



*Don't Make A Move Without Us*

# The DEPLOYER



Volume V Issue 2

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

March/April 2000

## TC ACCIS Involved with MRM #15

DoD is undertaking a thorough reengineering of its transportation documentation and financial processes, and TC ACCIS is involved. The scope and goals of the reengineering effort are contained in the Management Reform Memorandum #15; hence the effort is referred to as MRM #15. The effort, while maintaining current readiness capability, seeks to make several improvements, to include—

- Reducing Infrastructure Costs
- Eliminating DoD-Unique Documentation and Processes
- Reducing Data Requirements/Improving Accuracy
- Increasing use of Electronic Commerce
- Employing Best Commercial Practices
- Introducing a Single Documentation/Billing Process for All Modes

**More Information on the Web:**  
<http://www.usbank.com/cgi/cfm/home.cfm>

The ultimate vision is for MRM #15 to transform the DoD transportation system into a single payment process that greatly increases process cycles at a far lower overall cost than is currently realized.

To be successfully implemented, MRM #15 requires the cooperation of several commercial and governmental entities. One key partnership is between the U.S. Government and the US Bank. US Bank has implemented a system called PowerTrack that offers a type of electronic clearinghouse to manage the payment of freight bills. PowerTrack provides for not only payment, but transaction tracking as well. PowerTrack uses Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) sets with the service providers and the bill payers to exchange information. An EDI set can be thought of as a type of virtual form that is specialized to a certain task in a standardized way. Like forms, EDI sets have numerical and long name designators (e.g., an 805 is a commercial bill of lading. An 842T is a transportation discrepancy report). Using an electronic base of information exchange speeds up processes dramatically.

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## Prime TC-AIMS II Contractor Delivers 3.01

Team DynCorp, the prime TC-AIMS II contractor, delivered Version 3.01 software to the Joint Program Management Office (JPMO) on 13 April 2000. The software now begins a series of rigorous tests designed to wring out any remaining defects and to assure operational suitability and effectiveness.

The first of these tests is the Software Qualification Test (SQT). SQT runs from 20 April – 24 May 2000. It is conducted by representatives from each of the four Services and the JPMO in a software test lab run by the JPMO. The TC-AIMS II SQT is being conducted in four phases:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20-27 April</li> <li>• 27 April–2 May</li> <li>• 11-17 May</li> <li>• 18-24 May</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hardware configuration and technical testing (completed)</li> <li>Service functional scenarios iteration 1 (ongoing)</li> <li>Service functional scenarios iteration 2</li> <li>Service functional scenarios iteration 3</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

In between the Service scenarios, there is time for the contractor to address problems found during testing and to make programmed improvements to the software. The software improvements are based on Services input and JPMO observations prior to the start of SQT. Incorporating these improvements will continue after SQT. Indeed, the final release of Version 3.01 is not anticipated until August, just before the Milestone III decision authority approves fielding.

Upon completion of SQT, the test team will conduct a review, detailing the test results to the program manager. Based on successful completion, the program manager, LTC(P) Haynes, will formally accept the software from Team DynCorp.

Following SQT, the Army Test and Evaluation Command will evaluate the software in its operational environment at four Service sites. Operational testing will be the subject of the next TC-AIMS II update.

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## TC ACCIS

### Involved with MRM #15

Because of its GBL for Unit Move Rail capabilities, TC ACCIS is playing a vital role in the MRM #15 effort. TC ACCIS will send GBL data that supports the construction of an EDI set used by PowerTrack.

The first short-term prototype activities will begin sometime in May 2000 at selected NT rotation installations; i.e., Fort Hood, Fort Irwin, and Fort Sill, using Unit Move Rail via Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railways Company.

For the first phase of the Unit Move Rail Prototype Model, RAM Inc., prime contractor for TC ACCIS, developed a prototype Commercial Bill of Lading (CBL) interface with the PowerTrack system in which a flat ASCII file with CBL header data will be generated and e-mailed directly to PowerTrack at the same time the CBL hard copy is printed at the installation. This will allow the entry of BoL and Delivery Data into PowerTrack and will ensure speedier carrier payment.

For the next phase, to begin in September 2000, plans to develop an interface have begun between TC ACCIS and CFM/ETA. TC ACCIS will generate and transmit a flat ASCII file with CBL header, details, and HAZMAT data to the CONUS Freight Management (CFM) Host. In turn, the CFM Host will convert the TC ACCIS CBL data into an EDI (set 404 IC) that it will forward to PowerTrack for entry in their payment system. ☐

## Has the GBL form 1103 been discontinued?

Are Printing and Pubs not printing the GBL 1103?

