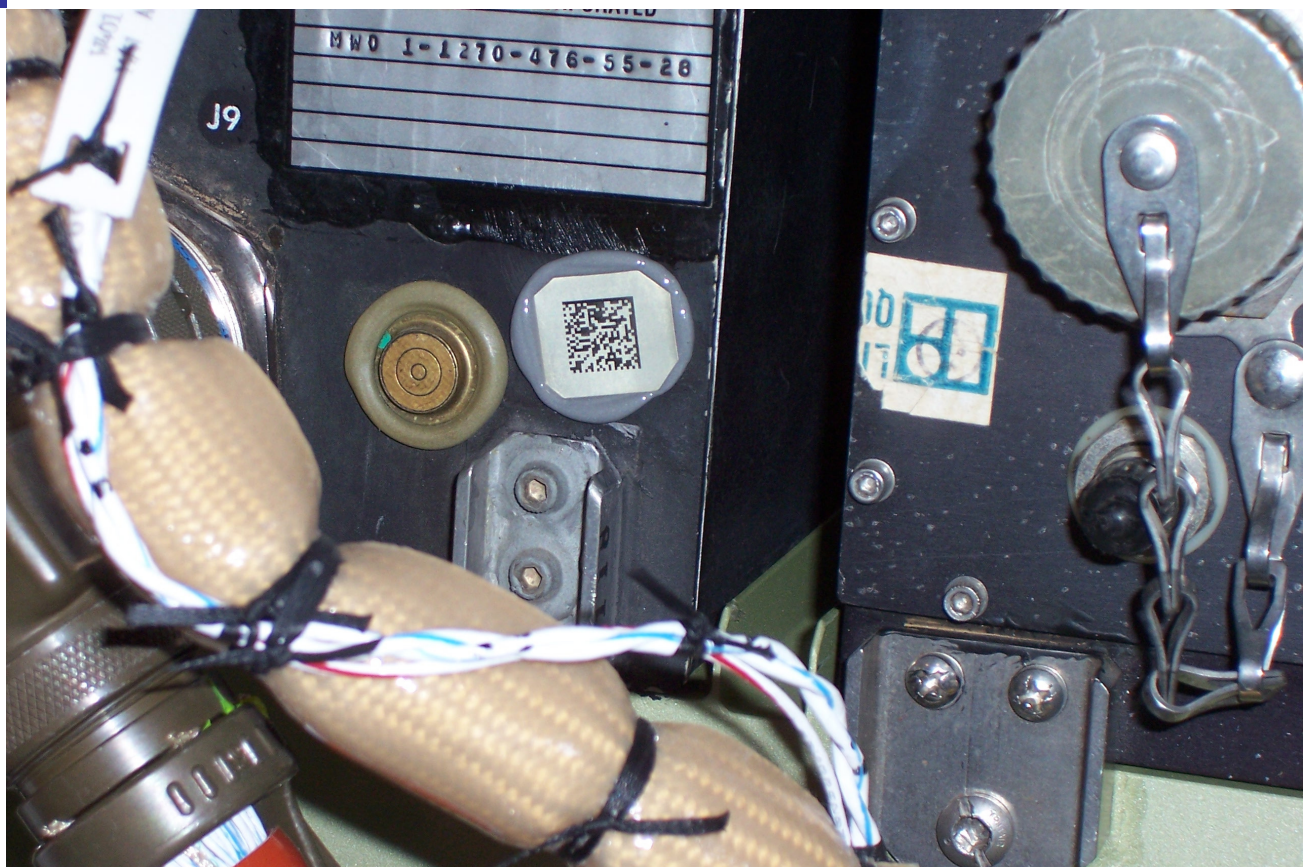


IUID

Item Unique
Identification

TF160 Special Operations Aviation Regiment (SOAR)

**Unique Identification Policy Office
Integration Project**



To improve the identification, tracking, and management of Department of Defense (DoD) assets, the Office of the Secretary of Defense has funded multiple projects, including the TF160 Special Operations Aviation Regiment (SOAR) Integration Project.



Description

Task Force 160 (TF160) SOAR is performing a project to mark selected parts, register the parts in the DoD's Unique Identification (UID) Registry, and utilize Automatic Identification Technology (AIT) to manage the parts. These efforts will enhance aviation logistics and maintenance business processes.

Each part marked during this project receives an additional data plate with UID information. The choice was made to apply UID DataMatrix marks on items via an additional data plate instead of a replacement for the existing data plate because: (1) drawings that govern the original data plate did not have to be followed and (2) airworthiness releases (AWRs) and procedures for adhering the data plates had previously been approved.

As part of this project, the 160th also incorporated UID capabilities into their SOARtrack software, which can take accounting data associated with a component and integrate that data into the supply side of the Unit Level Logistics System – Aviation (ULLS-A) SCP-06 software that was developed as the Standard Army Management Information System (STAMIS) for Army Aviation.

The 160th has sought additional areas to expand upon uses for UID and AIT. Further efforts have focused on the Aviation Life Support Equipment (ALSE), Tool Room, and Organizational, Clothing and Individual Equipment (OCIE) functions within the Regiment.

A software system was developed for the ALSE shop that incorporates the use of UID and AIT in the form of bar codes. This system, coupled with the UID marking effort, allows for issue and receipt of ALSE items to a user by scanning the individual's Common Access Card (CAC). The ALSE system also provides tracking of inspections for serialized items.

The Tool Room Management System takes advantage of durable laser-etch marks applied to tools. Again utilizing the individual's CAC card, issue and turn-in of tools for accountability is vastly improved. The OCIE system will function similarly to ALSE and improve asset visibility for clothing and equipment within the 160th's Fort Campbell, Kentucky facilities.

The program approach while automating key areas within the Regiment is expanding to key ULLS-A supported functions to demonstrate the ability to integrate the enabling functions of AIT to existing automation systems. Efforts have been initiated to provide handheld inventory capability that will integrate with the existing Common Transitional System – Aviation (CTS-A) supply functionality. This capability will continue to increase asset visibility throughout the 160th.

Challenges & Obstacles

- ◆ Original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) were not cooperative in UID data plate integration in terms of AWRs and recognition of UID incorporation to components
- ◆ Parallel software was in development at Corpus Christi Army Depot, requiring the need to coordinate to ensure consistency and accuracy of both efforts
- ◆ Integration of capabilities to existing systems requires close coordination and cooperation between disparate development environments
- ◆ Generation and application of UIIs cannot impact mission capability
- ◆ Software development and implementation depend largely on the quantity and standardization of UID marks along with limited hardware capabilities

Lessons Learned

- ◆ Not all components need an AWR
 - ❖ Components should be evaluated and pass the common-sense test before unfounded expenditures occur
- ◆ Central location for marking equipment is ideal
- ◆ Avoid direct part marking
- ◆ Work with OEMs on data plate format and placement
- ◆ Limited, but successful, demonstration of AIT uses are effective in obtaining user buy-in to the process

Benefits & Achievements

Project benefits included:

- ◆ Use of the UID mark as an asset-tracking device within 160th SOAR
- ◆ Use of the 160th pilot program as an initial demonstration to provide lessons learned for integration of UID processes into Army Aviation, ground systems, and depots
- ◆ Provides transition path for integration and acceptance to the STAMIS; similar to the CTS-A to ULLS-A SCP 6 transition
- ◆ All software is Government owned
- ◆ Tools developed for soldier use and acceptance improve current processes and take advantage of a previously unutilized UII mark on components

The integration of the UID capability provided the 160th with the ability to track critical data, including part cost, contract, movement, and location associated with maintenance activity and maintenance history.

Contact

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