



PACS Forum

Pacific Area Senior Officer Logistics Seminar

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Pacific Area Cataloguing System

7 July 2004

The Key to Interoperability in the Pacific

Issue 20



INDONESIA SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH NATO AC/135

Contributed by Mr. Paul Kenworthy, Director Australian National Codification Bureau

The 85th AC/135 Main Group of National Directors on Codification was held in Luxembourg from 25 to 27 May 2004. A total of 60 delegates from 35 nations attended the meeting. There was a strong PACS presence from PASOLS member nations and observer nations, including Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Russia, Singapore and the United States. A highlight of the meeting from a PACS perspective

135 publications and products, and the possibility of adding national data to the NMCRL.

Other issues of interest covered at Main Group in a busy and informative schedule included a presentation by the UK NCB on the 10th International Symposium on Codification to be held in Edinburgh from 10 to 13 October 2005, fixes and improvements to the NMCRL, the pro-

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The Chairman of AC/135, Mr Rick Maison and Chief of the Indonesian NCB, First Admiral Sri Nugroho sign the sponsorship agreement admitting Indonesia as a Tier 1 sponsored nation into the NCS, and witnessed by delegates from PACS member nations and NAMSA.

was the formal signing of the sponsorship agreement between AC/135 and Indonesia. Immediate benefits of attaining Tier 1 Sponsored Nation status in the NATO Codification System for Indonesia include access to over 16 million NSNs and related information, regular updates of AC/

posal for a NATO TIR, implementation of a Quality Assurance Plan and progress with ECCMA and Open Technical Dictionaries. Any PACS member nation wanting more information on any of these topics can raise it as a possible agenda item for PACS Forum VII.

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CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Deputy Chief of the Defense Logistics Information Service (DLIS) International Division and “honorary” Secretary of the PACS Forum, Mr Lynn Schmolli is retiring on 2 July 2004. As Secretary Lynn has provided critical support to previous PACS Forum Chairmen, Paul

Kenworthy and Rick Grove, over many successful meetings and has contributed interesting and educational articles to this newsletter. All members of PACS would like to thank Lynn for his hard work promoting PACS and wish him all the best in his retirement.



CODIFICATION ASSISTANCE FOR THAILAND

Contributed by Paul Kenworthy, Director Australian National Codification Bureau

The tenth meeting of the Joint Australia Thailand Logistics Working Group (JATLWG) was held in Canberra, Australia on 2 June 2004. The JATLWG is an annual meeting to discuss a range of ongoing and proposed new cooperative logistics activities. One such activity has been

Australian assistance in developing a RTArF codification and cataloguing capability. The JATLWG agreed that this activity would be invigorated during 2004/05 with the provision of Australian NCB advice on the establishment of a Thai NCB and suitable codification system support.



Following a report from Director Australian NCB on the status of the Thai Pilot NCS Codification Project (PNCP), established under a PACS Pacific Partnership Arrangement, the JATLWG Co-Chairs, Mr Tony Rumball, Director International Logistics, Joint Logistics Command and Vice Admiral Apichart Pengsritong RTN, Director of Joint Logistics, Supreme Command Headquarters (J4 SCHQ) discuss the way ahead.



ISO Moves NATO Catalog System to Center Stage

Contributed by Mr Steve Arnett and Mr Lynn Schmoll, United States National Codification Bureau

Doing business would be easier if everyone spoke the same language, but for most this is a pipe dream. For logisticians, however, there is more than just hope: a genuine possibility.

One sector of logistics already uses the same language. The NATO Codification System (NCS) provides the common language for supply. This allows supply sergeants from Korea and Turkey and the United States to cooperate because they all use the same NATO Stock Numbers, the same catalog of supplies. Used by more than 50 countries, the system is rapidly growing in acceptance.

The next step is to engage manufacturers. In a recent milestone in promoting the NCS as a commercial standard, a committee of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) recommended that a commercial version of the NCS be submitted as a "Technical Specification." That is the last step, before full acceptance as an international standard. That means there is already a degree of acceptance within industry. It's a higher level of endorsement than the Publicly Available Specification (PAS) that the project team had planned to introduce. A TS or a PAS can be recognized as an International Standard (IS) after three years if it gains sufficient industry adoption.

