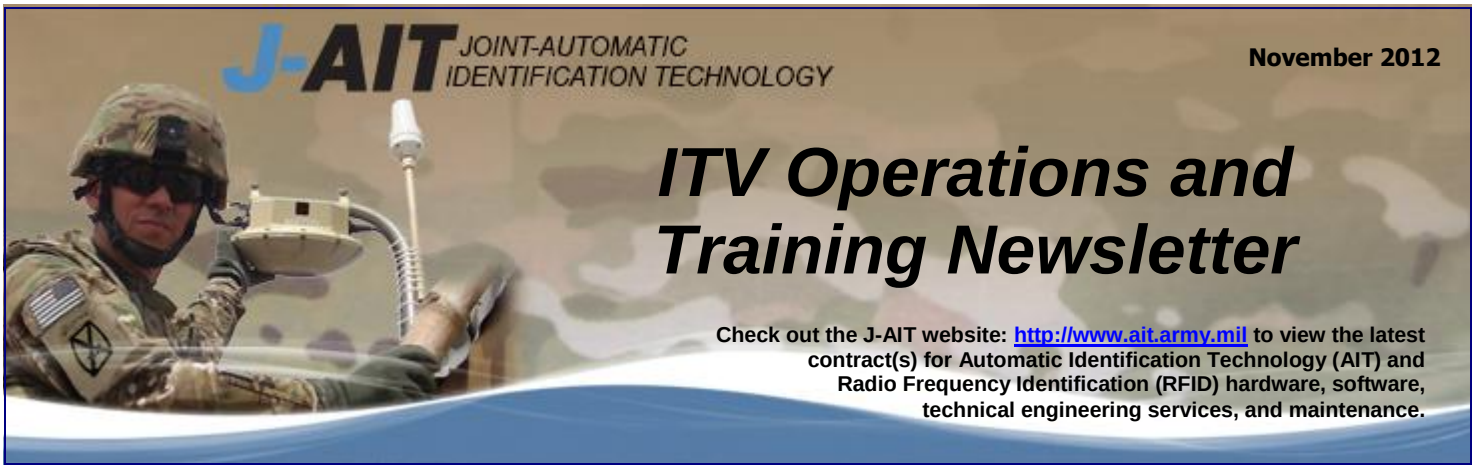

November 2012

ITV Operations and Training Newsletter

Check out the J-AIT website: http://www.ait.army.mil to view the latest contract(s) for Automatic Identification Technology (AIT) and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) hardware, software, technical engineering services, and maintenance.

J-AIT and TIS Merge

AMIS
AUTOMATED MOVEMENT AND IDENTIFICATION SOLUTIONS

The Program Executive Officer, Enterprise Information Systems (PEO EIS) is proud to announce that the offices of the Product Directors of Joint-Automatic Identification Technology (J-AIT) and Transportation Information Systems (TIS) have merged into a new organization, Automated Movement and Identification Solutions (AMIS). We strive to ensure a seamless transition during this time and remain committed to supporting our customers. Please stay tuned for updates.

Furthermore, we ask that you continue to contact our customer support operations at (800) 877-7925 for all former J-AIT-related issues and (877) 839-0813 for former TIS-related issues.

RF-ITV Tracking Portal Changes

Frequent ***RF-ITV Tracking Portal*** users may have noticed subtle changes to the look and feel of the portal over the last few months, and further changes are on the way. If you have any comments or need assistance as a result of the changes, please contact our Radio Frequency In-Transit Visibility (RF-ITV) Global Help Desk (GHD).

A Look at CONUS Site Registrations

Bad and/or missing data can undermine the asset visibility. Data Quality Assurance (QA) is essential to finding and correcting inconsistencies and incorrect data which will not only improve data quality but will also assure that valuable information is not missing or lost to customers or users. As part of our continuing data QA checks, the Combined Arms Support Command (CASCOM) In-Transit Visibility (ITV) Team has been reviewing the registration information of selected NORTHCOM *Write* sites. The focus of our review was on: 1) Point of Contact (POC) information; 2) Latitude/Longitude (lat/long) and 3) Site naming conventions.

Due to the large number of NORTHCOM sites (over 1,250), we randomly selected and analyzed 110 of the sites, focusing on Army *Write* sites. We found that two of the sites were registered to the wrong COCOM (they were actually PACOM and CENTCOM sites), and three were Air Force sites. After removing these sites from our analysis, we were left with 105 sites. Our analyses of the remaining 105 sites produced the following results:

1. **Point of Contact (POC) information**.

