

PM-AIT ITV Quality Assurance (QA) Report

Special Edition

The Quality Assurance (QA) Process

To maximize the use of the ITV servers and enhance the ability to track sustainment and unit move shipments, we identify several recurring tag/data functional problems which we outline each month in the PM-AIT ITV QA report. For the month of February, we decided to focus our attention on batteries.

Extending Battery Life

Batteries are a constant sustainment issue. However, in the tactical environment, units are finding that the batteries are not lasting nearly as long as advertised. **The best way to extend the battery's life is to turn it off (turn the battery around) when it is not in use.**

How can I extend the life of my batteries?

1. Make sure your interrogator is not over interrogating. Over interrogation of a tag affects the longevity of the life of the battery.

- Move tagged items further from the interrogator.
- Turn frequency of interrogation/range of interrogators down.
- Turn the tag off by turning the battery.



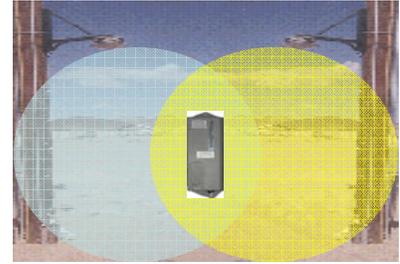
Individual Highlights:

QA Process	1
Extending Battery Life	1
Other Battery Information	2
Over-Interrogation Sites	3
Ping-Pong Sites	4
Helpful Hints/Tips	5
Conclusion	5

Extending Battery Life (continued)

2. Make sure your tags are not being repeatedly hit by alternating interrogators. This problem occurs when interrogators have been placed too close together. Constant alternating hits will also wear down battery life.

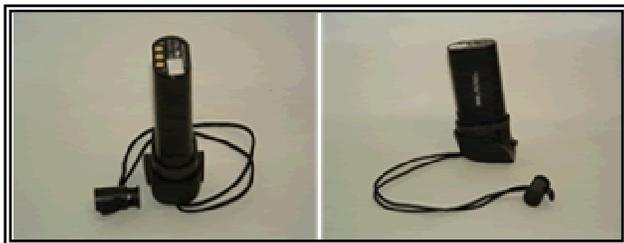
- If this is a problem, email the contact person for your site by clicking on the respective “Points of Contact” link on the ITV website.



Example of interrogators set up too close together which would cause repeated hits by alternating interrogators.

Always use proper procedures when disposing of batteries. Nickel-cadmium, lithium-ion, and lead acid batteries contain chemically active materials that are hazardous to the environment. **Never attempt to incinerate these batteries; doing so could cause an explosion.** Check with the local Property Disposal Office for guidance before disposing of unusable batteries.*

*Safety Guide For Installation, Maintenance, and Operation Of Logistics Automatic Identification Technology (AIT) Equipment (10/30/2000)



The PDT 7200 SERIES HAND HELD uses the symbol lithium-ion battery pack (p/n 21-35464-01). This battery is rechargeable.

How long does the tag last without changing the battery?

Vendor specified shelf life of the battery is five years. However, it is the number of times it's read by an interrogator that determines the longevity of the battery.

What types of batteries are used in the active RFID tags and how do I get replacements?

Savi uses the AA sized, 3.6V lithium, non-rechargeable battery in its active tags. This battery is also available as a CLIN on the PM AIT RFID contract, and is interchangeable with the GPS PLGR battery, NSN: 6136-01-301-8776, Noun: Battery Non-rechargeable Lithium, Sealed Size AA, Part Number: LS 14500, Cage: OLEJ1.



Other Miscellaneous Tips:

- Make sure all rechargeable batteries are fully discharged prior to re-charging them.
- Do not immerse batteries in water.
- Keep your batteries stored in a cool place.
- **DO NOT** use the 3.6 Volt AA Sealed, Non-Rechargeable, Lithium Battery used in the Savi 410 or 412 tags, for any other equipment that operates with an AA battery.



