

MET Program Celebrates IOC Milestone

By Michael McGarvey, Deputy PdM WESS



LTC Samuel Ancira speaks before an audience of 120 during the MET dedication.

Mr. Douglas Wiltsie, Program Executive Officer Enterprise Information Systems (PEO EIS), hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony on July 17 to recognize the achievement of Initial Operational Capability (IOC) for the Modernization of Enterprise Terminals (MET) program.

The MET program is administered by Product Manager, Wideband Enterprise Satellite Systems (PdM WESS), which falls within the Project Manager, Defense Communications and Army Transmission Systems (PM DCATS) portfolio of products. The program is replacing aging, bandwidth-limited infrastructure with state-of-the-art satellite communications (SATCOM) terminals that can leverage the vastly increased data throughput capabilities of the DOD's constellation of Wideband Global SATCOM (WGS) satellites.

"Together," said LTC Samuel Ancira, PdM WESS, "MET and WGS are finally putting us ahead of the DOD's increasing demand for data, voice and video throughput. It's moving us past our reliance on

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CHES Change of Charter

By Elynn Kochev, PEO EIS Public Affairs

Mr. Wiltsie, PEO EIS, hosted a formal ceremony July 10, at Fort Belvoir, to recognize the change of charter for the Army's Computer Hardware Enterprise Software and Solutions (CHES) project. During the ceremony, Project Director Mr. Brendan Burke, who has led CHES since April 2011, transitioned leadership to Mr. Tom Neff.

PD CHES is the Army's one-stop shop for commercial IT, managing more than \$30 billion worth of contracts. CHES provides a no-fee, flexible procurement strategy for Army users to buy COTS hardware, software and services, leveraging the Army's buying power by creating competition among vendors and consolidating requirements for contracts. The CHES Consolidated Buy (CB) is the best example of this ingenuity, providing the most cost-effective approach to fulfilling user requirements for desktop and notebook computers and printers for the Army at the Enterprise level. The CB directly supports the Army CIO/G6 strategy for acquiring products which are fully compliant with Federal Desktop Computing regulations as well as DOD and Army security and interoperability standards.

During Mr. Burke's tenure, the Information Technology Enterprise Solutions (ITES-2S and ITES-2H) contracts, which are estimated to be worth up to \$27 billion over a nine-year period, gained significant traction as the primary source of IT equipment supporting the enterprise at a reasonable cost.

Mr. Burke crafted the ITES-Software (ITES-SW) initiative to provide a centralized contract vehicle for specialty software products that are not on an ESI or ELA but require a Certificate of Networkiness.

"Because of Brendan's leadership, [the ITES-SW] effort will streamline the Acquisition process for the Army by allowing customers to go directly to the contract vehicle and purchase



Former CHES PD, Mr. Brendan Burke, looks on as PEO Mr. Douglas Wiltsie passes the CHES charter to new CHES PD, Mr. Thomas Neff.

software that can be placed directly on the network," Mr. Wiltsie explained in his remarks at the ceremony. "Brendan has also been instrumental in building the case for small business competition within the CHES marketplace, which has saved a lot of money and created opportunities."

Mr. Burke leaves PD CHES to attend the National Defense University's prestigious Dwight D. Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy Acquisition Course (formerly ICAF), and is one of only seven acquisition professionals selected this year for this prestigious opportunity.

"Brendan's departure will be a monumental loss for PEO, but it is a tremendous gain for the Army and the Acquisition Corps," said Mr. Wiltsie at the ceremony.

Mr. Neff has a familiar history of program management leadership within PEO EIS, having served most recently as the Deputy Project Manager for the General Fund Business System (PM GFEBS) where he championed contract actions for GFEBS Sustainment and the Army Contract Writing System (ACWS) and worked tirelessly on Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) data center migration efforts during a time of continuing budget restraints.

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GFEBs Change of Charter

By Pam Gray, PM GFEBs Public Affairs

COL (P) Patrick W. Burden relinquished the General Fund Enterprise Business Systems (GFEBs) Charter to COL William (Matt) Russell on July 10 in a ceremony held at the Fort Belvoir Community Center.

Mr. Douglas Wiltsie, PEO EIS, presided over the ceremony. In addition to commenting on all the successes of the GFEBs Project Management Office, Mr. Wiltsie emphasized COL (P) Burden's successes during his tenure.

