TRIP REPORT

04 Sep 07
LPD-3
KJH

Subj: TRIP REPORT FOR THE GOVERNMENT ACCEPTANCE TESTING (GAT) OF MDSS II 7.2 AND ICODES 5.4.3; 20-30 AUGUST 2007 JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this trip was to participate in the testing and evaluation of future versions of MDSS II and ICODES.

2. ATTENDEE. Maj K. J. Hastings, HQMC (Code LPD-3). The entire attendance roster is attached.

3. LOCATION OF MEETING. Bunker Conference Center, Blount Island Command, Jacksonville, FL.

4. DISCUSSION. This meeting provided MARFOR, NAVFOR and Supporting establishment representatives the opportunity to test and evaluate the functionalities of subject systems for government acceptance. This meeting also included a 1 day prototype demonstration of JFCOM's single load planning capability initiative ICODES air by CDM Technologies with JFCOM representatives in attendance. During testing a telecon was conducted with USTRANSCOM J6 representatives as a side bar to discuss MDSS II data transfer to the Global Transportation Network (GTN). On the final day a rap-up teleconference was conducted with the senior leadership of the Strategic Mobility community for informational purposes and as an opportunity for them to provide comments.

5. TOPICS

a. MDSS II 7.2 and ICODES 5.4.3 testing. During testing 10 high priority defects were found utilizing the new software functionalities of MDSS II and 2 High priority defects were found utilizing ICODES functionalities. Developers from Stanley Associates and CDM Technologies worked closely with the testers and began fixing defects on the spot. The defects that will require more time to repair will be fixed back at the company lab facility and then sent out to all original attendees for retest and evaluation. This retest will be closely monitored by each Project Officer and the Functional Advocate to ensure all discrepancies have been repaired in a timely manner and operate correctly prior to any software release. None of the defects identified during GAT were determined as show stoppers but will enhance our unit move systems.

b. ICODES Air is a JFCOM single load planning capability initiative. The GAT attendees had positive feed back after the prototype was demonstrated. The program is user friendly and has all the functionalities that the Automated Air Load Planning System (AALPS) has. This system will assist the services by consolidating similar capabilities and eliminate redundant load planning systems. I recommend that we as a service continue to support this initiative.

c. MDSS II to GTN manifests data transfer. Due to the base realignment and closure policy the Air Force support previously provided to upload our service manifest data via GATES to GTN for air stations such as Cherry Point, Miramar, Beaufort and Kaneohe Bay no longer exists. As a result, the Project Office in conjunction with the Functional Advocate worked with Stanley Associates in developing a patch to support data transfer from MDSS II 7.1 to GTN. This initiative took several months to work out all the bugs and as of 27 August 07 MDSS II 7.1 is now technically able to send manifest data straight to GTN in the required format. Separate from GAT a teleconference was conducted on August 29th between myself as the Unit Move Functional Advocate, The MDSS II project Officer, Stanley Associates and USTRANSCOM J6 to discuss our service data transfer to GTN. During the telecon I communicated that though we now have the technical ability to send data from MDSS II 7.1 to GTN our business process and the agency responsible for sending the data at each of the above mentioned airfields remains undefined. This will require time to develop and is an ongoing process in which LPD-3 will be highly engaged coordinating with the MARFORS in order to publish policy and procedures.

6. SUMMARY.

a. The GAT was a success and all attendees concurred to accept both MDSS II 7.2 and ICODES 5.4.3 software applications. MDSS II 7.2 and ICODES 5.4.3 are both on schedule for fielding to the operational forces during 3rd quarter FY-08.

b. The demonstration of ICODES Air was useful in showing the attendees that the program supports our requirements and will provide us a better capability in the future.

c. The Data transfer from MDSS II to GTN business process development and defining responsibilities for Cherry Point, Miramar, Beaufort and Kaneohe Bay is a priority of LPD-3 and as of right now only involves those four air stations. Marine Corps units moving via an Air Force installation or when USTRANSCOM provided support is available will still be required to provide manifest data to GATES via the station agency as routinely done today for upload into GTN in accordance with local installation procedures.

d. All of the above information was passed to the strategic mobility community during the wrap-up teleconference conducted 29 August 07.

Kurt J. Hastings

K. J. Hastings
Major USMC

GAT ATTENDANCE ROSTER 20-30 AUG 07

Attendee	Command or Company
Mr. Tom Voth	MCSC, MDSS II Project Officer
Capt Sanders	MCSC, MDSS II Assistant Project Officer
CWO4 Jerousek	EWTGPAC
GySgt Stillman	NAVSURFORCES
SSgt Sterchalk	MCCSSS
SSgt Sosnowski	MCCSSS Motor Transport
Mr. Mike Lewis	MCCSSS
SSgt Olanderski	I MEF
Sgt Lopez	III MEF
Cpl Berry	MARFORES
Mr. Doug Hampton	NOLSC
Joanna Snyder	CDM Technologies ICODES Project Officer
Heather Catalfamo	Stanley Associates MDSS II Project Officer
Gary Lawson	Northrop Grumman test support
Mike McAuliffe	Northrop Grumman ICODES Project Officer
Rob Palmatier	Northrop Grumman test support
Jeff Smith	Northrop Grumman TE&AT
Rory Walsh	MDL Project Engineer
Chip Shoaf	JFCOM