April 2018

Joint Fires

Combat Support Program's Quarterly Information Circular



LAND 17 1C2 (FAA) gains Second Pass approval in November 2017

DTCS NextGen: DARS-A nears approaching GateInitial MainTwo approval atRelease in Q3-Q4 approaching Gate Initial Material the end of this this year year



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LTCOL Andrew Langford **SO1 Joint Fires**

Some of you may now be aware of our name change as a result of an internal reorganisation at the beginning of this year, while others may not. Along with other changes that have occurred within Land Capability Division, the most important one affecting us was the splitting of DG Modernisation responsibilities into two new Branches. The two Branches are *Platforms Branch* and *Systems & Integration Branch* under which we are located. The programs that make up *Systems & Integration Branch* include ISREW, Land C3, LNI /T&E, Army Minors, ICT Business Development, and Combat Support. Lead by BRIG Mills, our main effort remains unchanged and that is to 'win the integrated investment program or IIP'.

To help us do that we welcome MAJ Nick Ullin to the team from P&EE Port Wakefield. He is looking after L8113 Long Range Fires and DARS-A as his main projects. The latter we are on schedule to roll out in the middle of this year. As many of you will know, Nick replaces MAJ Rhys Myors who left for the ABCANZ Program Office in Washington DC at the end of last year. Prior to leaving, Rhys was awarded a Silver Commendation from HLC for his efforts supporting the achievement of Government First Pass approval for L19 7B Short Range Ground Based Air Defence (SRGBAD) and Gate Zero approval for L8115 Mortar Ammunition, amongst other achievements. He was an incredibly valuable and experienced member of the team and we wish him all the best in his new role!

While our efforts are predominantly spent delivering the Major Projects in the IIP, the team spends a considerable amount of time behind the scenes supporting initiatives and concept demonstrators that come to us from the Regiments. This includes 9 Regiment, which brings together all the Reserve Mortar Batteries under the one regimental structure, through to organisations such as 1 Division. To that end we want to continue to encourage you to send through your ideas and concepts in the interests of continuing to advance capability within the RAA. — AL



LTCOL Charles Slinger SO1 Air & Missile Defence

While the AMD Cell may seem quiet with an absence of key project milestones this quarter, there are several work packages and Risk Mitigation Activities (RMA) occurring that will treat system obsolescence for L19-7A Counter-Rocket Artillery Mortar (C-RAM) and shape capability options for L19-7B.

CASG, with 16 ALR support, have just completed several bodies of work contributing to the replacement of the obsolete Sense and Warn (S&W) component of the C-RAM system. While formal outcomes are pending, WAVES8 has proven itself as a technically viable replacement for the extant Integrated Base Station and speaker components of the S&W system. Additional work will be conducted in April/ May to confirm training and logistic through life support requirements of WAVES8. The replacement equipment is likely to be acquired to support training and operational requirements only.

L19-7B remains focussed on a series of RMAs that will confirm and de-risk capability options presented to Government at Second Pass, now scheduled for June 2019. Integration work of the High Mobility Launcher onto the PMV-L (Hawkei) is progressing well, yet is still finding overall size and weight constraints challenging. Raytheon's Air Defence Console has arrived in Australia and will be available to support training at 16 ALR in May. This will be the first of three Raytheon delivered training packages on the Console in 2018. To further develop Army's understanding of L19-7B training and doctrine requirements, 16 ALR will be sending a small contingent to 132 Air Wing GBAD Battalion in Norway this May, coinciding with the National Advanced Surface-to-Air Missile System LFX.

In other business, AHQ is working closely with International Engagements – Army and the Australian Embassy – Washington to lock-in an O3/O4 position with the 94th Army Air & Missile Defence Command, Hawaii. The intent is for this position to replace the Instructor in Gunnery at the United States Army Air Defence Artillery School, Oklahoma, with effect January 2019. The merits of which will be discussed at the Army-to-Army Staff talks this April.

The next JF Info Circular will see an update on Army's contribution to the ADF's Counter Unmanned Aerial System capabilities. — CS

Future Artillery Ammunition (LAND 17 1C2)

The new ammunition suite will create a commercial line-ofsupply of 155mm ammunition from 2022-23.

