JANUARY 2016

COMMUNICATOR

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U.S.ARMY
PEO Enterprise Information Systems

MC4 LOGISTICIAN NAMED
2015 LOGISTICIAN OF THE YEAR

By: MC4 Strategic Communications Team

Mr. Michael McAllister, logistics management specialist at Medical Communications for Combat Casualty Care (MC4), was named Logistician of the Year for 2015 by the Honorable Heidi Shyu, the Army acquisition executive (AAE) and the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology (ASA[ALT]) during her announcement of the winners of the 2015 AAE Excellence in Leadership Awards. The AAE Excellence in Leadership Awards recognize individuals and teams whose outstanding contributions and achievements merit special recognition. Mr. McAllister is the first to receive this distinction, which seeks to recognize excellence and innovation in the Army Acquisition Workforce (AAW).

Mr. McAllister leads theater operations and is the contracting officer representative for more than 100 contractors who field, train

Mr. Michael McAllister receives the Logistician of the Year 2015 award during the Dec. 2 ceremony in Orlando, Florida. (L. to R.) LTG Michael Williamson, principal military deputy to the ASA(ALT); Hon. Heidi Shyu, ASA(ALT); Mr. Michael McAllister; and Mr. Gabe Camarillo, ASA(ALT) principal deputy

and provide hands-on customer support for more than 46,000 MC4 medical IT systems supplied internationally to more than 2,200 Army units. He developed an innovative contracting strategy that resulted in a net 20 percent annual savings in fiscal year (FY) 2015 alone. Under his direction, more than 5,000 systems were fielded to 250 Army units worldwide during this period, coming in below cost and ahead of schedule. His effort also led to a 50 percent increase in the number of MC4 systems fielded compared to FY14. "Michael's efforts ensured that MC4 systems and technical support teams were at the right place at the right time to support MC4 users deployed worldwide — these are the trademarks of a truly outstanding logistician," said Mr. Tracy Ellis, chief, MC4 logistics management division.

MC4 is an expeditionary network of systems that equip medics on the ground to digitally document injuries and input medical information for wounded service members. Medical staff on the battlefield record and transfer critical medical data to military treatment facilities, thereby assuring accuracy and continuity of health records for Soldiers across the globe. For more than a decade, the Army has entrusted MC4 with maintaining deployable medical recording systems. MC4 is the most widely-used, comprehensive information management medical system on the battlefield.

Congratulations Mr. McAllister!

LTC ETIENNE SPEAKS AT
AFCEA BELVOIR LUNCHEON

By: Mr. James Christophersen, DCATS Communications

LTC Jeff Etienne, the product leader for Defense-Wide Transmission Systems (DWTS), was the keynote for the Armed Forced Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) Belvoir Chapter luncheon Nov. 17, discussing the eight major strategic long-haul and base support communications programs that compose the DWTS portfolio. LTC Etienne spoke about how the DWTS team works to manage these diverse programs and the many requirements of major stakeholders, which range from the Army G-4 to the CIO/G-6. "I like to compare DWTS to being like a Sprint, AT&T or Verizon carrier," said LTC Etienne. "We provide long-haul communications worldwide; a SATCOM [satellite communications] network, which enables logisticians to remotely connect to their critical networks stateside."

LTC Etienne also highlighted the real-life applications of DWTS programs: "Recently DWTS deployed 20-plus CSS VSATs [combat services support very small aperture terminals] as part of the Operation United Assistance response to the Ebola outbreak in northern Africa. We played a huge part in connecting the logisticians and were able to leverage the years of preparation which ensures we have coverage at anytime, anywhere around the world."

LTC Etienne also discussed the DWTS procurement outlook, including CSS VSAT transport convergence planning and fiber optic work in Okinawa, Japan and Guam. He expressed a desire to move away from sole-source contracting in the interest of encouraging competition, engaging small business interests and ordering work against the communications and transmission systems contract vehicle. LTC Etienne stressed the necessity of partnership and dialogue with industry to aid DWTS in identifying the most expedient, cost-effective contract vehicles to execute the DWTS mission. "It's all about the best value for the military," said LTC Etienne. "I can't do justice to the taxpayers unless I'm informed with the best information — the best information comes from industry. I need your expertise, I need the best solutions out there, especially off-the-shelf products. We need information exchange. Remember one thing, the very last thing: at the end of the day, it's all about the Soldier."

