



# PACS

Pacific Area Cataloguing Seminar

19 December 2005

*The Key to Interoperability in the Pacific*

Issue 22



## 10<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON CODIFICATION

Contributed by Mr. Paul Kenworthy, Australian National Codification Bureau

The NATO Group of National Directors on Codification (Allied Committee 135) held its tenth International Symposium on Codification in Edinburgh, Scotland from 10 to 13 October 2005. The theme of the Symposium was "Codification – the DNA of Modern Logistics", reflecting the fundamentally important role codification plays in every stage of modern logistics activity.

The symposium was held in the purpose-built Edinburgh International Conference Centre. The EICC has the flexibility to hold large plenary sessions by keynote speakers such as RADM Mario Bartoli, Deputy Assistant Secretary General Armaments, NATO or transform into smaller areas. This gave the opportunity for multiple sessions to be conducted on specialised subjects such as the ECCMA electronic Open Technical Dictionary by Steve Arnett, DLIS and PACS by Stephen Worth, NZ NCB.

Major themes and topics covered included International Standards for Codification and Product Data Exchange, Asset Tracking and Visibility, Cost-effective Acquisition, Data Quality, Obsolescence, Defence/Industry Partnering, Lifecycle Management, Logistics Transformation and much more. The 590 delegates from 47 countries had the

envious task of choosing which of the 60 presentations, workshops and seminars they would attend. This abundance of information had the potential to overload some of the smaller delegations however the complete set of presentations

will be made available to all attendees. The conference was a great success and was the culmination of several years' hard work by members of the Symposium Steering Group from the UK NCB, NAMSA and consultants, including Denis Lampron, a former PACS Chairman.



Mr Rick Maison, Chairman, NATO Group of National Directors on Codification (AC/135) opens the Symposium.

**PACS VIII  
Hawaii, USA  
14 - 16 March 2006**

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# ECCMA/eOTD Status Report

*Contributed by Steven Arnett, PACS secretary and Deputy Chief, International Division, Defense Logistics Information Service*



NATO Allied Committee 135 (AC/135) is currently engaged in an effort to get the commercial version of the NATO Codification System (NCS) recognized as an international standard. This commercial version of the NCS is called the ECCMA Open Technical Dictionary (eOTD). It is managed by the Electronic Commerce Code Management Association (ECCMA), a non-profit standards organization based in the United States. eOTD incorporates all the basic elements of the NCS and uses NCS data elements such as the Item Names and characteristics description data. However, it has a modern database architecture in line with today's information technology and is compatible with XML.

The project team working on this effort includes representatives from the United States and United Kingdom National Codification Bureaus (NCBs), ECCMA, Lehigh University, the U.S. National Institute of Science and Technology (NIST) and two contractors, CTC and LSC Group. The team is working within ISO Technical Committee 184/Subcommittee 4 (TC184/SC4). TC184/SC4 manages standards related to industrial data. In July 2004, ECCMA submitted a proposal to certify eOTD as the international catalog standard for in-

dustry. The proposal was accepted in a vote by ISO and is now in the next stage—development of a draft ISO standard. The ISO Central Secretariat has assigned the standard number 22745, and that number will stay with the standard throughout its life. Conversion to an ISO standard will depend on industry adoption and ISO agreement.

The project team is also working on the development of an application to convert STEP files into eOTD item descriptions—the Smart STEP Codification (SSC) application. The SSC pilot project has been a success and was demonstrated at the NATO Symposium on Codification in October 2005. STEP is the worldwide standard for design engineering files. That standard is managed by ISO TC184/SC4. The SSC concept is also included in ISO Standard 22745. The project team has engaged a number of industrial partners to participate in testing SSC, including Boeing, General Dynamics Electric Boat, Part Solutions Inc., B&G Manufacturing, and DML. The project team has also had discussions with General Motors, Northrop Grumman, Honeywell, Google, Rockwell Collins, and other companies about partnering.

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Boeing is taking the lead on an initiative to make the eOTD the standard for the aircraft industry as well as for other standards organizations. They plan to convene a conference about this subject early in 2006. The project team continues to speak to companies and standards associations about eOTD, and interest in it among these organizations is significant. The Symposium fostered good networking between NCBs and companies related to eOTD.

