency veterans Rich Wilson, Steve Oge and Eric Worth. In spite of some daunting initial problems that seemed to conspire to prevent us from meeting this crucial job, the team and equipment arrived on time and immediately began what is, by all accounts to date, a highly successful mission.

TC ACCIS has been involved in every major contingency since Desert Storm, including Operation Restore Hope (Somalia), Operation Restore Democracy (Haiti), and Operation Joint Endeavor. We fully expect that, by the time you receive this newsletter, we will have added another feather in our cap. Thanks for your support.