LTC Etienne addresses the AFCEA Belvoir Chapter

LTC Etienne speaks with members of the AFCEA Belvoir Chapter

LTC HARLEY SELECTED *FOR*
SENIOR SERVICE COLLEGE

By: Ms. Arlene Goyette, AcqBusiness Communications

LTC Keith Gerard Harley, product manager (PdM) for Acquisition Business (AcqBusiness), was recently selected for the 2016 Army Senior Service College (SSC) program. The Army SSC program prepares officers for senior command and staff positions within the Army and DOD. LTC Harley joins an elite group of Army colonels and lieutenant colonels chosen each year to gain advanced leadership training and experience through the highly competitive SSC program.

Beginning in summer 2016, LTC Harley will attend one of the program's participating senior service colleges, fellowships or foreign schools to complete a rigorous curricula during a 10-month residency. Upon graduation, he will earn a master's degree in national security and strategic studies and will be matched to a key leadership position at the same grade. Project Manager COL William Russell, General Fund Enterprise Business Systems (GFEBS), underscored the significance of LTC Harley's selection: "[SSC selection] is an extremely tough cut — tougher than promotion to lieutenant colonel and colonel."

LTC Keith Harley

Prior to his assignment as PdM AcqBusiness, LTC Harley served as the acting deputy project director and project director for Medical Communications for Combat Casualty Care. His past academic achievements include a Distinguished Military Graduate award and a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology from South Carolina State University, a Master of Science in acquisition contract management from the Florida Institute of Technology and certifications in Level III program management and Level II test and evaluation. LTC Harley's military honors include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with one Silver and one Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement with one Oak Leaf Cluster, NATO Medal, National Defense Service Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon and Parachutist Badge.

2016 WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A HAPPY NEW YEAR

IPPS-A
RELEASES NEW MODERN WEBSITE
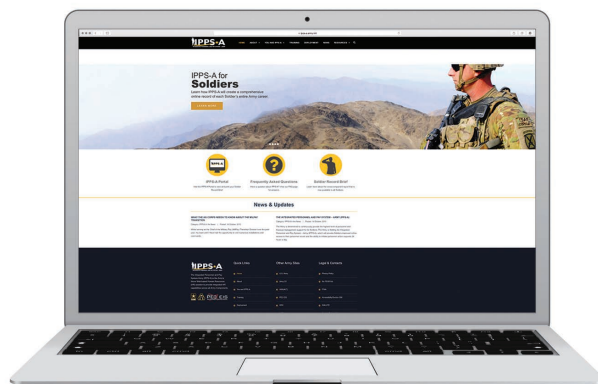
By: Mr. Arif Patani, IPPS-A Strategic Communication Support

Integrated Personnel and Pay System – Army (IPPS-A) recently released its new public website, www.ipps-a.army.mil. The site is modern, mobile-friendly and continues to be a critical source of information about the Army's future web-based human resources (HR) record system. Soldiers use the site to easily access their Soldier Record Brief (SRB). "For many Soldiers and their families, this website acts as their first interaction with our program," said COL James (Darby) F. McNulty, IPPS-A project manager. "We are happy our new website is modern and responsive, making an important, good first impression of IPPS-A."

The new site features improved search functionality, compelling images with clear "calls to action," prominent icons directing traffic to the most important areas of the site and a news and updates page. Moving forward, IPPS-A plans to conduct user experience testing with Soldiers to help optimize the sites overall efficiency and usefulness.

IPPS-A is the Army's solution to provide integrated HR capabilities across all Army components. The project is designed to alleviate the Army's current reliance on approximately 40 legacy HR systems that do not efficiently share information. As a result of its implementation, IPPS-A will provide a centralized resource for Soldiers, leaders and HR professionals to better manage personnel and pay information.

