

Theater Enterprise-Wide Logistics System Moves Closer to Full Deployment and Migration to DHSS

The Theater Enterprise-Wide Logistics System moved closer to full deployment when the Army successfully released TEWLS 2.0 to the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Center-Europe in November. TEWLS is on schedule to be deployed to U.S. Army medical materiel centers in Korea and Qatar during the first quarter of 2010. Upon successful completion of these deployments and formal testing, TEWLS will transition from U.S. Army management to the Defense Health Services Systems Medical Logistics Division.

TEWLS is a U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command initiative to modernize intermediate-level logistics systems to a state-of-the-art Enterprise Resource Planning system. ERPs are commercial software applications that consolidate the business processes of an organization into a single system supported by a common database. By leveraging the power of the ERP, TEWLS will offer single data entry, instantaneous data sharing, elimination of several legacy logistics systems and standardization of globally recognized world-class business practices.

TEWLS began development as the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency's Revolution in Logistics and supports enterprise-level total life cycle management of medical assemblages, medical materiel management and physical distribution within a single shared data environment in the United States and overseas. When fully deployed, TEWLS will be the information management application for several intermediate-level medical logistics activities including Joint Services materiel distribution and storage activities in military theaters in Europe, Southwest Asia, Africa and Korea. Across the medical logistics spectrum, TEWLS completes the Defense Medical Logistics Standard Support application which focuses on logistics management support for medical treatment facilities and the DMLSS Customer Assistance Module which focuses on providing automated medical logistics support to users in theater.

Making the transition from the Army to Military Health System management has been a collaborative effort. Early on, a senior level agreement was reached documenting and solidifying requirements and expectations on both sides to ensure a smooth transition. The resulting documents serve as management guides to ensure continuation of collaboration to help successfully navigate TEWLS

through the complex network of requirements and documentation governing joint applications. "It has been a long tough road, but the light at the end of

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When fully deployed, TEWLS will modernize intermediate-level logistics systems.

Congressional Budget Office Receives Annual Military Health System Beneficiary Projections

The Managed Care Forecasting & Analysis System has released its latest projections on eligible TRICARE beneficiaries to the Congressional Budget Office. MCFAS's annual projections lists eligible projections by beneficiary categories and age groups. CBO uses MCFAS's projections to update its budget baselines for the Defense Health Program, the Medicare Eligible Retiree Health Fund and to perform cost estimates on authorizing legislation.

MCFAS is the official source of Department of Defense health care beneficiary population figures using information from the following sources:

- Services' Medical Department Representatives
- Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System
- Active Duty, Guard/Reserve Future Years' Defense Plan
- DoD Office of the Actuary

The data, assumptions, methodologies, and results are coordinated and approved by the Joint DoD/Service Population and Resource Projection Working Group before this report is submitted to CBO. MCFAS data is also used in DoD and Service Planning documents such as the Budget Estimate Submission and the President's Budget.



TRICARE Online Secure Provider Access To Be Decommissioned in March

The Secure Provider Access to the Composite Health Care System, a capability within TOL will be decommissioned on Mar. 31, 2010. SPAC provides secure remote access to CHCS via the Internet.

The Military Health System's Portfolio Management Oversight Committee originally directed SPAC's decommissioning in May 2008. The Enterprise Remote Access service managed by the Tri-Service Infrastructure Management Program Office provides an alternative method for remote access to CHCS via an ERA gateway using government furnished equipment and Common Access Card for authentication. For further details regarding the ERA service, please contact TIMPO's ERA Product Support Manager Steve Phillips at steven.phillips.ctr@tma.osd.mil or the TIMPO Product Manager Mark Goodge at mark.goodge@tma.osd.mil.

Medical Logistics Featured in Two Publications

The Department of Defense Patient Movement Items Tracking System is featured in two publications describing the value of medical logistics in helping to save lives in battlefield medicine.



MHS Chief Information Officer Charles Campbell discusses the Patient Movement Items Tracking System in "Saving Lives Through Logistics," his monthly column for December's issue of Military Medical Technology magazine.

