

## HQMC LPD-1 DISTRIBUTOR



### Pertinent Points from LPD-1 Staff

#### **HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS (HQMC) & MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS COMMAND (MARCORLOGCOM) QUARTERLY SYNCHRONIZATION MEETING:**

On 21 January 2021, HQMC, Logistics Distribution Branch (LPD) and MARCORLOGCOM, Enterprise Distribution Division (EDD), conducted their quarterly synchronization meeting. During the meeting, participants reviewed agenda topics submitted from each organization and provided recommendations to support those topics. The synchronization meeting provided a valuable forum to share information on important issues and to coordinate required future actions.

#### MARCORLOGCOM (EDD) Topics Discussed:

- 2020 Department of Defense (DoD) Biennial Container Inventory Status Update:
  - The Marine Corps attained the DoD mandated standard of 98% for both ‘Owner Verified’ and ‘On-hand Verified’ inventory. Meeting this goal is a noteworthy accomplishment considering the logistical impacts resulting from COVID-19.
  - During the biennial inventory, the Marine Corps identified several unserviceable containers that require maintenance. Using Units should take the appropriate steps to repair or dispose of all unserviceable containers.
  - MARCORLOGCOM intends to develop a standardized container reconciliation process for Fleet Marine Force (FMF) Units to utilize during future inventories.
  - MARCORLOGCOM will also issue an after-action report via a Department of the Navy task to inform the FMF of the 2020 inventory results and recommend improvements to the current inventory process.
  
- Distribution Management Services Support (DMSS) Bridge Contract Update:
  - On 16 February 2021, MARCORLOGCOM renewed the DMSS bridge contract. The DMSS contract provides contracted distribution support to the Marine Corps.
  - The contract includes Distribution Process Advocates (DPA) services at various transportation nodes and additional distribution management consultants to assist with logistics planning. The DPAs collect and assess movement data used to identify trends. This process helps to ensure distribution nodes are operating at peak efficiency.
  
- Material Management Operation Group (M2OG) Tank Divestment Update:
  - The M2OG program remains on track, with plans to move 328 tanks to meet the Marine Corps divestment goal. The fully funded program has an estimated completion date of summer 2021.
  - By 2022, MARCORLOGCOM anticipates that all military vehicles associated with the M2OG program will return to the Continental United States (CONUS).

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HQMC (LPD) Topics Discussed:

- Transportation Management System (TMS) Update:
  - United States Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM) conducted a two-year Proof of Principle (PoP) on TMS. The TMS PoP included freight operations for CONUS DoD shipments, Defense Logistics Agency commercial shipments, and Army shipments to support deployments from the CONUS to Hawaii.
  - The Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment, Transportation Policy, initiated a weekly Transportation Financial Audit TMS Synchronization meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to ensure transportation and financial business reforms will enable the joint deployment and distribution enterprise to close capability gaps identified during the PoP.
  - USTRANSCOM intends to establish a TMS Joint Program Office (JPO) at Scott AFB. The TMS JPO will contain approximately 120 personnel, consisting of military, civilians, and government contractors.
  - The first planned release of TMS is the CONUS Freight module. In preparation for the release, USTRANSCOM formed the CONUS Freight Working Group to review legacy freight systems, including current processes and capabilities.
  
- In-transit Visibility Advocacy:
  - Telemetry is going through the on-boarding process to attain Full Operational Capability. On-boarding includes initial checks for information assurance and creating a funding profile across the Future Years Defense Program. LPD is in the contracting phase working to ensure the contract language is accurate.
  - Due to a network security change, Automated Manifest System-Tactical (AMS-TAC) experienced issues transmitting data to the Integrated Development Environment/Global Transportation Network Convergence (IGC/GTN). To resolve the matter, the Defense Logistics Agency, Defense Automated Addressing System, provided a new link that allowed data to transit in an effective manner. AMS-TAC will include the link as part of the IGC/GTN functionality; they will release the updated link with the new version.
  - The new build of AMS-TAC will undergo a Government Acceptance Test near the end of March, with full release via the software center following the test.

LPD and EDD will continue to coordinate potential resolutions on important distribution issues prior to future synchronization meetings. In addition, LPD will continue to keep the Distribution community abreast of these issues and their recommended solutions.

- POC: Mr. James Jones, Deputy Section Head LPD-1, (571) 256-2752, [james.a.jones7@usmc.mil](mailto:james.a.jones7@usmc.mil)

**PRESERVATION, PACKAGING, PACKING AND MARKING (PPP&M) INITIATIVES UPDATE:**

The PPP&M community has made great strides over the past few years implementing innovative and operationally impactful initiatives. We embrace the [National Defense Strategy](#), [38th Commandant's Planning Guidance](#), the [Sustaining the Force in the 21st Century](#) functional concept document, and the

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[Expeditionary Advanced Base Operations \(EABO\) concept](#). These documents provide over-arching guidance and govern the future of our Marine Corps.