JANUARY 2016

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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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31						

EVENTS

1 JANUARY
New Year's Day

11 JANUARY
RCAS Assumption of Charter

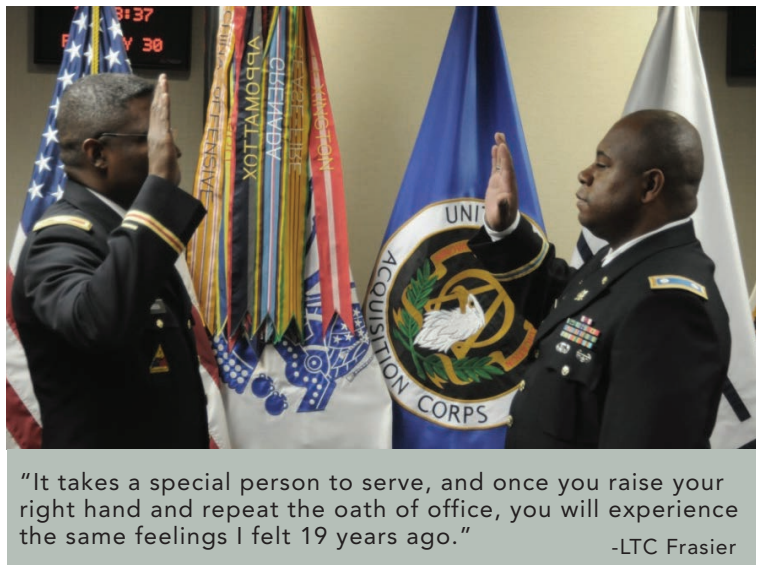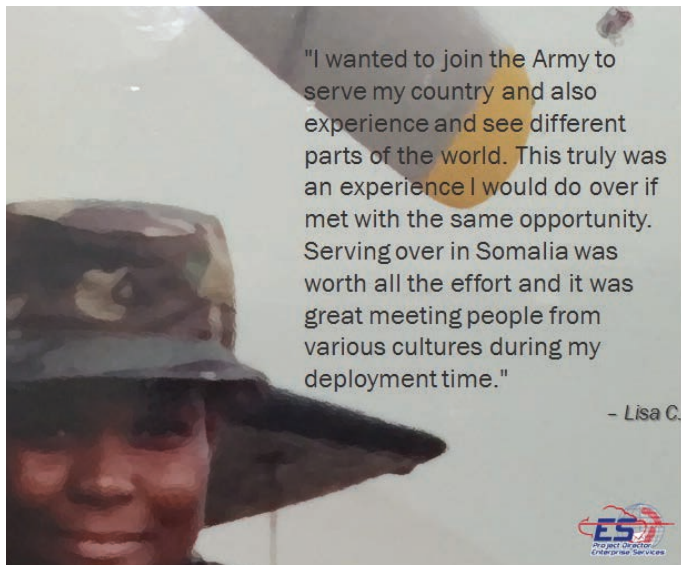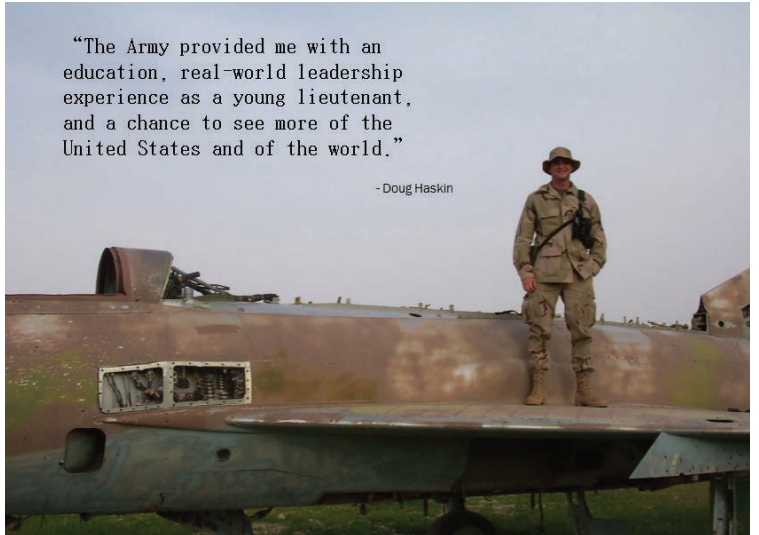**18 JANUARY**
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

