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**Defense Supply Center Philadelphia (DSCP) Subsistence  
The Subsistence STORES Retail Newsletter  
November 2003**

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**Here's the latest CFMS news -**

Just a quick note, folks – our monthly newsletter has a new name - the ***Subsistence STORES Retail Newsletter!***

**Wartime Operations IPT Meeting**

The Wartime Operations IPT Meeting did take place at the Atlantic City Convention Center on October 6, 2003. A member of the United States Marine Corps (USMC) offered a detailed presentation of Marine Corps field feeding processes that occur during exercises, deployments, and contingencies, including the distribution and the management of rations, as well as budgeting and accounting procedures.

The Army and Marine Corps use Operations and Maintenance (O&M) funds for procuring rations; the Navy and Air Force account for rations in their Subsistence-In-Kind (SIK) budgets. During deployments, the Army assumes regional responsibility for subsistence after 60 days. The Army accounts for rations by “boots on the ground”, meaning the number of people supported by rations.

Natick Labs specifies the ‘A’ and ‘B’ ration enhancements (ultra-high temperature milk (UHT), fruit). The Army, Air Force and Marine Corps use different methods to account for enhancements. When Marines subsist on rations for all three meals per day, that service allocates 8% of the cost of Meals Ready-To-Eat (MREs) and 15% of Unitized Group Ration (UGRs) to enhancements; the Air Force allocates 15% and 10%, respectively. The Army does not limit enhancements.

The Services agree that a deployable food management system should provide functionality similar to that required for garrison feeding; for instance, the capability to track and post receipts, issues, menus, pull sheets, recipes, orders, inventory, daily dollar breakdown, enhancement percentages, and head count by type of ration. Weekly catalog updates are needed for current prices. Headquarters and Central Commands require macro and micro views of entire field operations to see the location of rations. In the field, there is a roll up of subsistence orders from multiple sites, with a consolidation from a Central Command for delivery to that site. Palletizing each unit's rations orders would help with the transport and delivery to the individual sites. All the Services are requesting as much real time data as possible.

At this point in time, discussions of security and interfaces are postponed.

Ms. Lynette O'Brien, the STORES Project Manager, reminded IPT participants that the STORES Retail project is now in the pre-solicitation phase. Everyone must be aware of the need for discretion when discussing the project, particularly during briefings. The number or names of the software products under analysis should not be revealed.

Ms. O'Brien is requesting that the Services provide the levels of reporting or oversight (current and planned) in the reporting chain by close of business Friday, October 17, 2003.

**Information Assurance IPT Meeting Planned**

On October 16, 2003, Ms. O'Brien forwarded an email to Service representatives, to extend an invitation to join the Information Assurance IPT meeting for STORES Retail. The meeting will take

place in Philadelphia, PA, at the Defense Supply Center Philadelphia, 700 Robbins Avenue, on Wednesday, November 5, 2003, beginning at 0900, in the Building 36 ground floor conference room. Ms. O'Brien provided a fact sheet describing the Program, as well as a section from the Operational Requirements document (ORD) that lists the information assurance requirements identified for STORES Retail. There will be a discussion of requirements at the IPT meeting, and DSCP is looking for the services' to share any requirements overlooked, as well as any "lessons learned" that would be helpful to know.

**Demonstration Lab Proceeds**

As you might already know, DSCP did establish a software demonstration laboratory in support of STORES Retail. Representatives from each Service did participate in demonstrations with software vendors, and some folks did log onto the web sites maintained by the vendors, to further investigate the systems' capabilities. Also, some individuals already accessed the lab, to verify the systems' capabilities against the requirements that the Services previously provided for the design of the common food management system. The time for completing the gap analysis of the software is fast approaching. It's important that there is an adequate assessment of the software, since we want STORES Retail to satisfy all expectations for a common food management system.

DSCP would like to invite a representative from your office or a representative of your choice to spend two days at DSCP in the next two and one half weeks working with the software in the demo lab. We again extend this offer to IPT members, and also "end users", people who work in the dining halls and galleys that would be using the system every day. DSCP is willing to fund travel costs for one end user from each service to come to the demo lab for two to four days, and assist in the gap analysis. We will rely on you to invite the end user of your choice, and coordinate with their Command Office for their travel to DSCP. We will provide the funds for their TDY. Again, there is a need to accomplish our objective in the next two and one half weeks. DSCP will work with you to arrange your visit, to allow maximum access in the lab.

**STORES Retail Visibility at the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD)**

Ms. Gerry Cromley, the STORES Retail Program Manager, and members of her staff did participate in a conference call with representatives from the Office of the Assistance Secretary of Defense (NII). The NII Team is very pleased to learn of the level of commitment and support for STORES Retail by the military services. We here at the Program Office know that your participation in STORES Retail is key to its' success. Now that commitment has recognition at the highest levels of OSD. Thank you again for your support!

**!!!!STAY TUNED FOR ADDITIONAL CFMS INFORMATION IN THE NEAR FUTURE!!!!**

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