



Don't Make A Move Without Us



The DEPLOYER

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

Volume V Issue 1

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*USAREUR's leadership
in implementing technology is acknowledged.*

DPMO Oversees AIT Workshop

Second of a three-part series



On 16 February, the Deployment Process Modernization Office at Ft. Eustis, VA, hosted the 2nd Automated Identification Technology (AIT) Doctrine Workshop.

The primary purpose of the workshop was to develop Army deployment and redeployment business processes to best exploit AIT. Quite a number of observers from various agencies and commands have noted that AIT technology is greatly outpacing standardized guidance (read: doctrine) on its use. When the guidance on standardized use of equipment cannot keep up with the technology and its employment, there is a danger of inconsistent, ineffectual, or wasteful use. A lack of doctrine could also mean missed opportunities to explore the full potential of a given technology. The workshop was convened to address the need for timely, consistent, and well-considered doctrine. One outcome of the AIT doctrine workshops will be a revised FM 100-17 family of field manuals. Other manuals may also be revised because of the workshops.

AIT Continued on page 2

Y2K / Leap Year No Problem for TC ACCIS

The first order of business for the customer support staff of the PMO TC ACCIS on 3 Jan 2000 was to check with all the TC ACCIS sites to verify that they had survived the calendar transition without problems. Like so many other systems across the world, thorough analysis and testing paid off. The only problem discovered, a tripped electrical circuit at FT. Lee, had nothing to do with Y2K.

TC ACCIS met the next challenge on 29 February 2000. Users referring to that date were required to enter four-digit years versus a two-digit year expression. TC ACCIS users survived this slight restriction well.

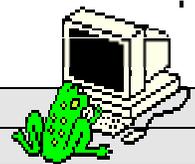
With both the Y2K transition and 29 February 2000 now behind us, you are free to enter two-digit year expressions or, in most cases, four-digit year expressions as you like. ☐

Ten-day E-mail unavailability disrupts TC ACCIS / TC-AIMS II

If you sent us an email recently, we may not have seen it. On 2 March 2000, a T-1 communication line between the Software Development Facilities 1 & 2 and our email server was inadvertently severed. The lost service was not restored until 14 March 2000. During this time, certain folks from TC-AIMS II and TC ACCIS could neither send nor receive email messages. If you sent us an email message during this time and concluded that you were being ignored, we want you to know nothing could be further from the truth. ☐

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Quality Award For RAM TC ACCIS

RAM TC ACCIS has been awarded the 1999 RAM Quality Award by RAM Corporate Headquarters, El Paso, TX.

It is the second time in six years that RAM TC ACCIS has earned the quality management award. RAM TC ACCIS was awarded the 1995 RAM Quality Award.

RAM TC ACCIS is the contractor responsible for software development and maintenance of the TC ACCIS application, and accompanying hardware and communications.

With the recent emphasis on Total Quality Assurance throughout the business world, and especially within the software industry, RAM, Inc. has required that each RAM project site adhere to written procedures.

RAM TC ACCIS earned the award by developing, incorporating, and sustaining written processing procedures. The written procedures ensure that each change to the TC ACCIS application proceeds systematically through the same processing steps: functional requirement analysis, technical analysis, design and coding, unit testing, and integration testing.

All of this planning, coding, and testing is performed before the tape to be fielded is delivered to Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC), another TC ACCIS contractor, for Independent Validation and Verification (IV&V) testing.

The adherence to these written procedures causes errors to be identified earlier in the programming process, saving time in completing a tape delivery. It also has eliminated almost all of the frustrating errors that would be associated with fielded releases. ☐

A Reminder About EWAN

When using EWAN to logon to TC ACCIS from a PC, you may encounter this error message: "Hit any Key to Continue". This message may be displayed on the screen repeatedly. In order to breakout of this state, log out of TC ACCIS. If you are unable to log out, call the Help Desk. Before logging in again, ensure that the Terminal Default screen is fully expanded and your Microsoft Task Bar is hidden. The application software requires a full 80-character screen.