ES EXTENDS VETERANS DAY RECOGNITION
WITH #ARMYPDESVETS

By: ES Communications

Enterprise Services (ES) extended Veterans Day recognition from one day to a full week to **acknowledge the service of more than two dozen veterans who continue to serve their nation** as active military, civilian or contractor personnel in the ES project office. From Nov. 9–13, ES shared the stories of its veterans throughout their office and online using the hashtag #ArmyPDESVets. "The work and dedication of our men and women in uniform continues after they move into different fields," said acting project director for ES, Mr. Douglas Haskin. "For those who have chosen to support ES, they've transferred their skills and tenacity to our organization and that's worth noting."

ES used Twitter (@ArmyPDES) and Facebook (www.Facebook.com/ArmyPDES) to share photos of military personnel in uniform as well as their personal stories, which offered a glimpse into how military service has shaped and changed their perspective. "Taking the time to say 'thank you for your service' was important to me. We spend so much time working that it's easy to forget the lives our coworkers used to lead and, in some cases, still lead as active duty military," said ES business management division chief, Ms. Venetta Carter. "Seeing their photos and reading their stories was both humbling and a source of pride."

"The Army provided me with an education, real-world leadership experience as a young lieutenant, and a chance to see more of the United States and of the world."

- Doug Haskin

"I wanted to join the Army to serve my country and also experience and see different parts of the world. This truly was an experience I would do over if met with the same opportunity. Serving over in Somalia was worth all the effort and it was great meeting people from various cultures during my deployment time."

– Lisa C.

"It takes a special person to serve, and once you raise your right hand and repeat the oath of office, you will experience the same feelings I felt 19 years ago."

-LTC Frasier

SATELLITES,
SOLDIERS & SERVICE

By: Mr. James Christophersen, DCATS Communications

On Nov. 13, retired CSM Jose Garcia-Aponte, president of Operation Giveback for Wounded Warriors, Inc. (OGB), presented COL Charles Stein, project manager for Defense Communications and Army Transmission Systems (DCATS), a plaque recognizing the significant contributions made to OGB by the DCATS team.

This past May, members of the DCATS team organized a motorcycle rally to raise awareness and support for men and women of the U.S. military who have been wounded in action and their families. When the rally was canceled due to inclement

Jose Garcia-Aponte (R), president of Operation Giveback, thanks COL Charles Stein (L) and other members of DCATS for their support of veterans and their families.

weather, participants and supporters still chose to donate. Retired SGM Clive Flores, retired SFC Edgardo Edwards and retired MSG Mike Boutin organized the donation drive. Said MSG Boutin, "Even though we're retired, we still have a connection to that community and a responsibility. It's all about the team."

COL Stein (L) and Mr. Garcia-Aponte (R)

COL Stein spoke highly of the attitude of service to Soldiers embodied by the DCATS team, "Our primary mission at DCATS is to field superior SATCOM [satellite communications] capability to enable information dominance for the Army and our DOD partners. We acquire and field a diverse portfolio of long-haul and terrestrial communications systems all around the world, but DCATS's greatest asset is the people who work here." Veterans and active duty Army officers compose a substantial majority of the DCATS workforce, while others share familial and personal connections to veterans.

The collective contributions from DCATS team members sponsored Christmas gifts for two veterans' families in the Washington, D.C., area. Retired CSM Garcia-Aponte and OGB co-founder Ms. Maribel Garcia said, "It is our mission to raise awareness and resources for our wounded warriors, their families and the children of our fallen heroes. Without the assistance of community-minded individuals just like DCATS, we wouldn't be able to serve those in our community each year."

"I'm constantly impressed by the sacrifices our people make for their mission every day — long hours, long commutes, always prepared to volunteer and pitch in extra to get the job done," said COL Stein. "The DCATS team's continued service to veterans outside of duty hours reflects positively on the attitudes of everyone here and the mindset they bring to work every day."