ECCMA and other members of the project team have engaged in discussions with NCB Poland, NCB Finland, and NCB Spain about using the Patriot Armored Personnel Carrier in the next phase of the eOTD/SSC project. The Patriot Armored Personnel Carrier is being purchased by Poland. The prime manufacturer is located in Finland and parts of the system are being manu-

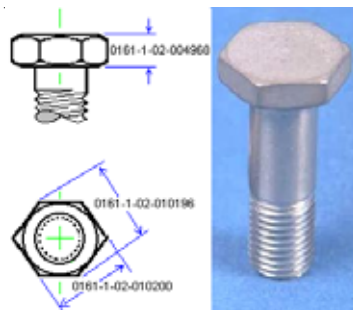
factured in Poland. The idea is to use this system to test the idea of developing eOTD data by using the SSC on a new system and to transfer the data to the SICAD codification tool used in Poland and a number of other countries.

In a related development, ECCMA submitted a proposal for "generic management standard" to ISO Technical Committee 184 in August 2005. The new standard, which has been designated ISO Standard 8000, would establish a certification process for catalog data similar in concept to the certification process for quality control embodied in the ISO 9000 series of standards. It would require certified catalogs to be in eOTD format and would certify the quality of the data.

For more information about eOTD or to download eOTD files, go to [www.eccma.org](http://www.eccma.org).

#### An eOTD item description:

**Machine Bolt; Product Number: 3225020037; Nominal thread diameter: 1.0 inches; Width across flats: 1.450 inches; Width across corners: 1.653 inches; Head height: 0.591 inches; Count per pack: 10; Pack price: \$0.80**



```
<string-property-value ESPI="0161-1-02-046898" ESPN="STANDARD CLASS NAME" Value="BOLT:MECHANICAL" />
<string-property-value ESPI="0161-1-02-027375" ESPN="PRODUCT NUMBER" Value="3225020037" />
<real-measure-property-value ESPI="0161-1-02-023822" ESPN="NOMINAL THREAD DIAMETER" Value="1.0" ESMN="INCHES" />
<real-measure-property-value ESPI="0161-1-02-010200" ESPN="WIDTH ACROSS FLATS" Value="1.450" ESMN="INCHES" />
<real-measure-property-value ESPI="0161-1-02-010196" ESPN="WIDTH ACROSS CORNERS" Value="1.653" ESMN="INCHES" />
<real-measure-property-value ESPI="0161-1-02-004968" ESPN="HEAD HEIGHT" Value="0.591" ESMN="INCHES" />
<numeric-property-value ESPI="0161-1-02-027376" ESPN="COUNT PER PACK" Value="10" />
<real-currency-property-value ESPI="0161-1-02-027378" ESPN="PACK PRICE" Value="0.80" ESYN="US DOLLAR" />
```

Rendered

Property Coded

Property expanded

eOTD

## U.S. Training Assistance Visit to the Philippines, 15-17 May 2005



Contributed by John Zellers, *Training Coordinator for the U.S. NCB*

The U.S. NATO Codification Bureau College (NCB) training program has been exposing students worldwide to the issues and concepts in establishing or maintaining a national defense cataloging center compatible with the NATO Codification System (NCS). This education program has resulted in some of the student graduates requesting a tailored version of the program for education and familiarization of their national organizations. The two-week training seminar conducted in Manila, the Philippines, was one such tailored training program, based on the core course now offered for eight weeks in Battle Creek, Michigan.

Mr. John Zellers and Mr. Dennis Shipe, from the U.S. NCB, presented a basic training course on the NCS. The training, conducted at the General Headquarters at Camp Gen-

eral Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City, was conducted for two major groups: former codifiers and the logistics officers from the different major services of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). The training occurred during a critical phase of logistics reform for the AFP. The current Philippines Defense Reform Program (DRP) has resulted in the disintegration of the AFP Logistics Command, of which the codification activity is a component.

The training provided by the U.S. team consisted of 22 separate presentations. These ranged from the international exchange of data within the NCS and the item identification process that establishes NATO Stock Number (NSNs) to the technical details of data automation, cataloging data maintenance, and NATO/U.S. publications. Detailed training of provisioning scoped the basic principles involved in the acquisition of engineering data to support STANAG 4177 and the Contract Codification Clause associated with it.

Since its initial development in 1986, the AFP codification function had lost momentum, and now requires the re-formation of an NCB under the de-



John Zellers and Dennis Shipe, the U.S. training team, with LCDR Alfred Kenneth S Tingabnab, AFP Logistics Command, and LCDR Celino Y Leonido Jr, former NCB College student and host for the training event.