If you encounter further problems, please contact the Help Desk at: **1-800-635-0921 ext #2160 or #2171.** ☐

AIT

Continued from page 1

While much work is done by other agencies, most notably the PMO AIT, in determining the best equipment to do the job, the workshop was especially focused on the "how" of AIT. How often are GTN updates on the arrival of units to airfields required? How does the force best employ RF tags? What is the best acquisition strategy? What is the best accounting policy? These are a few of the several questions with which the attendees grappled. With over 23 work locations from 37 offices represented, the workshop was an effective way to gather the collective wisdom of people with good experience with AIT.

One constant in the discussion of AIT was the featured role of TC-AIMS II. The doctrine, as it is being written, presupposes TC-AIMS II as a cornerstone system. The presence of TC-AIMS II, the joint unit movement and ITO management system, drives the requirement for further standardization of AIT doctrine across service boundaries. TC-AIMS II is seen as instrumental as a source data system. It will read Common Access Cards (CACs) held by individual soldiers, airmen, sailors, and marines and will prepare passenger manifests. It will produce 2D bar codes to affix to unit equipment; each bar code capable of holding a prodigious amount of data. It will be fully integrated with software designed to interface with RF tags. With TC-AIMS II married to the full spate of AIT technology, In-Transit Visibility (ITV) can be provided to senior leadership to the nth degree.

An acknowledged standout in the field of AIT employment is USAREUR, whose progress was shared at the workshop. Dr. Tom Young, Chief, AIT Branch, ODCSLOG, briefed the assembly on USAREUR's progress in emplacing over 150 RF interrogators throughout the USAREUR area of responsibility from England to Greece. He also related practical experience in establishing a customer help desk and providing for the maintenance structure necessary to keep vital nodes operational. USAREUR has demonstrated institutional confidence in the future promise of TC-AIMS II with integrated AIT capability by advance purchasing much of the prospective equipment.

Despite the breathtaking pace at which AIT develops, offices like the PMO AIT and commands like USAREUR are doing great work to make sure systems like TC-AIMS II exploit the technology to its greatest potential. ☐

Transitions

A New Addition to the Sparks Family

Floyd and Valerie Sparks announce the birth of their second baby girl. Valerie Sparks, the RAM TC ACCIS Configuration Management branch chief, gave birth to a beautiful little girl, Bethany Erin Sparks, on Friday the 14th of January at 5:15pm. She weighed 9 pounds, and was 20 inches long with a full head of hair.

Bethany's big sister, Whitney, who is five years old, is thrilled to be able to play with a real baby. All are doing well. ☺



TC ACCIS Implementation Branch Chief Returns

After 12 weeks of maternity leave, Raquel has returned to TC ACCIS. It is hard to believe that she was gone for this long. Fortunately, the time went by fast (more than likely too fast for her). She will now be working on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to balance career and motherhood once more. We are glad to have her back. ☺

LTC Haynes selected Full Bird



On Dec. 16, HQDA announced that LTC Jacob Haynes, the recently installed PM, TC-AIMS II, is worthy of promotion. LTC Haynes, who once oversaw the MTMC system CONUS Freight Management (CFM), will continue his leadership of PM TC-AIMS II with a bit more firepower. ☺

Virginia Morris Promoted At Fort Lee

Virginia "Puggie" Morris, ITO and TC ACCIS Systems Administrator at Ft. Lee, has received a promotion at COSCOM, Ft. Lee, with the Combat Development Directorate of Transportation DCD-TC. Following a well-deserved vacation, Puggie assumed her new duties on 28 February 2000.

TC ACCIS was fielded at Ft. Lee immediately after Desert Shield/Storm. Puggie was the initial Systems Administrator for the system and worked nine years with TC ACCIS. She has trained her replacement, SGT. Martin.

Puggie, it has been great working with you and we thank you for your hard work and dedication. We wish only the best in your new job. Now that we have your e-mail address, we will ensure that we keep sending you our future newsletters. ☺

Updating Port Codes and Country Codes

Port Codes and Country Codes within TC ACCIS may be changed by the ITO user. They are used when generating Military Shipment Labels.