Due to the high volume of tags that move through the system, we are only able to view a selected/limited sampling. The discrepancies provided below may or may not be representative of the performance at your location, but we ask that you review these samples to determine if there may be a problem at your site.

Over-interrogation Sites

Problem: Over interrogation of tag – Sites reporting over 300 hits in a one day period. Over interrogation of a tag affects the longevity of the life of the battery.

Sites Reported:

CONUS Sites:

Interrogator Description	Interrogator Name	Interrogator ID	Avg. # Hits Per Day
BEAUMONT TX LOWER RAIL	BEAUMONTR2	46803	370
BENNING GA ITO	BENNINGR1	13566	1135
BRAGG NC CENTRAL RECEIVING	BRAGGR4-1	23310	4348
DOVER DE APOE C5 RAMP	DOVERC5RAMP	25356	449
DRUM NY CRP	DRUMR1	43145	4289
POPE AFB NC ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE	BRAGGR1-1	43878	355

CENTCOM Sites:

Interrogator Description	Interrogator Name	Interrogator ID	Avg. # Hits Per Day
BAGHDAD IZ APOD IN/OUTBOUND	BIAPR1	23298	675
BAGRAM AF ADACG	BAGRAMR1	23053	391
BALAD IZ AIRFIELD IN/OUTBOUND	ANACONAR2	23334	479
CAMP DOHA KU EAST GATE	DOHAR1	24011	1168
CAMP DOHA KU TDC TAG TERMINATOR	DOHAR6	23230	352
CAMP NY KU GATE	CAMPNYR1	32196	451
KANDAHAR AF SSA	KANDAHARR3	24428	2574
MILITARY APOD KU MAIN GATE	KUWAITR1	38776	1400
RIDGWAY IZ CRP/ HOLDING YARD	RIDGWAYR2	25496	479
TALLIL AIR BASE IZ ARR/DEP	TALLILR1	24361	1684

Sites Reported:

USAREUR Sites:

<u>Interrogator Description</u>	<u>Interrogator Name</u>	<u>Interrogator ID</u>	<u>Avg. # Hits Per Day</u>
701 MSB CL II/IV KITZINGEN GE	A/701MSB	21594	1158
EAGLE BASE FLIGHTLINE BH	TUZLAFL	3810	944
MANAS KG INBOUND/OUTBOUND	MANASR1	23165	1165
RAMSTEIN GE FLIGHTLINE INBOUND	RAMSTEIN2	17942	363

PACOM Sites:

<u>Interrogator Description</u>	<u>Interrogator Name</u>	<u>Interrogator ID</u>	<u>Avg. # Hits Per Day</u>
BUSAN KS SHINSUNDAE PECT GATE 6 TRUC	BUSANR5	41688	521

Ping-Pong Sites

Problem: Ping-pong interrogations - Repeated hits by alternating interrogators. Problem occurs when interrogators have been placed too close together. Constant alternating hits wears down battery life.

Sites Reported:

CONUS Sites:

Interrogator Names

BEAUMONT TX ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE BEAUMONT TX LOWER RAIL

CENTCOM Sites:

Interrogator Names

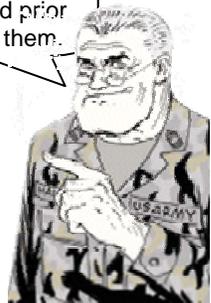
MILITARY APOD KU HOLDING YARD MILITARY APOD KU MAIN GATE
 NAVISTAR ENT KU NEWCEDER IZ INBOUND/OUTBOUND
 AL UDEID QA PALLET YARD EAST AL UDEID QA PALLET YARD WEST

USAREUR Sites:

Interrogator Names

KITZINGEN GE RAILHEAD BLDG 122 701 MSB CL II/IV KITZINGEN GE
 RAMSTEIN GE FLIGHTLINE INBOUND RAMSTEIN FLIGHTLINE OUTBOUND GE

All rechargeable batteries need to be fully discharged prior to re-charging them.