Land 17 Phase 1C2 *Future Artillery Ammunition* (FAA) received Second Pass approval in November 2017. In January this year the Minister of Defence Industry announced that NIOA was the selected tenderer and the project entered contract.

Army is partnered with NIOA to introduce and integrate a modern and capable artillery ammunition suite as a readily available line of supply. The ammunition suite will be fully integrated with the M777 and AFATDS and be available for Army's Munitions Sustainment Program, CA59, to order as part of regular procurement. This does not replace the US suite of ammunition; it provides a second and commercial line of supply.

NIOA is an Australian owned family company that has partnered with Rheinmetall and Junghans to integrate the bomb and fuse. Established in 1973 they have become Australia's largest privately owned supplier of arms and ammunition. Their products are supplied to the sporting, law enforcement and military markets. NIOA represents in excess of 50 international partners which cover the functional spectrum of research and development, project management, manufacture, logistics, planning, finance, quality management, marketing and legal. FAA will draw upon their ability to integrate the fuses and bombs from

Junghans and Rheinmetall respectively. The project is scheduled to achieve Initial Operational Capability (IOC) in 2020-21 and Final Operational Capability (FOC) in 2022-23. In 2021-22 we can expect to see Operational Test and Evaluation (OT&E) occur, which involves testing the system as a Regiment under normal operational and training conditions. This will include live fire, logistics exercises and verifying the digital thread.

> Increased range, increased lethality, improved insensitivity

The ammunition was selected due to its increased lethality, increased range options and improved insensitivity. This allows for more efficient missions and decreased risk during storage and transport. The suite will also include multi-spectral smoke, illuminating and IR-illuminating, low yield TNT PRAC rounds for training and high explosive substitute (HES) concrete rounds. The project will also supply each detachment with a training kit; consisting of an inert round with no driving band and fuse simulation set to allow gun drill training during CPX.

There remains a capability pathway for Very Long-range Artillery Projectile (VLAP) which may be certified post FAA if the need and resources are present. The VLAP has a range of 40kms. It is an example of the opportunities of partnering with a commercial supplier as Army is able to leverage of emerging technology present in the market but not necessarily being adopted by the US. The table on the next two pages provides a description and capability statement of all products being certified by FAA. The certification program will ensure all ammunition is integrated into AFATDS, Digital Fire Control System (DFCS) and the NATO Armaments Ballistic Kernel (NABK).

All relevant fuse shell combinations will be certified for the M777 and have data collected to allow integration into the NABK and the digital fires system. *Safety in Gun* was conducted at Port Wakefield last year whereby 300 HES rounds were fired and successfully ensured that the pressures and wear of the all-upround had on the gun fell within safety tolerances.

There are two Verification trials scheduled. Verification 1 (V1) will be held at P&EE Port Wakefield by Q1 2019 and will verify the ballistic match to gather the fire control input (FCI) data and confirm the function of various natures. Verification 2 (V2) will be held in Sept-Nov 2020 and will confirm that the data has been successfully integrated into AFATDS. Both V1 and V2 will require support from the RAA and FORCOMD. Once the requirements have been established CASG, AHQ and FORCOMD will coordinate requirements and resources to ensure that RTS activities are not unduly impacted. Further detail to follow.

The FAA Project involves a complicated verification plan that will require the support of the RAA, from gunners to senior officers. The end state is a greatly enhanced artillery capability with enhanced lines of supply to ensure our weapons are available when and where we may need. — TM