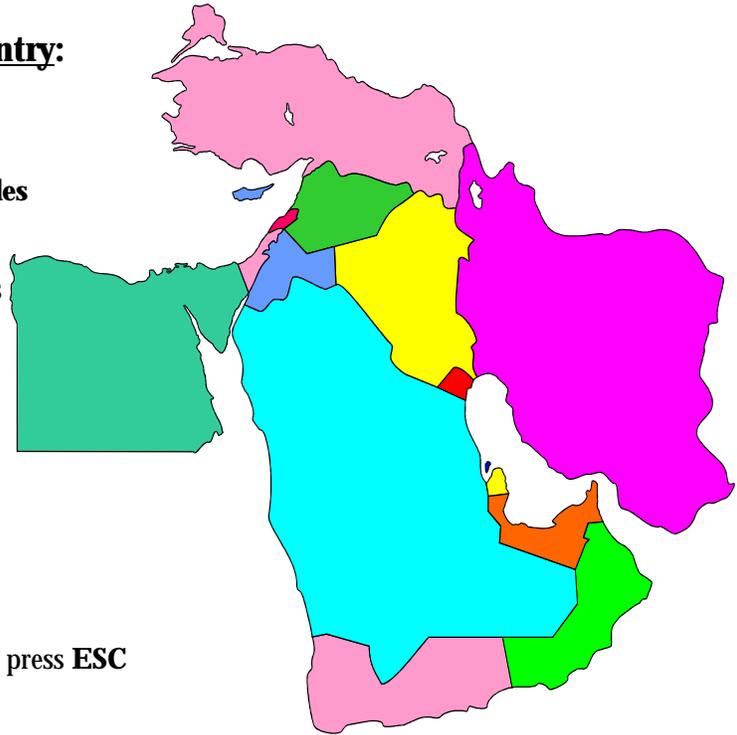
Changes may be due to local needs or may be prescribed by MTMC MILSTAMP as interim changes to update Port Code and County Code tables on TC ACCIS.

When required to add a new independent country:

- 1) Login in as **ITO level**
- 2) From the Main menu, select **3- Shipment Planning**
- 3) From the Shipment Planning menu, select **6- Reference Tables**
- 4) From the Reference Tables menu, select **J- Country**
- 5) From the Country Code ring menu, select **1- Add.**
- 6) At the Country Name field, enter the country name and press **ESC.**

To update a Country (perform 1-4 above):

- 5) From the Country Code ring menu, select **2- Modify.**
- 6) Type in
 - a) The **Country Name** and press **ESC**, or
 - b) to select from a list press **F6**
 1. then press **ESC**
 2. highlight the country desired and press **ESC**
- 7) Overtyping the **Country name** with your required change then press **ESC**



When required to add a new Port Code:

****Note**** Three-digit Port Code is prescribed by MTMC and recorded in MILSTAMP.

- 1) Login in as **ITO level**
- 2) From the Main menu, select **3 - Shipment Planning**
- 3) From the Shipment Planning menu, select **6 - Reference Tables**
- 4) From the Reference Tables menu, select **H- Port Codes**
- 5) From the Port Code ring menu, select **1 - Add.**
- 6) All information for the fields that follow will be extracted from MILSTAMP or given to you when a new port entry is required.
 - a) Port Code - Unique three-digit Port Code (Required)
 - b) DMOD - "A" for Air and "S" for Surface (Deployment mode required)
 - c) Port Name - Common Port Name (Required)
 - d) Address - Freight Address (NOT required)
 - e) City - City (NOT required)
 - f) State - State (Required ONLY if it is in the U.S.)
 - g) Country - Country (Mandatory blank if it is within the U.S.A., otherwise required for all others.)
 - h) Zip - Zip Code (NOT required)
 - i) Ammo Indicator - "y" if ammo is accepted, "n" if it isn't (Required)

To modify a Port Code (perform 1-4 on Page 4):

****Note**** Three-digit Port Code is prescribed by MTMC and recorded in MILSTAMP.

5) From the Port Code ring menu, select **2 - Modify**.

6) Type in

- a) the existing **Port Code** and press **ESC**, or
- b) to select from a list press **F6**
 1. then press **ESC**
 2. highlight the country desired and press **ESC**

7) Update the specific fields needed.