To say there is "some major acceptance within industry" is a bit of an understatement. Already some of the largest corporations in the United States are adopting a commercial version of the system. The ISO committee involved is the Technical Committee 184/Sub-Committee 4 (TC184/SC4). Their TS recommendation occurred at their 2004 meet-

ing in Weston, Florida. The subcommittee is responsible for establishing and maintaining international standards for industrial data.

"This is a historic event for the NATO and Federal Catalog Systems," said Marine Col. Joseph Cassel, commander of the Defense Logistics Information Service (DLIS). "We will look back at this event and say this is when government and industry began speaking the same language of supply."

The committee's most prominent role is to manage the Standard for the Exchange of Product (STEP) model data standards, the international standard for design engineering data. These standards allow manufacturers in the aviation, automotive, shipbuilding and other industries to exchange engineering and design data with all of their business partners without incompatibility between computer systems.

It is worthy to note that separate work has already achieved some level of interface between STEP and the NCS, mapping the data one way so that it can be automatically loaded into electronic catalogs.

The STEP community is quite excited about the idea of being able to create product catalogs from STEP data by mapping from STEP to the NCS. That would allow companies to get a double payoff from creating design files according to the ISO standard.

E-Business needs standards

"Those of us in the government get kidded a lot about speaking government-ese," said Cassel. "But this is a case where the commercial world is learning from us."

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We apply a discipline to describing items in our supply system that literally saves the taxpayers millions and provides the military the precision logistics needed for deployed forces.

Why is the NCS now at the center of the committee's interest? It was an effort centered on the packaging and promotion of the NCS by an electronic business standards organization known as the Electronic Commerce Code Management Association (ECCMA). Since the NCS is already the international standard for identification of items in government logistics, ECCMA adopted the NCS and created a catalog builder named eOTD to guide organizations in the creation of catalogs by applying NCS standards.

Help for Logisticians

What does this mean for military logisticians? Someday large and small manufacturers will use the same names and descriptions of their products as do military logisticians. It will be much easier to identify the items you need and to catalog them into publications such as

FED LOG , the NATO MCRL and the PACS MCRL.

The NCS (known as the Federal Catalog System in the United States) is the National Stock Number (NSN) database that widely used across a broad range of functions within the Defense Department and federal government agencies. The, FCS, and NCS and eOTD are all based on the same architecture of structured item names, attributes, and values that define attributes and are the foundation for the concept of standard electronic catalogs.

For more information about the NCS and FCS, see DLIS's Web site at <http://www.dla.mil/dlis/nato>. The NATO AC/135's Web site is at <http://www.nato.int/structur/AC/135/welcome.htm> , and TC184/SC4's Web site is at <http://www.tc184-sc4.org>.

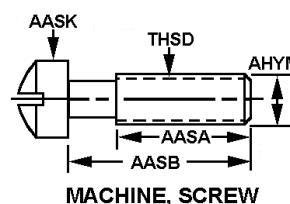
Both authors are members of the U.S. Defense Logistics Information Service, International Division and active in the Pacific Area Cataloging System. Mr. Arnett can be reached at steven.arnett@dlamail.

SCREW, MACHINE

An externally threaded fastener whose threaded portion is of one nominal diameter, No 0 (0.060 in./1.5 mm) or larger, designed to be held or driven with either a wrench or an inserted driver or both (excluding internal socket or internal multiple spline types), in sizes below No. 10 (0.190 in./5 mm). No. 10 and larger sizes must have a head designed for any type inserted driver (excluding internal socket or internal multiple spline types), but may also be designed for external wrenching. A locking feature may be incorporated in the design of the head or threads. Excludes BOLT, CLEVIS; BOLT, EXTERNALLY RELIEVED BODY; SCREW, EXTERNALLY RELIEVED BODY; and SCREW, ASSEMBLED WASHER. See also, SCREW, INSTRUMENT; BOLT, MACHINE; BOLT, INTERNAL WRENCHING; and SCREW, CAP SOCKET HEAD.