The below initiatives align with the requirements outlined in the aforementioned documents. Additionally, our efforts support the Marine Corps' transformation into an agile fighting force with a small footprint, optimally equipped with everything needed (food, shelter, navigation tools, and most importantly, ammunition). Anything less degrades the probability of mission success, while anything more can slow down the Marines and reduce the likelihood of mission success.

Marines at Camp Pendleton are currently closing out the PPP&M Automation Proof of Principal, which we extended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 1st Supply Battalion PPP&M Marines tested the MyVelocity 360 inventory management software to improve asset visibility/in-transit visibility and streamline business processes in the PPP&M shops. The Logistics Distribution Branch (LPD), Logistics Information Technology Branch, and Marine Corps Systems Command are working together to secure funds to implement and sustain the system (or a similar system) Marine Corps-wide.

Lastly, LPD is currently researching the advantages of 3D printing or additive manufacturing as a new packaging concept. The 3D printing initiative is a supporting effort for both the ground Marine transformation and EABO. The Marine Corps seeks an emerging technology solution that allows for forward support with minimal packaging supplies and materials. Senior leaders believe 3D printing can potentially provide this capability while minimizing the continual and perpetual logistics repositioning of these supplies from one engagement area to another.

- POC: MSgt Sheldon D. Johnson, LPD-1, (703) 695-7762, [sheldon.d.johnson@usmc.mil](mailto:sheldon.d.johnson@usmc.mil)

**UNITED STATES TRANSPORTATION COMMAND (USTRANSCOM) GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION PERFORMANCE REVIEW (DPR):**

Headquarters Marine Corps (HQMC), Logistics Distribution Branch (LPD) continues to participate in the USTRANSCOM Global DPR meetings. The USTRANSCOM J4 (USTCJ4) Metrics Branch conducts the quarterly meeting at the action officer level for [Combatant Commands \(CCMDs\)](#): Northern Command, Southern Command, Central Command, Africa Command, European Command, and Indo-Pacific Command. Each DPR focuses on an individual CCMD, discussing topics of interest, process improvements, metrics, and performance.

USTRANSCOM derives performance from Time Definite Delivery (TDD). TDD is the estimated probability that a logistics system can deliver the required materiel to the customer within a given period. TDD compliance assesses the performance of requisitions' Logistics Response Time (LRT) against Joint Deployment Distribution Enterprise derived standards. LRT is a measurement in days of the total elapsed time from customer requisition to receipt of materiel ordered from a Department of Defense organic or commercial source of supply. In short, TDD compliance is the percentage of requisitions meeting their TDD standard for a specified period. The approved TDD compliance is 85% - 100%. USTCJ4 maintains these standards under the TDD Framework. USTRANSCOM measures TDD compliance over several months to provide a visual of trends from previous months in four different segments (Source, Supplier, Transporter, and Theater).

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During the DPR, participants have an opportunity to collaborate with other stakeholders to discuss and solve distribution problems. The data captured across the CCMDs is essential in identifying trends and determining the root cause of many TDD compliance issues. The data collected also serve as supporting evidence to initiate process improvements or business rule changes. HQMC (LPD) will continue to participate in all DPRs and work with the Distribution community to meet TDD standards.

**-POC: Mr. James Esteem, LPD-1, (571) 256-2772, [james.esteem.ctr@usmc.mil](mailto:james.esteem.ctr@usmc.mil)**

**GENERAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION (GSA) VENDOR SHIPPING LABELS UPDATE:**

Headquarters Marine Corps, Logistics Distribution Branch (LPD) continues to collaborate with GSA to resolve marking and labeling issues. This update informs the Distribution community of the progress we have made to ensure that all military shipments contain Military Shipping Labels (MSLs) and to confirm that Distribution Management Offices (DMOs) can scan the 2D barcode labels.

In January 2021, GSA requested the Navy, Marine Corps, and Defense Logistics Agency identify non-compliant vendor MSLs. After analyzing the bad MSLs, GSA determined the problem was in the formatting of the 2D barcodes. GSA selected one of their primary non-compliant vendors to walk, step-by-step, through the process of creating an MSL that complies with the Department of Defense (DoD) standard. LPD and GSA held a joint training session with the selected vendor and referenced MIL-STD-129R, Appendix A, Table A-II as the authoritative source.

We have placed the data collected during the training into the below table. The table shows that the selected vendor did not format the GSA MSLs properly. The table reflects the total order numbers for the last six months and identifies the number of orders missing Required Delivery Dates (RDDs) and Project Codes. Per the table, 10,262 MSLs were missing RDDs, and 6,814 MSLs were missing Project Codes. As a result, the MSLs were not scannable and caused an increase in man-hours and manual data input. After participating in the training, the vendor now understands the correct way to format 2D barcode MSLs.