PHOTOGRAPHS WITHDRAWN

Item	Description	Capability Improvement
Shells (155mm)		
M0121A2 Insensi- tive High Explosive (IHE) with Boat Tail (BT) and Base Bleed	The M0121A2 projectile is a deep fuze well, natural fragmenting IHE munition. It provides an Insensitive Munition (IM) advantage with increased terminal effect against infrastructure and semi-hard- ened targets. The M0121A2 projectile can be used with suitable NATO stan- dard fuzes and compatible modular charge systems or bag charges.	The M0121A2 is intended to be Army's primary warshot. It con- tains a deep well intrusion allowing use with the Precision Guidance Kit (PGK). The round will be ac- cepted for transport on the ADF's air and sea assets. The M0121A2 will come in a base bleed variant, allowing engagement of targets out to 30kms. The M121A2 has an improved lethality prediction profile over the M107, providing increased and more consistent cov- erage over the lethal radius.
M0603A1 IHE Pre-Formed Frag- mentation (PFF) with Boat Tail	The M0603A1 projectile is an IHE PFF munition, which provides an IM ad- vantage with increased terminal effect, offered by a dual role fragmentation warhead design. The 12,000 3mm PFF tungsten spheres lining the warhead considerably enhance the lethal capa- bility of the warhead, with natural frag- ments also contributing significantly to the warhead effect. The M0603A1 pro- jectile can be used with suitable NATO standard fuzes and modular charge systems or bag charges.	The M0603A1 IHE PFF presents increased lethality with a small- er blast. The tungsten spheres increase lethality, reducing the number of rounds required for coverage of an area. As with the M0121A2, the improved insensi- tivity will allow transport on the ADF's air and sea assets.
M2000A1 High Explosive with Boat Tail	The M2000A1 HE projectile is a TNT/ HNS filled natural fragmenting muni- tion, which is intended for use against soft skinned and semi-hard targets. The M2000A1 projectile can be used with suitable NATO standard fuzes and mod- ular charge systems or bag charges.	The M2000A1 will provide a low cost HE round for tactical train- ing. The round will provide full blast exposure for practices such as Danger Close and Battle Runs. However, the round will have lim- itations on its transportability due to the TNT insensitivity rating, which are yet to be determined.
M2000A1 PRAC with Boat Tail	The M2000A1 HES PRAC projectile is a low fragmenting Practice (Prac) vari- ant of the Assegai series of projectiles, which can be used with suitable NATO standard fuzes compatible modular charge systems or bag charges.	The M2000A1 HES PRAC is in- tended to provide a cheaper round for technical gunnery practices. The lower yield of HE provides more flexibility to work within the range space (smaller SDZ for range planning). The round will have restrictions on air and sea transportion that are yet to be determined.

M2000A1 HES INERT	The M2000A1 HES INERT projectile is used to simulate the Assegai HE vari- ants. Important to note is this Inert vari- ant is made to the same Product Fab- rication Specification as the M2000A1 HE BT projectile. The only variation is the difference in 'fill'.	The M2000A1 HES INERT round is intended for use in qual- ifying activities. NIOA claims bal- listic similitude for the suite allow- ing a single, cheaper, PRAC round to provide data for the entire suite.
M2063A1 Infra Red (IR) Illum with Boat Tail and Base Bleed	The M0236A1 IR ILLUM projectile provides enhancement for night time reconnaissance with vision intensifiers by means of a parachute suspended in- frared flare. It can be used with suitable NATO standard fuzes and compatible modular charge systems or bag charges.	The M2063A1 IR ILLUM will support Army's night fighting capability by providing illumina- tion not visible to the naked eye. Consideration should be given for novel uses such as ground burst for mark missions.
M2003A1 Visual Light Illum with Boat Tail and Base Bleed	The M2003A1 Visual Illumination Base Ejection (VL ILLUM BE) is identical to the M2002A1 and M0236A1 pro- jectiles except for the payload (uses the same carrier shell and expulsion charge system). It can be used with suitable NATO standard fuzes and modular charge systems or bag charges.	The M2003A1 VL ILLUM BE maintains the capability.
M2002A1 Multi-spectral Smoke with Boat Tail and Base Bleed	The M2002A1 Screening Smoke Base Ejection (SCR SMK BE) projectile was added to the Assegai series of projectiles as a bi-spectral smoke obscuration vari- ant. The payload of the M2002A1 SCR SMK BE projectile consists of canisters containing a red phosphorous smoke producing composition that is ignited and ejected over the target area. The burning canisters fall to the ground in a scattered pattern where they produce a grey-white smoke screen for both visible and infrared obscuration. The M2002A1 projectile can be used with suitable NATO standard fuzes and compatible modular charge systems or bag charges.	The M2002A1 SCR SMK BE improves upon the current smoke round by screening IR imaging devices as well as the naked eye.