"I wanted to highlight these program accomplishments to reiterate that in the words of a former colleague, this stuff is not easy; but for the past four years, Pat, you have made it look like it was" Mr. Wiltsie said.

COL (P) Burden expressed his sincere appreciation to a list of individuals for their leadership, guidance, support and dedication.

"It wasn't me, it was a talented team of individuals," COL (P) Burden commented. "This ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) stuff is hard, but people make all the difference."

COL Russell most recently served as the Director for Fires and Force Protection for the Assistant Secretary of the Army Acquisition Logistics and Technology.

He started his remarks with a personal note to his mother. After completing college with a degree in finance, Russell joined the Army commissioned in the Infantry and worked with the Military Intelligence Community. His mother wanted to know when he was going to use his degree in



Left to right: Former GFEBs PM, COL Patrick Burden, PEO Mr. Douglas Wiltsie and new GFEBs PM, COL William Russell, during the GFEBs Change of Charter ceremony.

finance. Russell then made a promise to his mother he would indeed use his degree one day.

Once he relayed this story, COL Russell turned to Mr. Wiltsie and said, "Sir, thank you for letting me fulfill a promise to my mother."

COL Russell was also stated that he humbled to be selected to the GFEBs program and assured COL (P) Burden that he would continue to keep GFEBs moving on the ERP fast track.

COL (P) Burden has been selected for promotion to brigadier general. His next assignment will be Deputy PEO Ammunition.

Following the ceremony, guests enjoyed a reception honoring the Burden family and welcoming the Russell family to the GFEBs team. 🌐

CHESs CHANGE OF CHARTER CONT'D FROM **PREVIOUS PAGE**

Mr. Neff previously served as the Project Director, Reserve Component Automation Systems, and as the Deputy Product Manager for the Joint-Automatic Identification Technology, which has since aligned under the Product Director Automated Movement and Identification Solutions.

In welcoming Mr. Neff, Mr. Wiltsie said, "I am excited that you are a part of the team again, Tom, and I look forward to your continuing the great work that Brendan has started at CHESs."

"You have a legacy of strong leadership at PEO EIS, and we are fortunate to have you on board at CHESs." 🌐

Logistics Modernization Program Charter Assumption

By Judith Avery, AESIP Public Affairs

The U.S. Army's Logistics Modernization Program (LMP) held a formal ceremony July 17 at Fort Belvoir, to recognize the Assumption of Charter. LTC Robert Williams assumed the duties and responsibilities outlined in the program's new charter during the ceremony hosted by COL Harry Culclasure, Project Manager for the Army Enterprise Systems Integration Program (AESIP).

The LMP is one of the world's largest, fully integrated supply chain, maintenance, repair and overhaul, planning, execution, and financial management systems. It is an SAP-based commercial-off-the-shelf solution that manages and tracks orders and delivery of materiel from the Army Materiel Command to Soldiers where and when they need it.

The LMP provides critical support to the Army needed to achieve an integrated enterprise solution that enables materiel readiness and provides asset management and accountability, architecture and acquisition compliancy, and financial transparency from factory to foxhole.

Under the stewardship of the PEO EIS, the LMP provides state-of-the-art automated support to the U.S. Army's arsenal and depot activities worldwide by providing a modernized logistics and finance solution that allows the AMC to provide Soldiers world-class logistics readiness.

"The management and staff of LMP have grown the program to be an Acquisition Category I Major Automated Information System with approximately 21,000 Increment 1 users and more than 70 DOD system interfaces. As a result of the team's accomplishments to date, senior Army leadership is



LTC Robert Williams receives the LMP Charter from AESIP PM COL Harry Culclasure.

exhibiting confidence in the program by elevating its leadership position to that of a military Product Manager," COL Culclasure explained at the ceremony.

LTC Williams is a former Military Intelligence Officer and has held positions within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (ASA(ALT)). He served most recently in a role of program analysis and evaluation for the Army G-8 (resource sponsor).

"The previous accomplishments of both LTC Williams and the LMP program combined with our plans for increased capability and the addition of another 14,000 users with the fielding of Increment 2 offers us great opportunities for the future, and I am confident LTC Williams is ready and able to lead the program to more success," remarked COL Culclasure. 🌐



Photo of Fixed 12.2-meter Modernization of Enterprise Terminals (MET) antenna reflector assembly at Fort Belvoir, Va.

hard-to-maintain, limited throughput legacy equipment, and our increasing dependence on commercial satellites, which are expensive to use and are not standardized, not interoperable, and often times not even secure.”