Total Orders	Null (blank) RDD	Missing RDD %	Null (blank) Project Code	Missing Project Code %
12,631	10,262	81.24	6,814	53.95

LPD intends to continue working with GSA to get all their vendors in compliance with MIL-STD-129R. Therefore, LPD encourages DMOs to continue reporting all non-compliant vendor shipments utilizing the two-step MSL reporting process, which consists of taking a picture of the GSA label and providing a brief description of the issue. Afterward, email this information to Ms. La Juanna Nixon (NCSC) at [lajuanna.nixon@gsa.gov](mailto:lajuanna.nixon@gsa.gov). You may also contact Ms. Nixon by phone at (816) 489-6036.

GSA continues to research and identify the vendors who violate the guidelines outlined in MIL-STD-129R. These continued efforts will help identify non-compliant vendors and minimize unnecessary hours creating Transportation Control Numbers in the Freight Receiving Section. These efforts will also help to hold GSA vendors accountable for repeated contract violations. Because of our collaboration with GSA, the Marine Corps can provide more effective and efficient distribution.

**- POC: Ms. Candice Jackson, LPD-1, (571) 256-2758, [candice.jackson@usmc.mil](mailto:candice.jackson@usmc.mil)**

**- POC: Mr. Joe Rothrock, LPD-1, (571) 256-2761, [joseph.rothrock.ctr@usmc.mil](mailto:joseph.rothrock.ctr@usmc.mil)**

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**HAZARDOUS MATERIAL (HAZMAT) TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:**

The United States Department of Transportation (DoT) requires completion of the Department of Defense (DoD) Preparation of Hazardous Materials Transportation course (AMMO 62) for all Marines who prepare shipments of HAZMAT and explosives. The 80-hour course concentrates on the requirements for preparers to transport HAZMAT packages by all modes of transportation. There are several in-person and virtual options for completing the training. Marines can find the list of the authorized HAZMAT schools and the general links in the Defense Transportation Regulation (DTR), Part II, Chapter 204, pages 204 - 207.

The DTR authorizes the DoT, Transportation Safety Institute (TSI) to conduct the 80-hour AMMO 62 course and the 40-hour Hazardous Materials Certification Refresher course (AMMO 37) when the recognized DoD schools cannot provide training within the required timeframe. The HAZMAT courses offered by TSI meet the same requirements established by the DoT and the DoD schools.

TSI will now provide electronic notice of upcoming courses. The training notice outlines opportunities to complete the 80-hour AMMO 62 course and the 40-hour AMMO 37 recertification course. Marine Corps shippers should continue to utilize the training tools provided by the DoD schools and the Marine Corps Training and Education Command; however, the TSI courses serve as an alternative means to receive the HAZMAT training when HAZMAT courses are unavailable at the DoD schools.

Please visit the TSI website at <https://tsi-dot.csod.com/client/tsi-dot/default.aspx> for additional information on available TSI HAZMAT training courses. You may also contact Mr. Pete Kramer at (405) 954-4500 or at [hazmattraining@dot.gov](mailto: hazmattraining@dot.gov) with any questions that you may have.

- POC: Mr. Oliver Bell, LPD-1, (571) 256-2764, [oliver.j.bell@usmc.mil](mailto:oliver.j.bell@usmc.mil)

**GENERAL SYSTEMS UPDATE:**

**Cargo Movement Operations System (CMOS):**

Headquarters Marine Corps, Logistics Distribution Branch (LPD) is glad to announce that the Global Combat Support System – Marine Corps (GCSS-MC) approved the development of the interface between GCSS-MC and CMOS. The interface has a two-pronged approach:

- First: CMOS will receive a feed from GCSS-MC for the 940R, Materiel Release Defense Logistics Management Standard (DLMS) transaction, and CMOS will send the 945A, Materiel Release Advise transaction, back when the Distribution Management Office (DMO) has checked-in the cargo. CMOS will send another 945A when the DMO has released the shipment to the carrier.
- Second: GCSS-MC will pull the DLMS 315N, Transportation Status updates, and the 214 Commercial Transactions from Defense Automated Addressing System. The four transactions will provide 100% In-transit Visibility (ITV) for the Supply Units via the 'Due in and Status File' thus eliminating swivel chair research and decreasing formal tracking and tracing requests.

**Report of Shipment (REPSHIP):**

DMOs can perform electronic REPSHIPS (E-REPSHIPS) in CMOS; however, there are steps required to set-up the Comm-Addressing in Site Specs of your CMOS site. LPD would like to implement the E-REPSHIP, but we will need the DMO Site Manager, formally known as the System Administrator (SA), to contact the CMOS Help Desk to assist with setting up the Comm-Addressing. E-REPSHIPS will eliminate the file copies, email, and faxes that DMOs do when setting up your site to send and receive electronically.