Fuses & Charges

Click the box to view information about the Fuses and Charges (requires DPN access)

Defence Trial 946 – NGS with DTCS

Digitally Aided Fire Support (DAFS) has taken another positive step forward during a trial with the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) in February. The newly introduced version 3 of the Digital Terminal Control System (DTCS) was put to the test under OT&E conditions with HMAS Anzac at Beecroft Range on the NSW South Coast.

VMF threads were successfully exchanged between RAA observers located on the Beecroft Peninsula and the Operations Room aboard HMAS Anzac. Ten DAFS elements were tested as part of the mission threads:

- Standard Call For Fire (CFF)
- Repeat of Fire for Effect (FFE) and Record as Target
- Deliberate change by the fire unit to requested ammunition nature,
- Mission denied
- Engagement of a recorded target
- Danger Close
- Adjustment when At My Command (AMC) is in force
- CFF with adjustment of Mean Point Impact/Burst (MPI/MPB)
- CFF with Anzac terminating adjustment mission
- CFF with Check fire

This event at Beecroft is part of an overarching Defence Trial (DT 946) for the in-service DTCS. Major Tony Hardy from the Land



Test and Evaluation Agency (LTEA), AHQ has been actively coordinating the trial on behalf of Army's Joint Fires Cell since the trial's inception in 2015.

The results of this trial will help to inform the advancement of digital fires within the ADF. The importance of DTCS' role in the overall capability was affirmed by Commander 1 Div, MAJGEN McLachlan in November last year when he addressed the RAA Regimental Conference by remarking that the 'DTCS is the only recognised system that allows us in theatre to digitally connect between ground and air'.

Formal reporting by LTEA is expected by the end of April, with initial observations indicating that digital communications between DTCS and HMAS Anzac support the required VMF threads for conducting Naval Gunfire Support. The key known limitation remains the reduced VMF range over VHF although digital communications was achieved and maintained at 13 NM. Pleasingly DTCS v3 now incorporates digital HF and SatCom capabilities, and the results from Trial 946 will provide guidance to capability decision makers on the requirement for commensurate Anzac Class upgrades.

Additionally, the continuing incremental improvements to DTCS are helping to inform the DTCS *NextGen* that is being pursued under project LAND 17 Ph 2.

Supporting this trial on the land side were BDR Damian Burns (JTAC Tp), BDR Lucas Elfverson (1 Regt), Mr Drew Pickett (ADF Tactical Data Link Authority, [ADFTA]) and Mr Andrew Roberts (Rockwell Collins). From the maritime side the HMAS Anzac Operations staff were enthusiastically engaged whilst CMDR Steve Waring (Australian Maritime Warfare Centre [AMWC]) was embarked to ensure the trial conditions were faithfully executed. LCDR Bob Dunn (AMWC) was instrumental in facilitating the trial. — AM

Bridging the Gap Between Acquistion and End Users

8/12 Regt's Gunline and Observation Posts received a visit by civilian members from the Department of Defence at Cultana last month.

The Project Director (Ms Jaclyn Booth) and engineers from the LAND 17 Ph 2 (DTCS *NextGen*) were accompanied by members from Contestability, Land Network Integration Centre (LNIC) and Deloitte for a 24 hour visit to 8/12 Regt's live fire exercise at Cultana Range in March.

The intention of this visit was to provide an opportunity for civilian members - all of whom are critical stakeholders in the success of Army's Joint Fires capabilities - to gain an appreciation of the arduous nature and challenging conditions that an Artillery soldier experiences.





An afternoon on the hill and a morning on the Gunline provided an insight that is rarely experienced by the people that do so much behind the scenes to advance the cause of the RAA specifically, and Joint Fires more generally.

Of particular note was the honest and considered brief provided by GNR Tom Lewis to the CASG engineers who are intimately involved in the development of DTCS *NextGen*. Holding court for half an hour whilst overlooking the target area, GNR Lewis was able to confirm many of the issues that users face with the in-service DTCS. Pleasingly, the recommendations that he put forward are being addressed by the LAND 17 Ph 2 Project Team in the design of DTCS *NextGen*.

As always, exposure to live fire on the Gunline is a memorable experience for any willing contender. Thanks go to the detachment commanders, BDRs Tim Muhamad and Luke Sonners, for hosting these members on their platforms during the live fire.