We initially contacted each POC listed on the site registration page by email to

For questions or comments, please contact one of the following:

Cynthia Jones, RF-ITV Team Chief
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andy.o.smith.ctr@mail.mil
(703) 545-3052 DSN (312) 865-3052

Whit Norris-PACOM
whit.norris.ctr@pacom.mil
(808) 477-8071 DSN 315-477-8071

RF-ITV Training: RF-ITV Global Help Desk
help.rfitv@us.army.mil
1 (800) 877-7925 DSN users dial your local DSN off-net access number, wait for dial tone, then dial 1 (800) 877-7925

verify the POC name, email and phone number. Out of 105 sites we attempted to contact, we received 44 email responses (42%) that verified their information was correct. We received three email responses that confirmed the sites were no longer being used. If you have a site that is no longer used or needed, please call the RF-ITV GHD at 1 (800) 877-7925 or email them at help.rfitv@us.army.mil to have the site deleted from the ***RF-ITV Tracking Portal***.

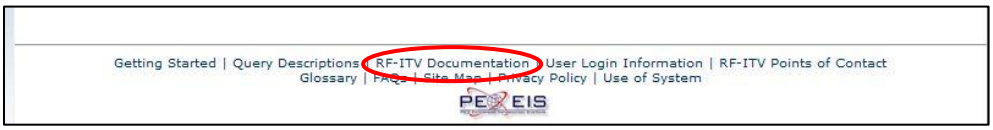
Of the remaining 58 sites, 11 emails (10%) were returned as undeliverable due to an incorrect email address listed on the registration page. We followed up via telephone with the 58 sites we were unable to contact. Of the 58 sites, 51 needed to update the POC information (e.g., name, phone, email). Since that contact, 25 have updated their information, 26 have not made the corrections.

We received no response (either by email or phone) from five sites; therefore, we could not determine if these were correct.

People are transferred and duties are often re-assigned. Therefore, it's recommended that periodic reviews be conducted of your previously registered sites to ensure that registration information is kept up to date. We strongly recommend establishing review procedures on a quarterly basis to verify and update registration information (if needed) to ensure your information is current and accurate so that you can be contacted when there are system/hardware updates, problems or maintenance.

2. **Naming Convention**.

Of the 105 sites we reviewed, 92 (87%) used the proper naming convention. By the conclusion of our analysis, seven sites had been corrected and re-registered. Six sites remain incorrect. For more guidance/directions on proper Naming Conventions, log on to the ***RF-ITV Tracking Portal*** and click on ***RF-ITV Documentation*** near the bottom of the page.



3. **Latitude/Longitude**.

The latitude and longitude coordinates were verified using a Google Earth proximity check. Of the 105 sites we reviewed, 88 sites (84%) had the correct lat/long registered. Of the remaining 17 sites, 11 of them had been corrected and re-registered by the conclusion of our analysis. The lat/long of six sites remains incorrect.

We provided some links on where to look up your latitude and longitude in last month's newsletter available at:

http://www.cascom.army.mil/organizations/cdi/esd/itv/newsletter/2012/J-AITITVOperationsandTrainingNewsletterOct2012.pdf

After last month's article, we received a tip from Mr. Dick Fisher, Air Mobility Command (AMC) AIT Support Office. Another resource that the AMC uses is "Itouchmap" at: http://itouchmap.com/latlong.html. Itouchmap, accessible through the Air Force Networks, is used at the fixed air base aerial ports and the bare base, and deployable aerial ports.

Since data QA is an on-going process, the CASCOM ITV Team in concert with the AMIS RF-ITV Team will continue monitoring site registrations and will be focusing on other COCOMS in the coming months.

…to be continued!

RF-ITV Global Help Desk (GHD)

Toll Free: 1 (800) 877-7925. **DSN**: Dial your local DSN off-net access number, wait for dial tone, and then dial 1 (800) 877-7925.
AKO Instant Messenger Username: help.rfitv

Help available 24hours/7 days a week
Email: help.rfitv@us.army.mil

The RFID GHD should be contacted before any attempt to reach an FSE in your area.

If you would like to subscribe to the newsletter or if you have a noteworthy RF-ITV story, lesson-learned, or short article for publication in the newsletter, please submit to Jerry Rodgers, jerry.d.rodgers.ctr@mail.mil.

Site Analysis: Subic Bay, Philippines, PHIBLEX 13

For this month's analysis, we selected the joint exercise Philippine Amphibious Landing Exercise (PHIBLEX 13) that recently took place at Subic Bay in the Philippines. The bilateral exercises between the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the US Forces covered 10 days of joint exercises which focused on disaster relief, humanitarian assistance and maritime security. Approximately 2,600 US Marines and 1,200 of their Philippine counterparts participated in PHIBLEX 13.

We looked at 215 tagged shipments that were read at Naha Port by Interrogator ID 41131, Interrogator Name NAHAR1 from 01 Sep to 25 Oct 2012 in support of PHIBLEX 13. We used the ***Advanced Search*** query to select our results searching for tagged shipments which traveled from the Port of Embarkation (POE) of UB1 (Naha, Okinawa (Military Terminal) to the Port of Debarkation (POD) SAA (Subic Bay). The results of the data analysis are as follows:

- Of the 215 tagged shipments, 190 tags reached their destination and were read by the 835th Surface Deployment and Distribution Command (SDDC) Portable Deployment Kit (PDK) at Subic Bay during 28 Sep - 24 Oct 2012.

