

PEO EIS Provides Capabilities Across the Enterprise

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Enterprise systems are the wave of the future and the Army is looking to the Program Executive Office Enterprise Information Systems (PEO EIS) to develop, deploy, and integrate systems across the Army. With a mission to provide information systems and communications infrastructure to enable the Army to succeed on the battlefield, PEO EIS is dedicated to delivering the most technologically advanced, integrated systems available to warfighters.

PEO EIS is developing solutions to integrate Soldiers' finance, personnel, and logistics systems so they will not worry about such matters while performing their mission. Here, Soldiers from 1st Platoon, 4th Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, provide security during a patrol in Sa'ada, Iraq, July 7, 2008. (Photo by PO2 Paul Seeber, U.S. Navy.)

“We are the Army’s information technology [IT] enabler,” said Program Executive Officer Gary L. Winkler. “If there is a way to provide increased capabilities to support our Soldiers, we will figure it out and get it to them.”

Delivering that capability to the Soldier is no small job. PEO EIS employs 1,625 military, civilian, and contractor personnel worldwide to develop and field more than 120 warfighting, business, and communications infrastructure products and systems. With an annual budget of \$3 billion, PEO EIS executes about 40 percent of the Army’s IT budget. “Most people are not aware of the diversity of the systems and products we develop,” Winkler explained. “Soldiers use systems in their functional areas but do not associate PEO EIS with having provided that capability.”

The EIS portfolio of systems span the full gamut of functional domains, providing capabilities in the personnel, education, installation management, finance, logistics, warfighting, medical, and infrastructure mission areas.

PEO EIS relies on its many industry partners to deliver new capabilities on time and on budget, and to develop effective strategies to manage change and handle technology transitions. “We want to do that quickly and cost-effectively, and to ensure that systems are usable,” Winkler explained. Systems are definitely “useable” as millions of Army, and even DOD, service members, civilians, contractors, and families access the myriad of PEO EIS systems on a daily basis.

Collaboration Through Army AKO/DKO

Army Knowledge Online (AKO) is one of many examples of widely used and accepted EIS systems. Having



The BAT is deployed worldwide to collect and compare fingerprints, iris images, and other identity data. Here, Marine SSG Sean O’Leary uses a BAT retinal scanner to create identification cards for Iraqis with Region 2 Border Enforcement Team in Tikrit, Iraq, Jan. 16, 2008. (U.S. Army photo by SGT Eric Rutherford, 115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment.)

begun as a general officer e-mail system in 1998, the benefits and utility of AKO were quickly realized. After Sept. 11, 2001, the Army Vice Chief of Staff decreed all Army Soldiers and civilians would be assigned an AKO account as the single system for sending emergency and status messages.

In 10 years, AKO has grown and expanded its capabilities to become the Army’s enterprise-level portal for collaboration efforts, enabling users to organize and share information worldwide. Expanded capabilities provide

service members, retirees, families, and sponsored Army guests Web mail, Web conferencing/collaboration tools, and instant messaging (IM)/chat among Army and Joint users.

Recognizing the advantages of AKO, the Defense Information Systems Agency adopted the system for Joint services —

establishing Defense Knowledge Online (DKO). Leveraging the AKO portal, DKO will serve as the primary single entry point for all DOD components.

With the addition of DOD users, Project Manager (PM) AKO/DKO

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anticipates 3.5 million account holders by 2010 with an ultimate goal of 8 million users. Planned enhancements to AKO/DKO include the addition of Wiki, mobile messaging, upgraded IM chat, Business Process Management, and Web mail with drag-and-drop capabilities.

Support to the Medical Community

U.S. Army Surgeon General LTG Eric B. Schoemaker announced expansion of the Medical Communications for Combat Casualty Care (MC4) earlier this year, highlighting the program's resounding success. MC4 is PEO EIS's medical IT system used in the combat zone to digitally document patient care.

MC4 provides tools to record and transfer data from the front lines to brick-and-mortar medical facilities worldwide. The system provides quick, accurate access to patient histories at the point of injury or the battlefield hospital and forwards critical medical information to a centralized database for worldwide patient record viewing and medical surveillance reporting.

MC4's benefits to Soldiers are substantial. Medics in the field can access

Soldiers' medical records to respond to battlefield casualties and document all resuscitative care. By the time a Soldier is transferred to the hospital, the attending physician has a record of the injury, vital signs, medication, and treatment administered on the battlefield. Precious time is saved in administering further medical care.

With electronic medical records on hand, providers have up-to-date information to avoid repeat procedures, commanders have improved medical situational awareness, and Soldiers have improved continuity of care via a lifelong electronic medical record. To date, more than 26,000 laptops, handhelds, and servers have been fielded to 250 deployed medical forces throughout Southwest Asia (SWA), generating more than 8 million electronic medical records. Because of its success, the Army has expanded MC4 use to U.S. Air Force units in SWA and Joint units in 13 countries, including South Korea and Egypt.