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Doing E-REPSHIPS will also decrease man-hours and increase productivity. LPD requests that all DMOs remain proactive regarding REPSHIPS. DMOs can also set up E-REPSHIPS for Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) shipments.

Automated Manifest System - Tactical (AMS-TAC) SAs:

LPD and Marine Corps Systems Command (MARCORSYSCOM) would like to set-up a new process of establishing AMS-TAC SAs for each base/station and Marine Air Ground Task Force Materiel Distribution Company. With the elimination of the Marine Expeditionary Force Automatic Identification Technology Representatives, it has been hard to identify Unit personnel who can incorporate set-up changes to AMS-TAC. This has prompted us to look for other alternatives. Our current thoughts are for the DMO Officer in Charge (OIC) to appoint, in writing, a primary and an alternate non-commissioned officer to act as SAs. After selecting the Unit SA, the DMO OIC will send the appointment letter to MARCORSYSCOM and LPD to maintain on file.

Shipping Labels:

LPD acquired over 150 cases of labels for the Zebra GK420t printers. MARCORSYSCOM sent all sites six to eight cases of the labels when they fielded the printers last year.

Originally, LPD intended to distribute the remaining labels between the DMOs. However, due to workload, we had to place the distribution of the labels behind other priorities. If you need additional label stock, please send an email to the point of contact below and we will have a few cases sent to you. There is no charge for the labels, and they come with six rolls per case. That is a savings of over \$400 per case.

Reminder:

DMOs should implement a local policy to ensure your Freight Receiving Section enters all inbound shipments into your current receiving system (CMOS or AMS-TAC). Your efforts will help ensure LPD reaches higher payment percentages for 3-way match and ITV.

DLA Multi-Department of Defense Activity Address Code (DoDAAC) Multipacks:

LPD is working with Headquarters DLA to switch to a Single DoDAAC Multipack. We recommend that all DMOs contact their DLA representative and discontinue the current Multi-DoDAAC Multipacks for their DoDAAC. Doing this will save man-hours, increase productivity, and decrease loss and damage.

- POC: Mr. Joseph Rothrock, LPD-1, (571) 256-2761, [joseph.rothro.ctr@usmc.mil](mailto:joseph.rothro.ctr@usmc.mil)

- POC: Mr. Dominique Rhines, LPD-1, (571) 256-2772, [dominique.rhines@usmc.mil](mailto:dominique.rhines@usmc.mil)

**IN-TRANSIT VISIBILITY (ITV) WORKING GROUP (WG) UPDATE:**

In December 2020, the Headquarters Marine Corps (HQMC), Logistics Distribution Branch (LPD) ITV WG conducted its quarterly meeting to update the community of interest on current ITV-related topics. Topics of concern included Telemetry, Strategic Mobility, Transportation and Distribution (T&D) Symposium, Cargo Movement Operations System (CMOS), Automated Manifest System - Tactical (AMS-TAC), and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) support.

HQMC (LPD) is working with Marine Corps Systems Command (MARCORSYSCOM) to move forward with Phase III of the Small Business Innovation Research contract to establish Telemetry as an official program of record. The goal is to establish Telemetry's hosting environment within the Department of

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Defense enclave, complete the Authority to Operate process, and conduct an initial implementation/training across the T&D enterprise.

MARCORSYSCOM is coordinating with RF Logistics to finalize the upcoming AMS-TAC Engineering Change Proposals and the fielding of the new version. HQMC (LPD) is working with the CMOS and Global Combat Support System – Marine Corps program teams to finalize the ITV interoperability requirement identified during the 2019 T&D Operational Advisory Group. Once implemented, the new requirement will provide and enhance ITV capability to the Transportation and Supply communities by expanding existing interfaces with the Defense Automatic Addressing System.

The United States Army Automated Movement and Identification Solutions (AMIS) RFID-V contract now includes support for the Marine Corps active RFID infrastructure as part of a fair share agreement. The new contract will allow AMIS Field Service Experts to replace the outgoing HQMC Marine Expeditionary Force Field Service Representatives. Going forward, in support of RFID, AMIS will provide all infrastructure, portable deployed kits, and technical support.

If you would like a notification of future meetings, please send an email to the point of contact below. The next formal ITV WG meeting will be at the T&D Symposium (formally the T&D Operational Advisory Group) in Spring 2021.

- POC: Ms. Meloney Wallace, LPD-1, (703) 695-8072, [meloney.wallace.ctr@usmc.mil](mailto:meloney.wallace.ctr@usmc.mil)

**HQMC LPD-1 Distributor Editor: Jillian R. McCain, LPD Strategic Communications SME,**  
[jillian.mccain.ctr@usmc.mil](mailto:jillian.mccain.ctr@usmc.mil), (571) 256-7135