- Of the remaining 25 tagged shipments, 21 tags were last read reaching Naha Port (UB1) between 19 and 23 Sep 2012 but showed no onward movement to Subic Bay (SAA).

- Four tagged shipments left Camp Kinser and arrived at Naha Port, but returned to Camp Kinser on 19 Sep with no onward movement to Subic Bay.

- There were no Consignee or Consignor DODAACs listed on the tags; however, we did note that the write stations were identifying the owner of the equipment in the Unit Identification Code (UIC) field of the Transportation Control Movement Document (TCMD) data on the tag.

- There were five different variations of Operation Codes (Op Code) used for this exercise. We did note a distinct relationship between the DODAAC listed in the TCMD data and the Op Code—which is how we were able to segregate and identify tags for this exercise.

- We were able to maintain ITV for 90% of the tagged shipments we assessed for this exercise.

- It was also noted that the *Read* site, COURTNEYR52, ID 18710491299950 had an incorrect longitude (West instead of East); therefore, it's location was mapped incorrectly as being off the west coast of Mexico in the Pacific Ocean. We were unable to contact the site POC because the site's registration page did not provide a POC, email or phone number.

Conclusion:

- ✓ It is important to make sure your *Read* and *Write* site registration POC information is complete and up-to-date so that you can be contacted for system or software updates, problems or maintenance.

- ✓ Make sure your latitude and longitude coordinates are correct so that accurate visibility of your shipments is maintained when using the web mapping application on the ***RF-ITV Tracking Portal*** as well as other systems, e.g., Sustainment System Mission Command (SSMC) (previously known as Battle Command Sustainment and Support System (BCS3)).

- ✓ Before writing your tags, do a quick search to look at the operation names already in use so that you can select one that is unique to your needs/mission. Group tags with common or similar missions. This will help you locate and segregate your tags more efficiently. Once you have selected an operation name to be used, make sure everyone uses the exact spelling each time it is used.

- ✓ Make sure your tags are written with complete and accurate data. Complete and accurate data gives users "in-the-box" visibility and provides more complete data sharing with other ITV systems.

The RF-ITV Training Team's Tips and Tricks

New DODAAC Association Procedures for Read Sites

A DODAAC is a six-position alphanumeric field that uniquely identifies a unit, activity, or organization; it uses all available characters except the letters "O" and "I". The DODAAC list on ***the RF-ITV Tracking Portal*** is updated on a monthly basis via information received from *the Defense Automatic Addressing System (DAAS)*.

As new *Read* sites are registered on the ***RF-ITV Tracking Portal***, DODAACs assigned to the installation location of the site must be associated with the site's interrogator in order to generate transportation closeout events as shipments reach their destinations. RFID tags on containers and pallets are read by the destination site's interrogator, which in turn closes out shipments on the ***RF-ITV Tracking Portal***.

However, because of the removal of the DODAAC tab from the RF-ITV *Read* site registration screen in the recently released *"TIPS Read 4.3.2"* software package, RF-ITV Field Service Engineers (FSEs) and other users responsible for registering *Read* sites on the ***RF-ITV Tracking Portal*** are no longer able to associate DODAACs with interrogators as a part of the site registration process.

Therefore, the new procedures to complete the *DODAAC Association* process on the ***RF-ITV Tracking Portal*** are as follows:

- Before updating an RF-ITV *Read* site with the new *TIPS Read* software or before registering/re-registering a *Read* site, the responsible individual (generally an FSE) should capture the current list of DODAACs associated with this site.
- Upon completion of each new RF-ITV *Read* site installation or software upgrade, the responsible individual should send a list of all appropriate DODAACs in an *Excel* spreadsheet to the RF-ITV Global Help Desk and request to have the required DODAACs associated with the site's interrogator ID.
- The RF-ITV GHD will forward the *DODAAC Association* request to AMIS for approval.
- Upon AMIS approval, the GHD will forward the *DODAAC Association* request to an RF-ITV Database Administrator (DBA) for implementation.
- When the RF-ITV DBA completes the request, the GHD will ensure that a copy of the *Associated DODAAC List* and *Interrogator ID* is stored in a backup file on the ***RF-ITV Tracking Portal*** so that the information can be quickly and easily restored if necessary. This step is being performed as a precautionary measure in case, for example, a site's current *Associated DODAAC List* is accidentally over-written due to a new registration file being uploaded by mistake.

Please contact the GHD if you have any questions or concerns about these new *Associated DODAAC* procedures.

RF-ITV Global Help Desk
U.S Toll-Free: 1-800-877-7925
DSN: 94-800-877-7925

For and From the Field

Savi Smartchain Workstation 6.1 Software

Savi Smartchain Workstation 6.1 is now available. In this latest version, the character length of the email field has been expanded from 24 characters (in the previous version) to 50 characters. Contact the Savi Help Desk at help@savi.com or 1 (888) 994-7284 for more information on ***Savi Smartchain Workstation 6.1***.