Information:

AASK: Head Style
THSD: Thread Series Designator
AHYM: Nominal Thread Diameter
AASA: Thread Length
AASB: Fastener Length





PACS FORUM VII – MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

Contributed by Paul Kenworthy, Director Australian National Codification Bureau

Last year Fiji volunteered to host the next PACS Forum meeting however due to severe financial restraints that offer has been withdrawn. In order to ensure that this important and successful PASOLS initiative continues, Australia has decided to host PACS Forum VII in Melbourne from 24 to 26 August.

The meeting will be held at the Savoy Park Plaza, a 4 ½ Star boutique-style hotel located on the corner of Little Collins and Spencer Streets, opposite Spencer Street Station and



only a short walk to the Southbank restaurant and entertainment precinct. The Australian NCB recently moved into the Defence Plaza at 661 Bourke Street, which is virtually next door to the hotel.

A special accommodation rate has been negotiated for PACS delegates:

- Plaza Room (Single/Double)
\$137.00 AUD per night or
\$155.00 AUD per night including
buffet breakfast.
- Deluxe Room (Single/Double)



\$162.00 AUD per night or
\$180.00 AUD per night including
buffet breakfast. (Cost for
an extra breakfast is \$23.50
AUD).

In late August Melbourne will be coming to the end of Winter. The weather is famously unpredictable and it is claimed that Melbourne can experience four seasons in one day, however on average you can expect cool and dry days of about 16C (61F).

Information on the meeting, including Registration and Accommodation Booking forms, will be sent to all PASOLS and PACS POCs. This information will also be posted to the PASOLS and PACS webpages. Despite the short notice the Australian NCB hopes that all PACS Forum members will make the effort to attend this important annual event.



From the Chairman

Greetings to all my PACS colleagues. By the time you read this, you will already know that the next meeting of the PACS Forum is to take place in Melbourne, Australia, during the last week of August.

Despite a great deal of effort, Fiji was forced to withdraw their offer to host PACS Forum VII, due to severe financial difficulties. In light of the devastating floods that have hit the Fiji Islands over the past six months, and their considerable commitments to UN Peacekeeping, this decision is entirely understandable.

Fortunately, Australia has agreed to step in and organise a meeting at very short notice. I am very grateful to Mr Paul Kenworthy and all of his team for taking on this task. I look forward to seeing a large number of delegates from as many PACS nations as possible in Melbourne.

Previous meetings have achieved a great deal, and I'm sure that Forum VII will build upon that success. However, we can only move forward if all participants are willing to give of their time, energy and experience, for the benefit of us all.

See you soon in sunny Australia !

Stephen Worth
New Zealand National Codification Bureau
Chairman PACS Forum



BRUNEI – CODIFICATION AND CATALOGUING SCOPING STUDY

Contributed by Mr Lee Osborne and Mr Paul Kenworthy, Australian Department Of Defence.

Following a request for ADF assistance from the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) to identify the scope of the current cataloguing backlog, a study was undertaken by Lee Osborne (Strategic Logistics Branch, Joint Logistics Command) and Paul Kenworthy (AS NCB) from 15 to 19 Dec 03.

The team commenced the scoping study at the Central Cataloguing Unit (CCU), and then with CCU senior staff, visited the Defence Information and Technology Unit (DITU), the Directorate of Finance and Procurement, Land Engineers, Logistics Wing RBAirF and RBN.

On Day 4 the team presented its findings and recommendations (that prioritised workload, focussed on

critical issues and outlined a way ahead) to COL Pg Azmansham, Director of Logistics (DLog), HQ RBAF and his staff. Before departing, the team, accompanied by COL Azmansham, met with the RBAF Permanent Secretary (Policy and Administration), COL (L) Dato Paduka Haji Mohammad Yasmin bin Haji Umar. The Permanent Secretary underscored the importance of cataloguing to an agreed standard such as PACS/NCS in support of RBAF logistics and procurement systems.



Lee Osborne with RBAF CCU staff. The OIC CCU, LT Suzana, second from left, has trained with the Malaysian NCB and WOI Hjh Siti Sarawati (far right) has attended the US NCB College course.