Not true. This information comes from the main POC at GSA and DOD. The GBL 1103 form is still being printed and available at no cost to you provided you fill out DA Form 12-R (Request for establishment of a publications account) and send the completed 12-R to (Commander, USA Publication Distribution Center, 1655 Woodson Road, St Louis, MO 63114-6181).

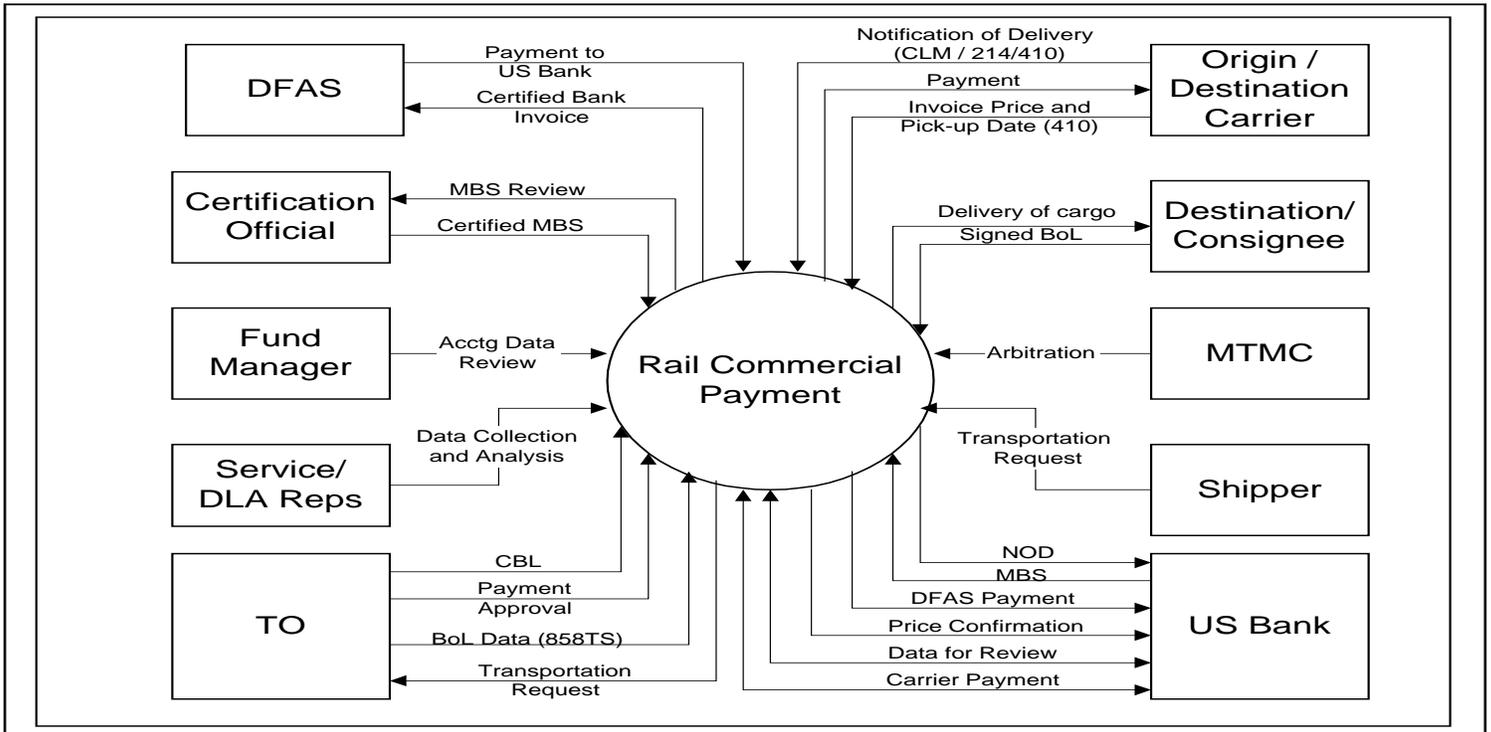
If you need the 1103 form, contact **Ms. Sheron Ray (314-263-7305 ext. 253)** at Publication and Distribution located in St. Louis, MO. She should be able to ship you a few 1103 forms by UPS to keep you functioning until your shipment arrives at no cost to you. ☐

### 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 [poweresc@peostamis.belvoir.army.mil](mailto:poweresc@peostamis.belvoir.army.mil)  
FAX 703-923-1099 ☐