The professionalism displayed by all ranks of 8/12 Regt during this visit has provided a very positive impression for key stakeholders that will have enduring benefits for the RAA and the Joint Fires capability for years to come. — AM

DARS-A

Digitally Aided Range Safety - Artillery (DARS-A) software nears Initial Material Release

DARS-A is a software package that replicates the creation of range traces according to LWP-G 7-3-3 *Indirect Fire Range Orders* and associated policy. This tool was conceived several years ago and has been created as a proprietary application owned by the ADF. DARS-A is nearing finalisation of its production version (V3.0) and will undergo a series of test cases as part of acceptance testing. This will subsequently be released to specific users as part of a staggered rollout in order to identify any additional fixes before the software development phase is formally completed.

> DARS-A will save range planners many hours of manual plotting

The Regiment should expect to see DARS-A distributed by the end of 2019. A Train-The-Trainer package will be delivered mid-year, with the 2019 ROGC identified as a key milestone for entry into the RAA training continuum and effective Final Operating Capability, by which time all units will have received the tool and training. Gap training will be delivered by the project to unit personnel in location throughout 2018-19 at which time the laptops and appropriate support will be provided. Final details of the production version are being determined, but the software will include all Australian-based training areas that are likely to be used for indirect fire. The maps will be refreshed whenever Australian Geospatial Organisation updates the respective edition.

Users should be clear that the DARS-A tool does not change the way we currently do Range Safety. It has simply migrated a manual process to a computer platform with the resultant benefit of significantly accelerating the production of safety traces and range details. It will save range planners many hours of manual plotting, and will enable them to test modifications with minimal effort. To that end, it will be possible to change existing traces or manufacture new ones in the field by printing out the overlay on a talc. This only needs to be manually checked for accurate reproduction as per existing procedures for safety traces.

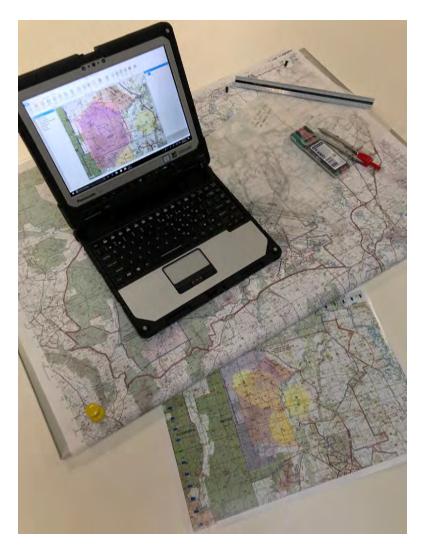
The School of Artillery is currently examining the method by which to record DARS-A training and its effect on the ROGC and WO Gunnery course delivery

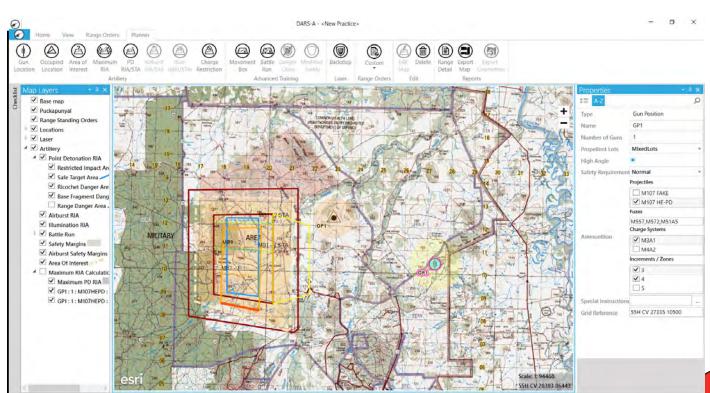


of the range planning module. DARS-A is simply a tool that automates an existing process. Completion of this training will represent the acquisition of a skill and not the qualification of a new competency.

The life-of-type is expected to be 3-5 years. Although DARS-A has not been designed as a precursor to follow-on activities relating to range safety, it has been instrumental in identifying a number of inconsistencies in our current doctrine which are currently being addressed, with the School of Artillery undertaking some important work to update RAA Directives. As new ammunition is brought into service it will be updated in DARS-A, accommodating the introduction of the *Future Artillery Ammunition* under LAND 17 Ph 1C2.