The Belvoir MET installation is comprised of a fixed 12.2-meter antenna reflector assembly and associated SATCOM equipment, including

control, monitor and alarm; performance measurement and testing; frequency and time standard; and transmit and receive subsystems. The installation also is hardened to protect against interference produced by High-Altitude Electromagnetic Pulse threats such as low-yield nuclear explosions.

The MET IOC dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony took place at the 596th Signal Company’s earth terminal facility on Fort Belvoir. Mr. Wiltsie and BG (P) John B. Morrison, Commander, Network Enterprise Technology Command, spoke at the ceremony, as did COL Clyde E. Richards, Jr., PM DCATS, and LTC Ancira.

Approximately 120 invitees attended the event, including LTC Billy Miranda, Commander, 302nd Signal Battalion, and Mr. Sheldon Fox, President, Government Communication Systems, Harris Corporation. 🌐

PD TAO Hosts All Hands Meeting and Awards Presentation

By Sharon Coleman, Management Services Specialist, TAO

Project Directorate, Technology Applications Office (TAO) held its quarterly All Hands meeting April 2 with more than 45 attendees. Guest speaker, Mr. Reginald Bagby, PEO EIS Portfolio Manager, provided a PEO EIS overview briefing. Mr. John Swart, TAO Project Director, provided a program overview highlighting accomplishments from Staff Assistance Visits, manpower survey, and expressed his appreciation for the program’s exceptional teamwork.

During the meeting, Mr. Jeremy Brothers, TAO Special Programs Division, received the Security Program Integration Professional Certification signed by the Director, Defense Security Service and Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence. This certification is only awarded to those who successfully demonstrate the understanding and application of risk assessment and security program management integration for critical protection of DOD assets.

Mr. Swart awarded Mr. Scott A. Shadle the Commander’s Award for Civilian Service for his exceptional performance as Project Manager, Management and Engineering Division, for championing and proactively leading multiple major acquisition initiatives.

Mr. Swart also recognized Diane Whittington (Business – Financial Management), Scot Padgett (Information Technology), and Larry (Dan) Underwood (Information Technology) for achieving DAWIA Level III certification. Other, time-in-service awards were presented to:

- Ms. Shelley Marken (25 years);
- Ms. Sharon Kollman (10 years);
- Ms. Janine Kerns (5 years);
- Mr. Jeffery Rowney (5 years).

The meeting ended on a high note with the TAO Division Chiefs selling homemade soups (e.g., corn chowder, New England clam chowder, venison chili, and gumbo with homemade breads) with proceeds going toward its summer organizational day. 🌐



Mr. John Swart presents the Security Program Integration Professional Certification to Mr. Jeremy Brothers

DCATS and WESS PMs Open Satellite Earth Terminal Station at Fort Detrick

By Ellyn Kocher, PEO EIS Public Affairs

PM DCATS and PdM WESS participated in a ribbon cutting and building dedication ceremony May 14 for a new Satellite Earth Terminal Station (SETS) at Fort Detrick, Md.

Under construction since 2010, the Fort Detrick SETS co-locates a traditional Technical Control Facility and a Satellite Communications Facility into a single, 33,700 square foot gateway telecommunications center that is part of a worldwide backbone for high-priority military communications.

In his remarks at the ceremony, PM DCATS COL Clyde Richards, explained that PdM WESS' goal

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In the front row, holding orange ribbon, left to right: LTC Ancira, Mr. Chris Green, COL Clyde Richards, Mr. Mike McGarvey and Mr. Steve McClintock in front of several antenna reflector assemblies near the new Satellite Earth Terminal Station (SETS) at Fort Detrick, Md.

Mount Vernon Students Experiment with SATCOM Technology at STEM Festival

By Paul Tremblay, DCATS Public Affairs

Members of the Product Director, Defense Wide Transmission Systems (PD DWTS) stole the show at the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Career Festival held at Mount Vernon High School in Alexandria, Va., Saturday, May 17.

Hosted by the NOVA STEM Alliance, the half-day event offered students ages nine to 18 and their parents the opportunity to learn about STEM careers and to engage in hands-on, interactive technology demonstrations. Students experimented with advanced technology such as Voice over Internet Protocol, SATCOM field terminal, and antenna equipment.