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fense reform initiative. At the time of the U.S. visit, this codification office consisted of a defined group of former codifiers, currently not aligned to a specific organization as a result of the defense reforms. The Philippines, a Tier 1 sponsored nation, hoped to use this training initiative to form again the core group that would compose the AFP Cataloging Office.

With this initial training effort, the Philippines are beginning to build greater momentum than their initial attempts at implementing the NCS in 1986. NSN data has been collected through hardcopy parts manuals and catalogs, reflecting NSNs and part numbers with brief descriptions. There is currently no computer system for the collection and updates of NSN data and for transaction inputs. The logistics functions currently using any NSN data are very limited. Any future codification system will probably be limited in the international exchange of data, because the majority of NSN data usage is concerned with U.S. NSNs for equipment purchased under the Foreign Military Financing (FMF) Program.

An Integrated Logistics Management Information System (ILMIS), a component of DRP, is being developed to support this logistics restructuring. The logistics officers from the services attending the training

took interest in the international exchange of data as related to the future development of ILMIS. Currently, the Philippine defense policy mandates the use of a unique National Government Accounting System (NGAS) number assigned to all procured items. The NGAS number is required for each item of production and presents a challenge on its integration into the item of supply concept as represented by the NATO NSN. One of the challenges facing the Philippine codification system will be to establish a direct relationship to the use of the NSN in ILMIS. Also, it is uncertain what kind of logistics information under ILMIS will be used and if that data will be associated with the NSN.

In addition to the team of logistics officers in the actual classroom, the DLIS team made contacts with the Undersecretary for Defense Reform, Ernesto Carolina, as well as the commander and deputy commander of J-4, to discuss the restructuring of the Philippine defense system and its implications for participation in the NCS. The U.S. team discussed with data systems experts specifically the formats for exchange of codification data, as well as the availability of existing codification applications such as SICAD, OLCIMS, and ADA-GIO support from France. The team recommended that the

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Philippine NCB network with both France and Bulgaria, a recent ADAGIO user, to gain some perspective on the cost benefits to receiving data system support from a NATO country.

This training promoted the visibility among those involved in defense reform with several initiatives that will hopefully launch the AFP into more mature involvement in the NCS. Attendees at the training came away with the well understood need to define its requirements to develop a data system for transaction management of updates on primarily U.S. NSN data and for preparation of item identifications on the relatively small population of NSNs to be assigned. Connectivity with a data system interfacing with the NATO Mailbox System (NMBS) was stressed as the most efficient means for maintaining data on the majority of the U.S. NSNs that will populate their national data file.

The U.S. team also advised NAMSA and PACS of the importance of sponsorship assistance for the Philippines. The Philippines Defense Reform (PDR) Logistics Team, in part-

nership with the U.S., NAMSA and PACS, should effectively evaluate all the requirements for NCS participation during this critical phase in the evolution of ILMIS. Such a joint partnership could serve in an advisory capacity to the ILMIS team to ensure the requirements for NCS participation are included in the selection of a codification system.



Students and graduates of the NCS Training Course, with John Zellers and Dennis Shipe

*John Zellers has 27 years of experience in codification and works at the U.S. National Codification Bureau at DLIS. He is currently the training coordinator for the U.S. NCB and is the program manager for the NCB college.*



# PACS Meeting VIII To Be Held in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

*Contributed by Cynthia Wilcox, United States National Codification Bureau*

This year, for the second time, the United States will host PACS. This year the meeting will be held from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> of March, in Honolulu. Hawaii was chosen as the location because of its relatively central location for many of the delegates, as well as its many attractive options for lodging and conference sites.

The site that was selected is the Renaissance Ilikai Waikiki Hotel, a classic deluxe hotel. It is located at the entrance to Waikiki, with a walkway which takes visitors from the lobby right to the beaches. The opening scene from the old television show "Hawaii Five-O", with Jack Lord as Steve McGarrett, was filmed on the penthouse balcony. The hotel serves a full range of meals



from a breakfast buffet to complete dinners at its four restaurants and bars. The hotel has recently been completely renovated with most of the rooms offering ocean views. You can find additional information at their website: <http://www.ilikaihotel.com>.

We were able to negotiate a special accommodation rate of \$129.00 (U.S.) per night for attendees and guests. There are a limited number of rooms available before and after the conference at this special rate for anyone wishing to enjoy the beaches, and sightseeing on their own. However, since March is Hawaii's busiest time, the hotel cannot guarantee availability, so everyone is encouraged to make reservations as soon as possible. The Ilikai Hotel Room Registration Form and the Registration Form for Attendees are included in this newsletter.