PACOM Sites:**Interrogator Names**

SONGTAN KS OSAN AB FLIGHT LINE
 PYONGTAEK KS 348TH QM SP 52
 WAREHOUSE

OSAN KS OSAN AFB TRUCK CGO GATE
 PYONGTAEK KS 520TH MAINT CLIX SSA

Remember, do not immerse batteries in water and keep your batteries stored in a cool place.

**Helpful Hints/Tips**

Be on the lookout for the new RF ITV pocket guides. The **ITV Server Guide 2004** will provide information that will help you understand and use the components of the ITV servers. This guide will also provide other helpful information to unit leaders to maintain visibility of their in-transit shipments and equipment. The **RF-TAG Operations Guide 2004** will provide information on RFID hardware, deployment and sustainment RF-tag writing, reading, uploading and MSL placement. Both pocket guides are in the process of being published and will be distributed soon!

ITV Server User ID and Password. Just a reminder, users of the CONUS and USFK ITV servers can now log-on using either their AKO credentials or ITV UserID/Password. USAREUR and CENTCOM servers will be updated, in the future, to also allow users to log-on using their AKO credentials.

PM-AIT website. Check out <http://www.eis.army.mil/AIT/index.asp> to view the latest and greatest PM-AIT hardware contract(s) for AIT and RFID equipment.

Conclusion

1. If this report has been forwarded to you and you would like to be added to the distribution list, please send your request via email to Tom Rigsbee at thomas.rigsbee@us.army.mil.
2. To maintain an adequate stockage of RFID tags for follow-on sustainment shipments, please return all excess RFID sustainment tags to one of the following locations:
 - a. Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Attn: DDSP-OMP, Warehousing Branch, Building 203 (door 12), Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-0789. POC is Mr. Gregory Woods, DSN 430-3149, GENE.WOODS@DLA.MIL.
 - b. Defense Depot San Joaquin, CCP, ATTN: DDJC-TA, Warehouse 30, 25600 South Chrisman Road, Tracy, CA 95376-5000. POC is Mr. Ron Johnston, DSN 462-4281, RON.JOHNSTON@DLA.MIL.

This information is also provided in the February 04 issue of PS Magazine.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact the following points of contact:

QA ITV Server

Mr. Tom Rigsbee,
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(703) 339-4400 ext. 11/112/113

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TIPS/ITV Server Training

Mr. Richard Mack,
rmack4@csc.com, (804) 863-
2485 extension 205

Mr. Sherman Duncan,
sduncan@lesco-logistics.com
(804) 863-2485 extension 206

Mr. Bob Wendt,
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(804) 734-1692 (DSN 687)

Mr. Roger Watson,
roger.watson@unisys.com,
(703) 627-1443

Conclusion (continued)

3. Savi 410 sustainment tags (NSN 6350-01-495-3040) are now under wholesale management and can be requisitioned through ordinary MILSTRIP ordering process. Therefore, as with any item of supply in wholesale management, you will be reimbursed 5.5% of the standard price of each tag returned if you use MILSTRIP FTE/FTR transactions. This reimbursement is for packaging, crating, handling, and transportation (PCH&T) costs incurred. Standard MILSTRIP shipping procedures and DODAAC Ship To addresses apply when using FTE/FTR transactions. This is standard supply practice.

The addresses at Mechanicsburg, PA and Tracy, CA listed above still apply if RFID tags are returned without FTE/FTR transactions and reimbursement for PCH&T costs are not requested.

In order to view the information on the ITV servers with an ITV user id and password, you will need to obtain your user id and password at <https://highland.rfitv.army.mil/Register/> or <https://160.147.8.10/Register/> and complete the on-line form. All requests must be from a .mil or .gov address. Once your request is approved, you will be notified via email with your user id and a phone number to call to receive your password. Your user id and password authorizes access to all three ITV web servers. If you already have your user id and password, you may visit any of the ITV servers at:

CONUS: <https://160.147.8.10/>

USAREUR: <https://144.170.190.8/index.jsp>

Korea: <https://147.242.140.23/>