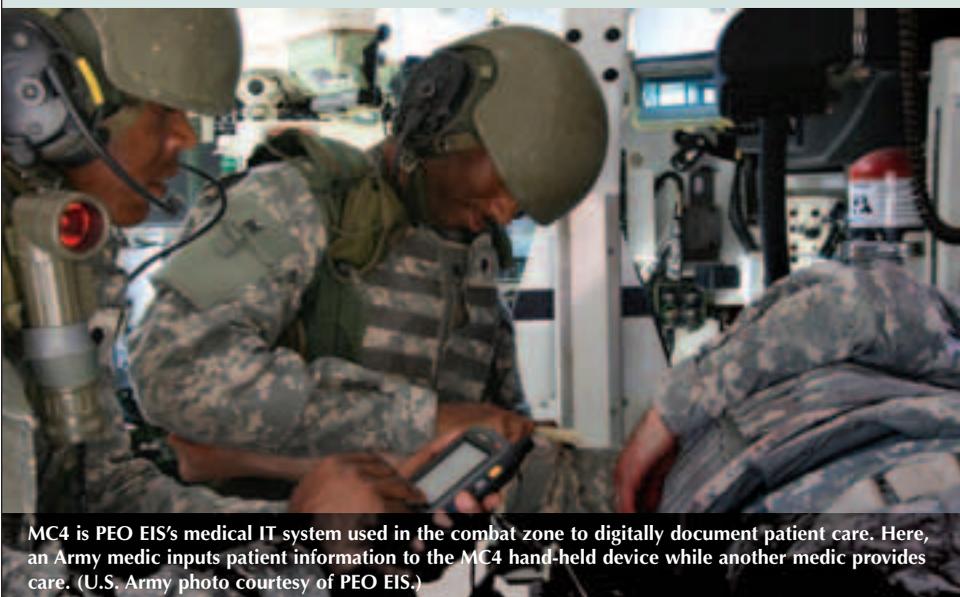
Identification Verified Through Biometric Technology

Biometrics is another example of systems that meet the needs of user communities. Its systems are widely

used to fight the global war on terrorism. PM DOD Biometrics provides systems and capabilities not imagined 20 years ago. The PM has acquisition responsibility for several biometric collection devices including the Biometric Identification System for Access, Biometric Automated Toolkit (BAT), and Handheld Interagency Identity Detection Equipment. These collection devices allow Joint service members to collect biometric data for Iraqi security force screening, base access control, detainee operations, and intelligence operations. DOD personnel have enrolled more than 1 million persons of interest in SWA using Army-developed biometric collection devices.

PM DOD Biometrics is also overseeing development of the Next Generation-Automated Biometric Identification System (NG-ABIS). With an initial operating capability scheduled for January 2009, NG-ABIS will be the central repository for defense biometric records and serve as the authoritative source for identities through that biometric data. NG-ABIS will expand storage and matching capabilities, allowing for fingerprint, iris, face, and palm records.

Biometric technology is not restricted to use in theater. This spring, the U.S. Military Entrance Processing Command (MEPCOM) signed the first military enlistment contract using a PEO EIS-developed biometric signature system. The technology protects the integrity and heightens security of the enlistment process. MEPCOM will obtain each applicant's fingerprint upon first contact and use that record to verify an applicant's identity throughout the qualification process, and during testing, medical screening, and background checks.



MC4 is PEO EIS's medical IT system used in the combat zone to digitally document patient care. Here, an Army medic inputs patient information to the MC4 hand-held device while another medic provides care. (U.S. Army photo courtesy of PEO EIS.)



PEO EIS acquires, develops, and fields satellite communications systems in the U.S, Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Germany, Korea, and Japan. (U.S. Army photo courtesy of PEO EIS.)

Integrating With Enterprise Resource Planning

The Army is moving toward integrating its supply chain, financial, and business processes and is relying on PEO EIS to find a solution. “We cannot continue to maintain the hundreds of stovepipe logistics, financial, and personnel systems/applications running on different platforms,” explained Winkler. “These systems cannot share data within the same functional domain, much less across domains.”

Drawing upon industry expertise and experience, PEO EIS is leveraging the power of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) to integrate finance, personnel, and logistics systems. ERPs will enable the Army to integrate the functionality of stovepipe systems within a domain into a single system. Following that, the functional ERP systems will be

integrated into an overarching business enterprise that spans functional domains. “We are working to ensure multiple systems work together seamlessly to optimize processes and provide an accurate, enterprise view of business information,” explained Taylor Chasteen, PEO EIS’s Director of Army ERP Systems Integration Task Force.

The Task Force is focusing on the General Fund Enterprise Business System (GFEBs) and Global Combat Support System-Army (GCSS-Army) for its initial implementation. GFEBs will replace

87 overlapping and redundant systems sharing financial, asset, and account data across the service. GCSS-A will replace 13 Army logistics systems and interface or integrate with command and control systems and Joint systems.

PEO EIS’s Army Enterprise Systems Integration Program will serve as the primary enterprise enabler and is charged with providing a single source for enterprise hub services, business intelligence and analytics, and centralized master data management for the ERPs. Following completion of GFEBs and GCSS-A, the Task Force will incorporate the Logistics Modernization Program and the Defense Information Management Human Resources System into the overarching business enterprise, allowing data to be shared among ERPs.

NSCs Enable Global Enterprise Technology

“ERPs address enterprise applications,” explained Winkler. “Now we need to be sure that the Army has a global network that can support those applications. The Network Service Center [NSC] global construct will provide that service. NSCs will function as the communications architecture for the entire Army, from fixed locations to the field — the next LandWarNet.”

The NSC construct will provide a seamless worldwide communications architecture, enabling connectivity from the global backbone to regional networks to posts/camps/stations, and, lastly, to tactical users in the battlefield. Users, regardless of where they are in the world, will have access to the Army’s enterprise network services including the same e-mail, telephone number, and mission applications — essentially a global plug-and-play environment.

NSCs will be comprised of a fixed regional hub, an area processing center, and a theater network operations and security center. Benefits derived from the NSC concept include standardized access, improved network performance, increased bandwidth, and a more secure network. “Going to a global communications network is key to our future enterprise plans,” said Winkler. “We have got to become more efficient and effective in the way we communicate, and the NSC is the way to do that.”

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