Pacific Area Cataloguing System Forum VII



Australian Government

Department of Defence
Defence Materiel
Organisation

Melbourne, Australia

24 – 26 August 2004

Savoy Park Plaza



REGISTRATION FORM FOR ATTENDEES

To assist us in the preparation of the PACS Forum VII, please complete this registration form and fax / e-mail to: Mario Pacifici before 10th July 2004 at fax number (61) 3 9282-3692 or e-mail: mario.pacifici@defence.gov.au

Attendee Information:

Note: This form is for attendees and their spouse/guests. Please type or print clearly

Title: _____

Name: _____
(Family Name) (First Name) (Middle Name)

Job Title: _____ Passport No: _____

Phone : _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

Street: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Postal/Zip Code: _____

Country: _____

Name to appear on Name Tag: _____

If you have any special dietary needs or requirements (for example, dietary restrictions) that you would like us to take into consideration, please advise us:

Dietary Needs: _____

Special requirements: _____

Accompanying Persons:

Please indicate the number and details of any spouse / guest(s) accompanying you.

Number of people: _____

Spouses Name: _____

Guest Name: _____

Transport:

Self transport from Melbourne Airport to the hotel. Taxi fare is approximately \$30.00 - \$40.00 (AUD). A cheaper alternative is a Sky Bus from the airport to Spencer street Station (opposite the hotel) \$13.00 (AUD) (one way) or \$22.00 (AUD) (return).

Flight Details:

Please provide us your flight numbers for both arrival and departure at Melbourne International Airport.

Flight Arrival Date: _____ Flight Arrival Time: _____

Flight Number: _____

Flight Departure Date: _____ Flight Departure Time: _____

Flight Number: _____

Registration Fee:

Each attendee will be required to pay a registration fee of \$173.00 Australian dollars, which covers lunches and some administration costs. Payment in cash (AUD) would be appreciated at registration on Monday, 23 August.

Accommodation:

The PACS Forum VII will be held at the Savoy Park Plaza, located in the centre of the city. Arrangements have been made for participant's accommodation in the same hotel at a special government discounted rate.

Those wishing to spend additional time in Melbourne either prior to or after the Forum meeting can take advantage of the rates below. For those wishing a Deluxe room accommodation please add \$25.00 AUD to the cost quoted below.

Negotiated tariffs are:

Single Plaza room: Monday to Sunday – \$137.00 AUD per night or

\$155.00 AUD inclusive of Buffet Breakfast

Note: the above room rates are inclusive of taxes. One AUD equals approximately 0.68 USD

Please complete the attached hotel reservation form and fax or e-mail it direct to the hotel as soon as possible, so that bookings can be confirmed.



Savoy Park Plaza
630 Little Collins Street
Melbourne, Victoria, 3000
Facsimile: +61 3 9622 8872

Web: <http://www.parkplaza.com.au/savoy.htm>

Pacific Area Cataloguing System Forum VII Australian Department of Defence

GROUP REF – 24, 25, 26th August 04

PLEASE FAX TO: Reservations
+61 3 9622 8818

OR E-MAIL TO: reservations@savoyp.com.au

OR SEND TO: 630 Little Collins Street
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, 3000
Ph: +61 3 9622 8888

NAME/S: _____

ROOM TYPE: Plaza Room Deluxe Room

REQUEST: DOUBLE/SINGLE (1 double bed)

TWIN (1 double bed, single bed) *PLEASE NOTE: ON AVAILABILITY

PREFERENCE: SMOKING

NON SMOKING * PLEASE NOTE: ON AVAILABILITY

ARR. DATE: _____ **DEP. DATE:** _____

ETA: _____

CREDIT CARD NUMBER FOR GUARANTEE (*MUST COMPLETE)

_____ **EXPIRY DATE:** _____

CARD HOLDER _____

PHONE: _____ **FAX:** _____

NOTE: ALL BOOKINGS REQUESTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 27th JULY 2004 TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY OF ROOMS. CHANGES TO BOOKINGS OR CANCELLATIONS MUST BE MADE TO HOTEL DIRECTLY PRIOR TO DAY OF ARRIVAL TO ENSURE NON ARRIVAL & CANCELLATION FEES ARE NOT INCURRED.

THIS FAX SHEET WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU WITH YOUR CONFIRMATION NUMBER

CONFIRMATION NUMBER: _____