- a) Port Code - Unique three-digit Port Code (Required)
- b) DMOD - "A" for Air and "S" for Surface (Deployment mode required)
- c) Port Name - Common Port Name (Required)
- d) Address - Freight Address (NOT required)
- e) City - City (NOT required)
- f) State - State (Required ONLY if it is in the U.S.)
- g) Country - Country (Mandatory blank if it is within the U.S.A., otherwise required for all others.)
- h) Zip - Zip Code (NOT required)
- i) Ammo Indicator - "y" if ammo is accepted, "n" if it isn't (Required)



Individual instructions may be found in the TC ACCIS – End User Manual, Sections **11.3.1.16** and **11.3.1.18**.



“Beware the Ides of March”

Did You Know?

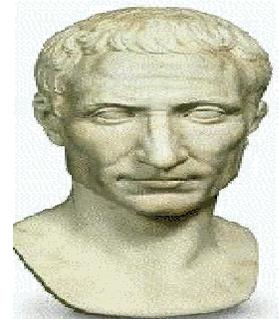
The soothsayer's warning to Julius Caesar, "Beware the Ides of March," has forever imbued that date with a sense of foreboding. But in Roman times the expression "Ides of March" did not necessarily evoke a dark mood—it was simply the standard way of saying "March 15." Surely such a fanciful expression must signify something more than merely another day of the year? Not so. Even in Shakespeare's time, sixteen centuries later, audiences attending his play Julius Caesar wouldn't have blinked twice upon hearing the date called the Ides.

The term Ides comes from the earliest Roman calendar, which is said to have been devised by Romulus, the mythical founder of Rome. Whether it was Romulus or not, the inventor of this calendar had a penchant for complexity. The Roman calendar organized its month around three days, each of which served as a reference point for counting the other days:

Kalends (1st day of the month)

Nones (the 7th day in March, May, July, and October; the 5th in the other months)

Ides (the 15th day in March, May, July, and October; the 13th in the other months)



The remaining, unnamed days of the month were identified by counting backwards from the Kalends, Nones, or the Ides. For example, March 3 would be V Nones 5 days before the Nones (the Roman method of counting days was inclusive; in other words, the Nones would be counted, as one of the 5 days).

Used in the first Roman calendar as well as in the Julian calendar (established by Julius Caesar in 45 B.C.) the confusing system of Kalends, Nones, and Ides continued to be used to varying degrees throughout the Middle Ages and into the Renaissance.



Remote Balkan Support

In December, the TC ACCIS PM Office received a request for assistance from the Branch Movement Control Team (BMCT) Rail Section Eagle Base, Bosnia, to support their Theater Rail Load planner. As you probably know, the 49th AD was in the process of planning its rotation to the Balkans in support of SFOR 7. In the past, the greatest challenge for the BMCT was to try to figure out what was coming on the ship. Again they were faced with those same concerns. It was vital that an accurate list of equipment be given to the BMCT in order to plan for a rail move and have them submitted to TMCA NLT 30 days prior to the ship's arrival into the Port of Rijeka. This is necessary for country clearances, rail request and ordering the specific number of rail cars for the move. To this end, the Theater Rail Load planner was requesting that TC ACCIS provide a DEL report (FORSCOM format) to their agency documenting the move.

After coordinating with the six deploying installations (Fort Dix, Fort Carson, Fort Huachuca, Fort Lewis, Fort Sill, and particularly Gail Hutcherson at Fort Hood), the TC ACCIS Database Administrators timely pulled all the DELs from these installations, re-installed the DELs in-house, and produced a single DEL report which was later e-mailed to the Theater Rail Load planner in Bosnia.

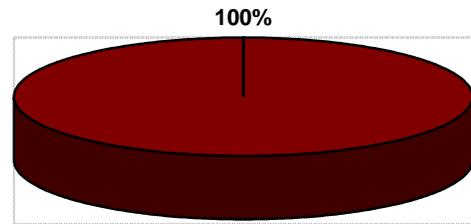
Because of this support, BMCT was able to successfully plan the trains from Rijeka, Croatia, to Lukavac, Bosnia. In February, TC ACCIS again supplied BMCT with a similar report to provide information on the equipment moving on the second ship and allowed planning for this rail move. ☐

Inquiring minds want to know?

Let us know about your transitions.