Ms. Ernita Kelley, Mr. Mike Walker, Mr. Chris LaSalle, Mr. Mike Kane, and Mr. Alex Meyers from the PD DWTS team demonstrated the component elements and functionality of the CSS Very Small Aperture Terminal and the CSS Automated Information Systems Interface. PD DWTS is responsible for life cycle management of Combat Service Support communications for the Army and is part of the PM DCATS portfolio of programs.



Mr. Alex Meyers, DWTS, talks with Mount Vernon High School students at the STEM Career Festival about the CSS Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) as part of a technology demonstration at the day-long event, held May 17.

"The event created a lot of buzz around STEM in our community," said Mount Vernon High School Principal Mr. Nardos E. King. Mr. King thanked the DWTS team for taking time out of their weekend and "for inspiring our youth to dream big and make it happen." 🌐

DCATS AND WESS CONT'D FROM **PREVIOUS PAGE**

“was to move all existing terminal and baseband equipment and capability from the old Earth Terminal Complex to this newly constructed facility without disruption to services. I’m proud to say we have successfully achieved this mission.”

The Fort Detrick site is also home to a new Modernization of Enterprise Terminals (MET) 12.2-meter antenna reflector assembly and associated SATCOM equipment. The ongoing installation of the MET system is also the responsibility of PdM WESS, which falls within the PM DCATS portfolio of programs. “Once operational,” said COL Richards, “the new MET terminal – combined with the baseband equipment already installed in this building – will fully leverage the new Wideband Global SATCOM, or WGS

constellation and deliver superior networking capabilities to our soldiers. We look forward to completing that phase of the project in August.”

Joining COL Richards at the event were LTC Samuel Ancira (PdM WESS), Mr. Mike McGarvey (Deputy PdM WESS), Mr. Steve McClintock (PdM WESS Acquisition Management and Technology Chief), and Mr. Chris Green (PdM WESS Product Director for Baseband). In addition to the terminal at Fort Detrick, PdM WESS is fielding another approximately 90 MET terminals across the globe.

Editor’s note: See related story on page 1 regarding MET ribbon cutting. 🌐

CHESSE Product Leader Sophia Scott Steps Up for Retrograde Operations in Kuwait

By Joanna Corcoran, CHESSE Public Affairs, and Samuel Massenberg, Theater and Logistics Division Chief, OTSD

Computer Hardware Enterprise Software and Solutions (CHESSE) Product Leader Sophia Scott recently deployed to the Kuwait Area of Operation (AOR), which includes Kuwait, Iraq, and other central Middle East countries along with the Horn of Africa. For its LNO, based at Camp Arifjan, PEO EIS has a strategic mission to provide communication, security, logistics management, data transport, and enterprise support services.

For the past several years, PEO EIS has selected military and Department of the Army Civilians (DAC) volunteers to deploy to South West Asia (SWA) on assignments supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. PEO personnel ensure critical collaboration and coordination with U.S. and allied forces deployed throughout the region. While these operations have moved into their final phase, retrograde and redeployment, they still require continuous global strategic mission support.

Ms. Scott completed all required training and physicals required to deploy although she was initially identified as a backup candidate. When the primary candidate could not go, Sophia stepped up and filled the spot on very short notice, deploying April 21, 2014. She not only had to prepare for the overseas requirements, but also had to transition all of her former projects to a backup CHESSE member. She managed

the Information Technology Services – Small Business (ITS-SB) contract, which included a full range of services and solutions necessary for the Army to satisfy its support of the Army enterprise IT infrastructure and “info-structure” goals.



Ms. Sophia Scott, June 2014 Hero of the Month

Ms. Scott’s leadership supporting deployed PEO personnel and senior Army leadership in SWA has been critical to their mission accomplishment. Senior Army leaders often visit Camp Arifjan to gain firsthand knowledge of mission tasks. Sophia coordinates theater briefings, meetings, and information exchanges. She has been consistently recognized for her briefing preparations and important site evaluations. In addition to providing situational awareness to the PEO EIS leadership, she communicates effectively and demonstrates critical thinking. Ms. Scott was recently recognized by the PEO as the “Hero of the Month” for her significant contributions to the Kuwait AOR. 🌐

GFEBs' Eddie Valles Receives CIO Certification from NDU's iCollege

By Pamela Gray, GFEBs Public Affairs

After three years and eight courses, Mr. Eddie Valles graduated with his National Defense University (NDU) Chief Information Officer (CIO) Certification April 25, as he pursues continuing education in the Federal CIO competencies. The courses ranged from CIO roles and responsibilities to cybersecurity for information leaders and included software acquisition leadership.