Stylized data flow diagram depicts MRM #15 order/payment process for Rail

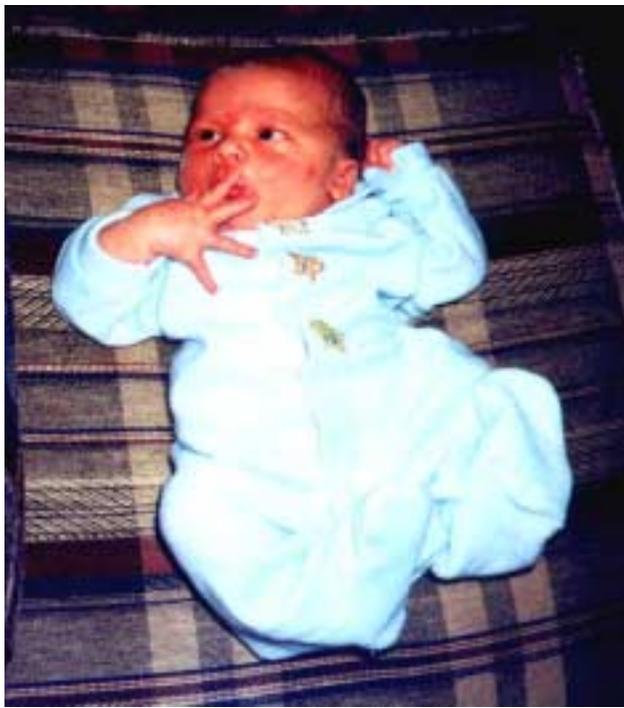
# Transitions

**It's a Boy!**

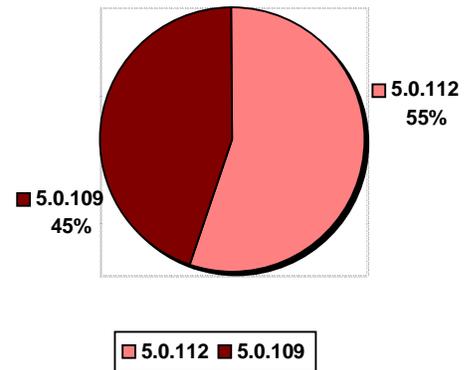
## Congratulations to the Cloutier Family

Pete Cloutier and his wife, Liz, welcomed their fifth baby boy into the world at 6:45pm, April 12<sup>th</sup>. All in a days work for the experienced parents.

John Patrick weighed 8 pounds and 8 ounces, and was 20 inches long. He has four brothers: Peter, 17; Mathew, 14; Neil, 6; and William, 4. All are doing well and are delighted with the new addition to the family. ☺



## Current TC ACCIS Installs



**Attention All Sites:**  
Please load your 5.0.112 tape as soon as you receive it.  
**Thank You**

## Goodbye Jim Munro

Jim Munro, the TC ACCIS systems administrator at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, retired January 29<sup>th</sup> after 12 years of government service. He served for 30 years as an M.P. in the Army and retired as a Sergeant Major, before taking his position on the Transportation Staff at Fort Leonard Wood. Jim had been the SA for TC ACCIS since 1990.

The Munros have relocated to Port Richey, Florida, where they have purchased their retirement home. His hobby is woodworking and he has spent the past few years collecting woodworking tools.

Good Bye Jim; and all the best in your retirement!

He has been replaced by Mr. Tim Clouse. Tim can be reached at Jim's old telephone: **Commercial 573-596-0170 DSN 581** ☺

# An Ounce of Prevention!

## Tape Drive Maintenance

Recently we have experienced tape drive reliability problems at two sites, after having the tape drives replaced. It seems the replacement drives are not all that reliable and may necessitate multiple replacements. Just keep in mind that all backup tape drives (Dtape) must have an address of ID "4" enabled for the system to be able to access it. You can test this by using the command **'tape status dtape'**.

The result should be:  
Status: ready beginning-of tape  
Soft errors: 0  
Hard errors: 0  
Under runs: 0



Often overlooked but important piece of insurance for your system is the backup tape subsystem. Now may be the time to perform some spring house cleaning on that important piece of equipment.

To see if the backup tape drive is working properly:

1. Check to see if the tape ejects itself in the morning. If that is the case, it's working properly.
2. If, after ejection, the green light is blinking, the tape drive probably needs cleaning. This simple procedure merely requires the insertion of a cleaning tape, which runs automatically, then ejects itself.