By now you're accustomed to our Transitions section, where we relate especially noteworthy occurrences of change in TC ACCIS and TC AIMS II--especially the people that make it up. We'd like to highlight the transitions that occur not only here at the PMO, but in the field as well. Please let us know about important events that happen to the folks at the various TC ACCIS sites or with the system sponsors and we'll make mention of it in the next edition of the Deployer. ☐

Current TC ACCIS Installs



■ 5.0.109

100%
Awesome

The Deployer Mission Statement

The mission of the Deployer is two-fold:

To provide the current TC ACCIS community of system end-users, sponsors, and interested parties with useful information on technology, procedures, and organizational matters.

To provide information on the promise of an improved Defense Transportation System brought by TC-AIMS II. ☐

E-Mail of The Deployer Newsletter

The TC ACCIS PM is requesting that all recipients of the TC ACCIS/TC-AIMS II newsletter FAX or e-mail their e-mail address to the TC ACCIS POC below. The next newsletter will be distributed via e-mail for those who provide e-mail addresses. Newsletters will continue to be mailed to those that do not have e-mail available.

The POC is Cecilia Powers; Phone 703-923-1065
e-mail powersc@peostamis.belvoir.army.mil
FAX 703-923-1099 ☐



The Puzzle Page

Take time out of your busy day to complete this little crossword puzzle.

Hint: All of the answers have to do with TC ACCIS.



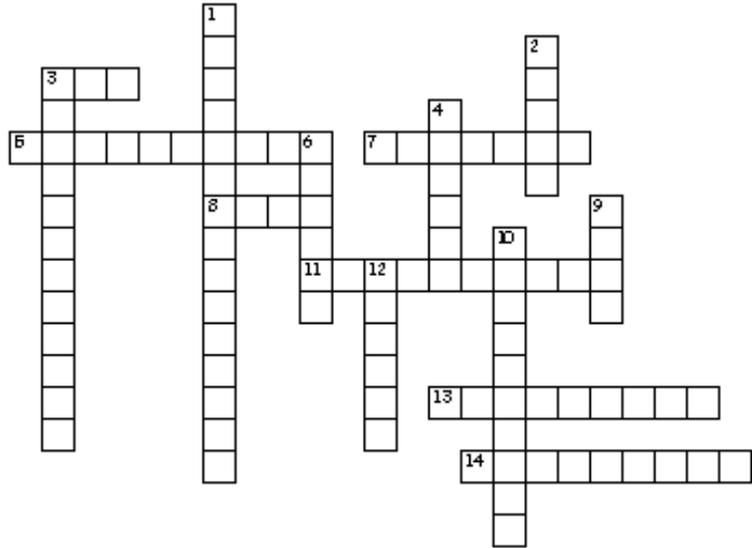
Computer Applications

Across

- 3. Travel
- 5. Slides
- 7. An Accounting Package
- 8. Software Operation System
- 11. Music
- 13. Graphics
- 14. Organizational Charts

Down

- 1. Safety
- 2. Spread Sheets
- 3. A Reader
- 4. Compression of Files
- 6. Financial Management
- 9. Documentation
- 10. Recipes
- 12. Database



Word Search

E O N E P L S A I A B R C V A
 R M T G I F I Y S D I V C I E
 T Z P E R C F E Q E R O T T H
 C N C L C A D I N N N Z R A I
 P E E A E I C F C T V K A M C
 S A C M R M U F A I S G I O L
 D T L R P N E I Z F E Y N T E
 T V E L C I N N U I D N S U S
 H V V T E E U M T C O M T A I
 O L I Z R T K Q T A C P R C S
 U O Q S J X S X E T T R Z D Y
 N S N O I S N E M I D I A W L
 D E L E T I O N S O G O O M A
 D E R E F E R P L N L R X N N
 D A T A S U R F A C E U D Z A

AIR
 ANALYSIS
 AUTOMATIC
 CARGO
 CODES
 CONTAINERS
 DATA
 DELETIONS
 DIMENSIONS
 EFFICIENT
 EQUIPMENT
 FUNCTION

IMPLEMENTATION
 LOAD
 OVERRIDES
 PALLETS
 PIECES
 REFERED
 RAM
 SURFACE
 TCACCIS
 IDENTIFICATION
 TRAINS
 VEHICLES