Dates for the roll-out of the system are being finalised between the Project Team and the School of Artillery. Most units should be expect to be using DARS-A from the middle of this year with FOC by the end of 2019. — NU





Future ULC nears User Trials

The Commonwealth, via Task 59, has now taken delivery of the future Unit Load Carrier (ULC) prototypes from both BAE and ECLIPS Engineering (formerly Sea Box International). As such, we thought this was the perfect time to provide the community with an overview of the project concept and our intentions for the future.

The Future ULC Concept

Ideally, artillery ammunition should be able to move through the supply chain – both current and planned – via Commercial and ADF land, sea and air transport modes with a minimum of repacking occurring, i.e. be inter-modal. Additionally, 155mm ammunition should also be able to be stored in all existing storage nodes, such as dedicated Explosive Store Houses (ESHs), shipboard magazines or temporary in theatre storage such as covered sites, 20ft ISO Containers etc.

The future ULC is intended to achieve the above requirements, thereby improving the handling of 155mm ammunition through the supply chain. In fact, the future ULC could – theoretically – be used as a direct replacement for both current 155mm ammunition packaging and the in-Service ULAC. For example, the loading of ULCs could conceivably occur at the OEM and/or within the National Support Base, thus allowing ULCs to be demanded by the end users (i.e. forward Supply units and the Gun Line) pre-loaded with the required 155mm ammunition configurations. Supply of ammunition in this manner will reduce/eliminate the level of waste that is currently dealt with at the battery ammunition point and gun line, reduce the time taken to prepare ammunition re-supply and increase overall battery mobility.

Current Status

As part of the verification test activities both ULC systems have completed testing required for classification as approved packaging for Class 1 dangerous goods. In February this year both future ULC systems were put through their paces by Accredited Test Services (ATS) personnel at Monegeetta Proving Grounds, being subjected to drive trials that consisted of exposure to 1st class, 2nd class and cross country road conditions. Both future ULC systems successfully completed the trials, with valuable vibration profiles being generated which will assist with future trials work.

Test and Evaluation activities for the ULC prototype will occur in the next few months, which includes destructive testing and unmanned firings at Proof and P&EE Port Wakefield and user trials by 1 Regt. The aim will be to develop the prototype ULC systems to Technical Readiness Level 8 and have the design certified against most, if not all, regulatory requirements.

Future test and trials plans

It is planned that both future ULC systems will now undergo further improvement/modifications (based upon outcomes of the ATS trials) prior to their being sent north to 1 Regt for trials in early May 18. From here it is expected that the ULCs will be moved across to 8/12 Regt for further trials, culminating in their use in a live fire exercise later this year.

In addition to the user trials the ULC systems will also be undergoing destructive testing at P&EE Port Wakefield to ensure that: a) they are safe for use with live ammunition and b) to determine baseline responses to insensitive munitions threats. — AR





DTCS Version 3

The roll-out of DTCS v3 software and upgrade training occurred last month at 1 Regt and is scheduled to occur at 4 Regt and 8/12 Regt this month.

A critical feature of this upgrade is the replacement of the troublesome Personal Computer Improved Data Modem (PCIDM) with a proven software modem. This has a dual benefit of increasing the reliability of the system while also removing the need for a cable.

FSR support remains available for DTCS in barracks and in the field. Regiments should consider bidding for support through CASG as part of routine exercise planning. — AM

DTCS NextGen

The next generation of DTCS continues to gain momentum as LAND 17 Ph 2 moves towards Gate 2 approval at the end of this year. The tender response from Rockwell Collins Australia (RCA) is under evaluation by the Project Team at CASG, while RMAs are continuing to be developed concurrently.

Importantly, the intended solution continues to be based on the Android operating system, with both the well known mapping engines, ATAK and DPSS, remaining on the table for consideration.

L17 Ph 2 is the main effort for the JF Cell this year. — AM

DTCS Tech Support Helpline

Tel: +61 2 9886 8846 Email: dtcs@rockwellcollins.com

Infrastructure

DTCS Simulators

The construction of the eight DTCS Simulators around the country remain on track for completion this year. A staggered handover of the buildings is scheduled to occur in Q2, allowing Rockwell Collins access to conduct the fitout of the simulation hardware. Once system testing is satisfied the simulators will be handed over to units.