Campbell describes how PMITS's automated tracking and reporting is the essence of "just-in-time" logistics by ensuring equipment is where it needs to be when required. Click onto <http://www.military-medical-technology.com/mmt-archives/217-mmt-2009-volume-13-issue-8/2302-cio-report.html> to read the entire column.

The impact of medical logistics is also featured in the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing's article for the Air Force Surgeon General entitled "Medical Logistics: Lives in the Balance," by Tech. Sgt. John Jung. Set at the Craig Joint Theater Hospital at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, Jung describes the challenges of ordering and stocking vital, life-saving medical supplies in a war zone.

To read Jung's article and the impressive work being done at Craig, please click onto <http://www.sg.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123182723>.



BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan - Tech. Sgt. Jose Nevarez, the non-commissioned officer in charge of materiel management, performs an operational check on a ventilator used on aeromedical evacuation flights. His flight has assisted with more than 2,100 of the life-saving flights in his rotation. Sergeant Nevarez is deployed from Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash., and an El Paso, Texas native. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Tech. Sgt. John Jung)

Patient Safety Reporting to Be at 2010 MHS Conference

In Washington, D.C. Jan. 25 - 28

PSR will be exhibited during the 2010 MHS Conference at National Harbor in Washington, D.C., Jan. 25 - 28.

Once deployed, PSR will enable standardized patient safety event reporting for the MHS. PSR will provide analytic tools to help identify areas for patient safety and quality improvement initiatives to achieve goals for reducing the frequency and severity of patient safety events. PSR will promote cost avoidance through reduction of visits, tests, treatments and admissions for preventable and avoidable health care related events.



TRICARE Online Successfully Upgraded To Version 4.0

TOL is an online portal for healthcare services, benefits and health information for the Department of Defense Military Health System. Users can schedule appointments, order prescription refills and view their personal health records.

The TOL team successfully completed migration to Version 4.0 on Dec. 6 that includes the following changes:

- Established TOL as a portal-based service
- Decommissioned military treatment facility Web pages and Web-Wizard services
- Implemented the Health Assessment Readiness Tool – Full (HART-F) link in support of the Military Health Risk Assessment Demonstration Project
- Upgraded the production platform to Solaris 10

Logon today at: <https://www.tricareonline.com>

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the development tunnel for TEWLS keeps getting larger and larger and its future brighter and brighter,” says U.S. Army Col. Chris Harrington, DHSS Deputy Program Manager for Medical Logistics. “The Army and DHSS have also collaborated on sustainment support requirements in the post-transition environment. Recently, leadership approved agreements that specify both business support and technical support resources to keep TEWLS operating at the highest levels in support of its worldwide mission.”

Within DHSS, the Joint Medical Logistics Functional Development Center at Fort Detrick is preparing to integrate management and sustainment of TEWLS into its daily regime. Key to this effort is the seamless integration of change management, configuration management, information assurance, and many other details which must occur without disrupting service to TEWLS users. As this integration unfolds, new opportunities to improve software life cycle management and best business practices will continue to surface, improving TEWLS and DHSS.

Managing Editor

Brian Lagas

Editor

Jo Carol Torrez

Designer

Hazel Cajusay-Scherch

Contributors

Stan Adamus, Syreeta Collier, Mahlon Drabick, Regina Girouard, Aria Porter, Dr. Ralph Sees, and Edd Welsh

Program Manager

Dr. Dan Magee

Principal Deputy Program Manager

Mike Veasey

Deputy Program Managers

Clinical Support: Jenna Noble

Medical Logistics: COL Chris Harrington

Resources: Mike Smith

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eXpresso is distributed electronically, and recipients are encouraged to share it with others. To submit a story idea or correct an e-mail address, please contact Jo Carol Torrez, at 703-575-7461 or jocarol.torrez.ctr@tma.osd.mil.

DHSS Program Office

Sky 2, Suite 1500

5203 Leesburg Pike

Falls Church, VA 22041