That's about all there is to maintaining your backup tape drive.

Just one more thing; if you don't place a tape in the drive before midnight, you are guaranteed NOT to have a backup of your system the next morning. ☹️

# Springtime



The Joy and Festivity of the Easter season typically involves lambs, bunny rabbits, and fresh spring flowers. The simple egg is perhaps the oldest and most universal symbol of rebirth, a representation of new life. Today children enjoy hunting for brightly colored eggs and candy to fill their baskets. The custom of offering Easter eggs, hard-boiled and tinted with dyes, dates back to the early years of Christianity, to the most ancient pagan tradition.

Egyptians used to dye eggs in different colors and give them to friends as symbols of renewed life long before the birth of Christ. There exist some cultures today that maintain the belief that the earth itself was hatched from a giant egg.

The White House Easter Egg Roll, traditionally held on the Monday following Easter, was originally held at the Capitol and later moved to the South Lawn of the White House during the Hayes administration. The event has entertained children and families alike for years.

Early Christians donned their new white clothes as a sign of renewal. In some European countries, it is the belief that a new piece of clothing worn on Easter Sunday would bring good luck. Old or used garments would bring misfortune.

Origins of the Easter Parade dates back to the 1800s, when families would gather dressed in their Easter finery and stroll down the main street in small towns and big cities all over the United States. 🏠

## Presidential Order Makes TC ACCIS Goodwill Possible

Recently, TC ACCIS donated an abundance of computer equipment to a local school, Prince William County School in Virginia. Although the equipment was outdated from our perspective, it proved to be needed by the school to support their training.

The equipment was donated under the provisions of executive order 12999, set forth by the President allowing the Federal Government to distribute useful educational equipment; i.e., computer terminals, color monitors, keyboards, tape drives, cables, and modems. "This equipment may be separated into parts upgraded by professional technician, students, or other recycling efforts." The order reads.

***"Therefore, to the extent possible, all executive departments and agencies (hereinafter referred to as "agencies") shall protect and safeguard such equipment, particularly when declared excess or surplus, so that it may be recycled and transferred, if appropriate."***

The order goes on to say "To the extent permitted by law, all agencies shall give highest preference to schools and nonprofit organization, in the transfer, through gift or donation of educationally useful Federal equipment."

We are happy that equipment that we can no longer benefit from has proven to be a benefit to others. 🏠

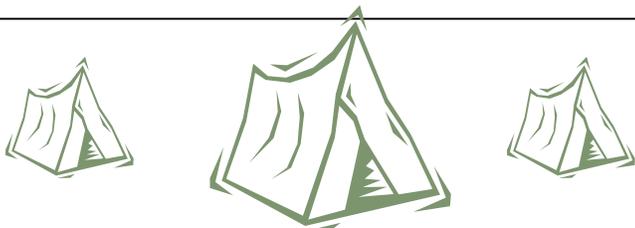
## Camp Roberts System Has Been Moved

On April 10, 2000 the PMO TC ACCIS helped move a TC ACCIS server from Camp Roberts to the California National Guard Headquarters, Sacramento, California.

The server was moved to accommodate the mission of the California National Guard, which will become the primary users. Having the system at Sacramento allows National Guard members to use it on a daily basis, whereas, the server was formerly used at Camp Roberts on sporadic weekends.

MAJ Martha Reynolds, the Unit Movement Coordinator of the CA National Guard, was instrumental in having the system relocated. She will now be able to better monitor compliance of the Guards annual Forscom reporting requirement.

The system administrator in Sacramento will be CW2 Robert Cano. Mr. Cano who was the Property Book Officer for the CA NG will now dedicate all his efforts to TCACCIS. Mr. Cano's backup will be SFC Scott Witt who will remain at Camp Roberts. SFC Witt will provide continuing assistance for National Guard units on their weekend drills. 



## Coming Soon ... ECDF

The next TC ACCIS software will be released in the early summer (June/July).

This software will contain the latest ECDF. Fortunately, this ECDF data file does not contain any "ZLIN" conversion. Hopefully, this will mean a faster install.

This tape will also include an update to the MSL format file. This update will produce positive confirmation of a successful format download on all printers (4400, 3400, and 8646). It will also allow properly equipped 4400 printers to function directly on the LAN.

Finally, this tape will contain improvements to the TC-AIMS II Interface and the Data Port. These improvements and changes were identified during FOAL Eagle at Fort Hood. 