AESD ICON IMPROVES REMOTE ACCESS CAPABILITY

By: Enterprise Computing Communications

A new Army Enterprise Service Desk (AESD) icon is now available on Army computer desktops. The icon, called a BOMGAR button, improves the ability of help desk agents to respond to and correct computer issues from a remote location. "What this really enables AESD and others within the 7th Signal Command to do is provide real-time support to end users in an easier manner, with less steps and less hassle," said Mr. Dennis Kelly, AESD project officer.

Established in 2009, AESD provides timely responses to computer-related issues for more than two million Army users through a central help desk and toll-free telephone number linked to a federation of 37 Army installations. Soldiers and civilians can get answers 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Prior to the AESD icon, help desk agents provided users with a web link to launch remote access. Agents would then have to walk users through the next several steps just to enable the remote access. Now, there are only three steps:

1. Double click on the AESD icon to generate a session key.
2. Provide the session key to the help desk agent.
3. Remote access begins.

"Everyone in the 7th Signal Command's area of responsibility will have an AESD icon on their desktop. We're at a 90 percent completion rate," said Mr. Saeid Radjou, AESD technical quality manager. An Army STAND-TO! was published Jan. 7 and is linked on the website.

ARMY COMPLETES FINAL STEPS OF TRANSITION TO DOD ENTERPRISE EMAIL

By: EC2M Communications

Enterprise Content, Collaboration and Messaging (EC2M) has completed the Army's three-year transition to Department of Defense Enterprise Email (DEE). DEE centralized more than 1.5 million Army users from several disparate legacy email systems into a Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA)-managed service. It is a single, secure email and calendar-sharing capability across the DOD with a global address list. "DEE was a true team effort that required the collaboration and cooperation of many organizations including DISA and NETCOM [Network Enterprise Technology Command]," said Mr. John Howell, EC2M product leader.

In conjunction with DISA, EC2M also ended mail forwarding from the Army's legacy email service, Army Knowledge Online (AKO). Leading up to the transition, EC2M's AKO team archived more than 4.5 million mailboxes of current and former AKO email users. The Army has yet to specify a policy for email retention, but the archived mailboxes will likely be stored in the National Archives and Records Administration. In 2013 and 2014, the NETCOM email team migrated the mailbox content for active Army and Reserve component exchange email users to the new DEE mailboxes. During the same period, the NETCOM and AKO teams migrated AKO email to DEE for more than 600,000 Army users who had no other official email.

As an enterprise service, DEE reduces the cost of operations and maintenance by reducing software licensing costs and consolidating hardware into DISA's secure, global Defense Enterprise Computing Centers. DEE creates a common platform for the DOD, ensuring agencies can easily and effectively share information among virtual groups that are geographically dispersed and organizationally diverse.

U.S. ARMY AMIS LEADS THE WAY WITH
RF-ITV SYSTEM REACCREDITATION

By: Mr. Geoff Steele, AMIS Security Analyst

Cybersecurity is changing in the Army, and the team developing and maintaining the Radio Frequency In-Transit Visibility (RF-ITV) System is leading the change management. In March 2014, the Department of Defense (DOD) formally issued instructions for transitioning to a new model for information technology system certification and accreditation, the Risk Management Framework (RMF) process, replacing the DOD Information Assurance Certification and Accreditation Process (DIACAP). Information Assurance (IA) has always been a priority for the RF-ITV managing office, Automated Movement and Identification Solutions (AMIS), so the RF-ITV program and system integrator were up to the challenge of

The AMIS IA team, L to R: Mr. Geoff Steele, Ms. Janice Kozma and Ms. Cindy Jones

adopting RMF from the start. AMIS is the first program to undertake this massive change in the process to accredit a system. The risk of not getting through RMF is simple: no Authority to Operate (ATO), no RF-ITV for the logistics community.