NDU is located at Fort McNair in Washington, DC, and offers a combination of online and resident courses. The CIO Certification curriculum consists of four weeks online and one week at Fort McNair.

In accepting his certificate, Valles explained, "I preferred the resident courses to the online only classes because they gave me the opportunity to network with other leaders in government and explore how other agencies are using information technology today.

"As an information technology specialist, I was looking for a post-graduate degree program within my career field that was recognized, cost effective and convenient as a working professional," Valles said. "While researching educational opportunities available to me as a government civilian, the National Defense University iCollege stood out as the best fit."

Valles works with the GFEBs Program Management Office, one of the Department of the Army's ERP systems.

"GFEBs will benefit by Eddie now having the skills to evaluate the security posture of GFEBs and determine adequate people, processes, and technology security," explained Joel Robinson, GFEBs Technical Management Division and Valles supervisor. "GFEBs will also benefit from Eddie's newly gained leadership decision making analysis skills and potentially determine the types of decision tools that may be appropriate for GFEBs."

"I enjoyed every course but the one that had the biggest impact on me had to be Decision Making for Government Leaders," Valles said. "This course examined the type of environments, opportunities, and challenges government leaders face today and how they impact decisions."

Valles said the course allowed him a chance to reflect on his decision-making style and to understand some of the career choices he has made in the past.

Robinson agreed, "With the information learned in the NDU CIO program, Eddie is better positioned to become a leader in the federal workforce by leveraging

information technology, human, and financial resources to link critical decisions regarding resources, people, processes, and technologies to mission performance and information assurance."

"Eddie's roles and responsibilities at GFEBs won't necessarily change; however, Eddie is better positioned to assess strengths and weaknesses of various approaches for assuring the confidentiality, availability, and integrity of GFEBs information systems," said Robinson. "Eddie will continue to serve as an Information Assurance Manager and will continue to develop the skills he learned in the NDU CIO program."

The CIO Certificate course aligns with Federal CIO Council-defined CIO competencies and addresses the Clinger-Cohen Act and other relevant statutory and regulatory IT policies. The program allows graduate credits nine to 15 credit hours toward a master's degree through more than 40 academic partners and universities.

"Having completed the program, I feel a sense of accomplishment," Valles mused. "It has given me a leg up on completing a master's degree program. As for my career, I will continue to seek out opportunities that will help me develop new skills that can be applied to my profession as an Information Assurance Manager." 🌐



Ms. Teri Takai, DoD CIO, and Mr. Eddie Valles at his NDU CIO graduation ceremony.

HEROES OF THE MONTH



ASA(ALT) Principal Military Deputy, LTG William Phillips, recognizes great individuals and unsung heroes monthly across the ASA(ALT) organization.

May 2014



Zachary Lindsay
ACWS



Ellyn Kocher
HQ PMD

June 2014



Sophia Scott
CHES



Beverly Whitmore
GCSS-Army

On behalf of the U.S. Army, the Acquisition Corps, and PEO EIS, congratulations on a job well done! 🌐

Calendar of Events

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| 19 AUG | AUSA (Panel discussion with Mr. Wiltsie)
Arlington, VA | 13-15 OCT | AUSA Conference, Washington, DC |
| 21 AUG | PM Collaboration Meeting, PEO HQ | 16 OCT | PM Collaboration Meeting, PEO HQ |
| 1 SEP | Labor Day | 11 NOV | Veterans Day |
| 2 SEP | ATIS Information Exchange, Wood Theater,
Ft. Belvoir | 13 NOV | PEO EIS Town Hall, Location TBD |
| 3 SEP | PEO EIS Brown Bag lunch with Hoffman
employees, Hoffman, CR3S19 | 27 NOV | Thanksgiving |
| 18 SEP | PEO EIS Brown Bag lunch with ES
employees, Building 359, Ft. Belvoir | 11 DEC | PM Collaboration
Meeting, PEO HQ |
| 13 OCT | Columbus Day | 25 DEC | Christmas |