Each simulator location will be serviced by a Rockwell Collins FSR on similar contract conditions that are currently being provided with the Flat Screen Trainers.

The end state of this project will see the DTCS Simulators operating as a stand-alone capability in each location. — AM

Land Simulation Network (LSN)

In order to improve simulation opportunities within Army the AHQ Directorate of Land Simulation is establishing an Army Minor project, Land Simulation (LS) Core 2.0, that aims to strengthen Army's simulation capability.

Part of this project will be connecting the Combat Brigade's DTCS Trainers to the Land Simulation Network (LSN). The LSN currently connects all the Battle Simulation Sites (BSS) and its expansion to include the DTCS Trainers will provide significant advantages to training.

For example DTCS trainers in separate brigades could train together or quickly share scenarios developed in other locations. DTCS trainers will also be able to participate in exercises conducted in the BSS such as JFO support to dismounted infantry or part of a larger 'Silicon' Series exercise.

The LS Core 2.0 project is currently scheduled to connect DTCS Trainers to the LSN by the end of 2019. Separately, we will continue to investigate the feasibility of connecting the SOCOMD (Campbell & Holsworthy Barracks) and RAAF (Williamtown) DTCS Trainers to the DTEN. —VL

Snapshot

AFATDS over HF

Building on the initiative of 1 Regt last year, AHQ and CASG have prioritised the Technical Certification for the use of AFATDS over HF. Having received final Capability Manager sign-off in March, the RAA is now authorised to use AFATDS over the Harris AN/PRC-150 HF bearer.

New AFATDS Computers

CASG are formulating the plan for the roll-out of the new Getac X500 to replace the current AFATDS computer. It has a better screen and more powerful processor, and will be fitted with a media bay that can accommodate any one of an additional battery, hard drive, or DVD reader. Distribution is scheduled for Q3 this year starting with 1 Regt and 1 Div. The vehicle installation kit is scheduled for roll-out in Q2 2019.

Tyr Battery Cables

The Tyr Laser Target Designator will now be easier to deploy in training and operations with the provision of battery cables to all user units. There is no coincidence that WO2 Dion Hawkett's posting to CASG has coincided with the solving of a long term problem endured by JFTs and JTACs. Units can expect to see cables arriving in their Q-Stores in the next two months.

JTAC/JFO/TMO Database

JF Cell entered a two-year contract at the start of April with Odyssey Consulting in the US to establish a hosted database solution for JTACs and JFOs.

Addressing a long-standing issue, JTACs and JFOs will shortly have a solution that has been in service with the US SOCOM for a number of years. The ADF solution will be unclassified and allow access by individuals from any internet connection. Driving this change is the impending rollout of Windows 10 which is not capable of supporting the long-standing JTAC database (based on Microsoft Access 2003). The first base to be affected is Robertson Barracks from 25 May 18.

A phased roll-out will occur over the next three months with the sequential introduction of the JTAC database, followed by the JFO and TMO databases.

CAPT Roger McPherson will provide continuity in the changeover from the current database to the new Odyssey solution. Critical to this is the transfer of existing data.

Project managing the introduction will be CAPT Rob Hartley who brings his corporate experience from the Citadel Group. Rob has been intimately involved in the development of software platforms and it is this experience along with his RAA knowledge that we will be leveraging off to help deliver this tool.

Members at School of Artillery and 4 Squadron can expect a visit from Rob and Roger over the next couple of months. — AM



Spotlight

Article Withdrawn

Future Events

ABCANZ Armies' Annual Meeting 9-13 April 2018 Melbourne

US Joint Staff's DAFS and DACAS WG 23-27 April 2018 Virginia, USA

JFS & JCAS Symposium & Curriculum Review 7-11 May 2018 Virginia, USA

LAND 17 FIC WG (No.1) 11 May 2018 Canberra

50th Anniversary Battle of Coral 11-13 May 2018 Canberra

LAND 17 FIC WG (No.2) September 2018 Location TBD

BOLD QUEST 18-2 October-November 2018 Indiana, USA

BOLD QUEST 19-1 May-June 2019 Finland