The RF-ITV team, along with the PEO EIS Information Assurance Program Manager (IAPM) team, attended an RMF early adopters' sessions at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. The group learned to utilize a main tool in implementing the RMF policy, the Enterprise Mission Assurance Support Service, a service-oriented computer application that supports IA program management and automates the DIACAP process. A key change in the RMF process is the self-assessment — the system manager now assesses all security controls for compliance. After the initial self-assessment, the security control assessor-validator gains an understanding of the system's IA posture by reviewing system IA documentation, acquires an understanding of the system's implementation of operating procedures by interviewing people working the various IA roles, verifies the system configuration, meets applicable regulations by performing vulnerability scanning and, finally, evaluates and validates the security controls implemented by the system manager and writes a report, which authorizing officials use in the formal decision to grant an ATO. This process is critical in protecting information systems from cyber-attack. AMIS chose the RMF process, which becomes mandatory in 2017, opposed to DIACAP in order to maximize the timeframe the ATO would be valid. An IT system cannot operate on the DOD network without being accredited.

The RF-ITV team was at a disadvantage as the first to go through the RMF process, as they lacked the benefit of lessons-learned or best practice recommendations from other programs. However, the outstanding effort made by the RF-ITV system integrator personnel combined with IAPM team guidance resulted in the three-year ATO, making the RF-ITV System the first to earn this certification within PEO EIS! The team also offered advice to those earning the new accreditation: start early and be prepared for the complexity of the process, which took at least six months longer than earning an ATO via the DIACAP process.
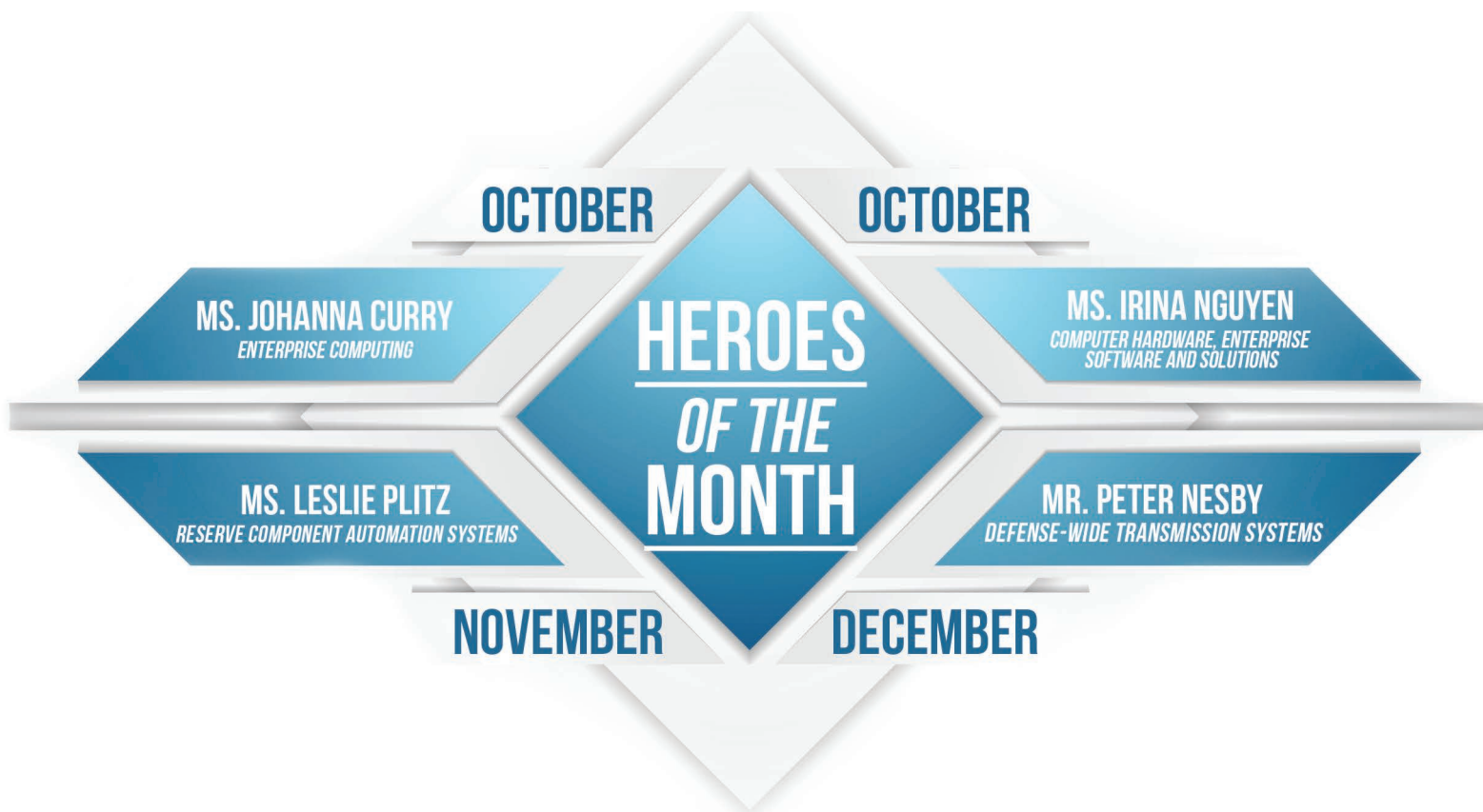
Photo by AMIS Communications