## HELP US HELP YOU

As you may recall, the TC ACCIS to TC-AIMS II equipment upgrade involved the upgrade of the Compaq 4500 servers as well as the purchase of Dell Laptops and Desktops.

The Dell computers came with a three-year warranty. At the time of the upgrade, the Compaq 4500 servers were outside of warranty; but, as a part of the upgrade, we provided for three years of additional maintenance.

You play a crucial role in making this extended maintenance work. You are the person on the ground that can assess whether your maintenance needs are met in a timely and correct fashion. We see one of our roles as responding to any dissatisfaction you may have with the provision of this maintenance, and we want to do this in the best way. If you've had an unfavorable maintenance experience, you can help us in our response by providing us with a detailed account.

Specifically, we want to be armed with the following information:

- When was TMA called?
- When did the initial technician make contact with you?
- Technician name? Firm?
- When did the initial technician arrive at your site?
- What was the initial diagnosis?
- What was the initial response to the diagnosis (e.g., if the diagnosis was, say, a missing part, the initial response may be to order that part and then install it)?
- What the initial outcome to the initial response was (e.g., what happened when the technician tried to install the part)?

Quite often, a technician's initial diagnosis is off the mark; or there are other intervening problems that confuse the issue. In such cases, there should be another round of diagnosis, responses, and outcomes. You can help us greatly by providing information about these other actions, including names of people and companies involved.

You can, of course, provide us with more information, but the elements above are essential. 



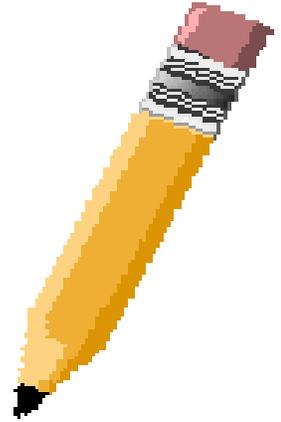
## Archiving Data

When archiving data for the NTC Rotation or other exercises, please include a list of the Echelons or ULNs used in the TDC of the data archived. There appears to be confusion when unarchiving if the Ech/ ULNs do not exist on the destination system. The process reads the origin Ech/ ULNs and prompts the destination user to enter the missing Ech/ULNs. To alleviate this problem a list of the Ech/ULNs can accompany the archive media so that the UMC has the option to prepare the receiving TDC prior to running the archive. 

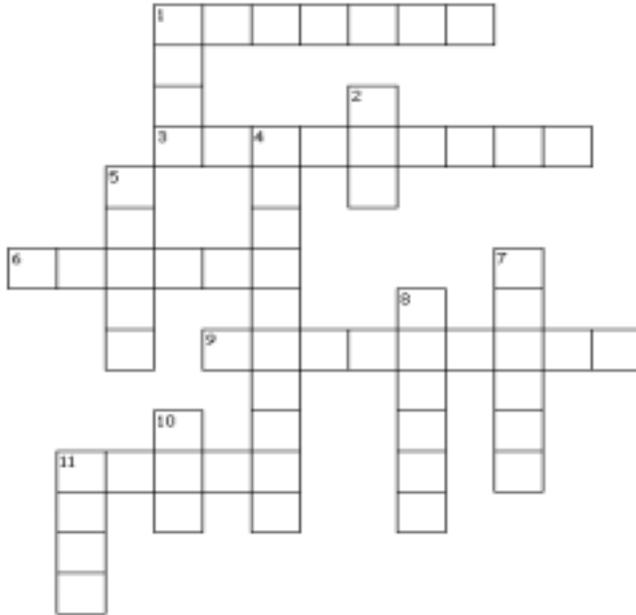
# The Puzzle Page

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

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



## Defense Shipping



### Across

1. Tractor trailers carry them to sea
3. Fabric bag for personal belongings
6. Portable platform
9. Receptacle for the shipment of goods
11. Wooden protective case

### Down

1. Wooden fender
2. Cask, may contain beer
4. Trunk
5. Platform on rollers or wheels
7. Group of things fastened together
8. Drum or cylindrical container
10. Cloth or burlap
11. Cargo plane

## Word Search

AMBULANCE  
AMBUSH  
AMMUNITION  
ARMOR  
ARTILLERY  
BAYONET  
BOMBS  
CHEMICALS  
COMBAT  
EXPLOSIVES  
FIREWORKS

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

HAZMAT  
HELICOPTER  
HOWITZERS  
LASERS  
LAUNCHERS  
MINES  
MISSILES  
MORTAR  
PISTOL  
ROCKETS  
TANKS