MAKING ARMY HISTORY!
LMP TRANSITION OF SERVICES

By: Ms. Christine McMahon, LMP Communications

The Logistics Modernization Program (LMP), a program of record within the PEO EIS portfolio, is executing one of the largest transition of services (ToS) efforts in Army history. In December 2016, the contract with LMP's industry lead systems integrator (LSI) will end and all system support will transition to a highly skilled and capable government workforce augmented by government support contractors.

The Army Shared Services Center (SSC) at Picatinny Arsenal, New Jersey, will serve as the LSI and sustainment organization in support of LMP, as well as future PEO EIS enterprise resource planning systems. Due to the scope of the project, the Army is completing this transition incrementally and, to best manage the effort, is using transition packages that logically group together LSI services and associated activities. Each package has a detailed plan that includes information like requirements, scope, schedule and associated plans/processes/documentation which supports each service and clearly defines, step-by-step, how work will move from industry to the government.

The first three transition packages (configuration management/quality assurance, supply chain planning and middleware) were completed in November 2015, and hiring is continuing for 110 government and 155 contractor positions. The entire transition will be complete by September 2016 and will result in a government-led effort to sustain and manage LMP and its future missions.

HEROES OF THE MONTH

OCTOBER — MS. JOHANNA CURRY, ENTERPRISE COMPUTING

OCTOBER — MS. IRINA NGUYEN, COMPUTER HARDWARE, ENTERPRISE SOFTWARE AND SOLUTIONS

NOVEMBER — MS. LESLIE PLITZ, RESERVE COMPONENT AUTOMATION SYSTEMS

DECEMBER — MR. PETER NESBY, DEFENSE-WIDE TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS

PEO EIS LETTERS TO
DEPLOYED PERSONNEL

By: Ms. Katherine Morgan, PEO EIS Communications

The Theater and Logistics Division (TLD) started a new holiday tradition at PEO EIS — collecting cards for the troops overseas. TLD sent a few cards in 2014 and received such a positive response that they decided to involve the entire EIS family this year. After sending out a notice to the entire organization and placing a "4 the Troops" mailbox in their office, TLD received an overwhelming response of more than 400 cards from PEO EIS members and their families.

The holiday cards were shipped to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, where Liaison Officer Ms. Ylander Jones distributed them on Christmas Day. TLD Chief Mr. Samuel Massenberg said, "The brave men and women who leave their families and homes to defend freedom overseas are always pleased to receive messages from the heart to let them know how much we care appreciate their service. Also, I would like to personally thank each organization coordinator, each team member and, especially, the children who drew notes and inspiring pictures for those whom they do not know but are grateful to those securing our freedom. Having served overseas myself, family celebration times are tough, but it is these small acts of kindness that make a big difference."

Photos courtesy of Ms. Ylander Jones

Ms. Ylander Jones distributed holiday cards to troops stationed at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait on Christmas Day.