If you have any questions about the PACS VIII meeting, you may contact Ms. Wilcox at [Cynthia.Wilcox@dla.mil](mailto:Cynthia.Wilcox@dla.mil).



## From the Chairman

Dear Colleagues,

Another whirlwind year is coming to an end. For me personally it has been filled with many highlights, including getting married to Caroline and now looking forward to the birth of our first child in February. These are the sort of milestones that make you take stock of your life and where you are heading. From a codification perspective there have been some similar watershed events throughout the year, including developments in the areas of ISO, ECCMA and emerging NATO STANAGs on RFID and UID. All of these culminated in the 10<sup>th</sup> International Symposium, held in Edinburgh, Scotland a few months ago. In the PACS arena there have been significant bilateral initiatives, both re-establishing contacts with existing members and engaging with new ones. Australia, Singapore and the United States have all been busy in this regard.

As we end the year, it is important to look back on the significant loss of life and property caused by the Boxing Day Tsunami in 2004. This tragic event touched us all, but was felt the hardest by a number of PACS nations. While the immediate aftermath has faded from the news bulletins, the difficult task of rebuilding lives and communities goes on. Those who have been directly affected continue to be in our thoughts and prayers.

Early in 2006, the US NCB will be hosting the next PACS meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii. You should already have received an invitation, and there is more information in this issue of the newsletter. As only a small number of the PACS members were able to attend the Symposium, we are going to focus the meeting around passing on as much information from that event as we can. There is a great deal going on in the world of item identification, and Hawaii represents an ideal opportunity for both new and established NCBs to understand what these developments will mean for them, and for their militaries and governments.

I would like to wish everyone a very pleasant festive season, and all the best for the New Year. I look forward to seeing many of you in March.

Kind regards  
Stephen Worth  
PACS Chairman.

# Pacific Area Cataloguing System Forum VII



**Honolulu, Hawaii  
14 – 16 March 2006  
Renaissance,  
Ilikai Waikiki Hotel**



## REGISTRATION FORM FOR ATTENDEES

To assist us in the preparation of the PACS Forum VIII, please complete this registration form and fax / e-mail to: Cynthia Wilcox before 13 February 2006 at fax number 269-961-5428 or e-mail: [cynthia.wilcox@dla.mil](mailto:cynthia.wilcox@dla.mil)

### 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 Honolulu International Airport to the hotel. Taxi fare is approximately \$30.00 (US). A cheaper alternative is the private shuttles which cost from \$8.00 to \$10.00 per trip (US), and are available outside baggage pick-up.

## Flight Details:

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

Flight Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Flight Arrival Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Flight Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Flight Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Flight Departure Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Flight Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## Accommodation:

The PACS Forum VIII will be held at the Renaissance, Ilikai Waikiki Hotel, located on Waikiki Beach. 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 Honolulu either prior to or after the Forum meeting can take advantage of the rates below.

Single room: \$129.00 (US) per night, plus 7.25% accommodation tax, and 4.166% Hawaii general excise tax

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



# PACIFIC AREA CATALOGING SEMINAR

Monday, March 13, 2006 – Friday, March 17, 2006

## ROOM RESERVATION FORM

**GUEST INFORMATION:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Last M.I.  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ -EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
SHARING ROOM WITH: \_\_\_\_\_  
ARRIVAL DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ TIME: \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

Check in time: 3:00pm

Check-out time: 12:00pm

**ROOM TYPE REQUEST (check desired room type):**

Run of House Room \$129.00 per night, single/double

NOTE: \$30.00 per night charge for each additional person over two. There is no charge for children under 17 years of age when sharing with parents using existing bedding. Rates are plus 11.42% tax. Group rates are valid 3 days prior and 3 days after the convention dates.

**OCCUPANCY:**

# of People: \_\_\_\_\_ (Adults) \_\_\_\_\_ (Children 17 & under)  
\_\_\_\_ Single (1 person; 1 bed) \_\_\_\_ Double (2 person; 1 bed) \_\_\_\_ Double/Double (2 person; 2 bed) \_\_\_\_ Triple (3 person; 2bed)

**SPECIAL REQUESTS:**

\_\_\_\_ Smoking \_\_\_\_ Non-smoking Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT INFORMATION:**

CREDIT CARD TYPE (circle one): AMEX VISA MASTERCARD DINERS JCB DISCOVER  
CREDIT CARD NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRATION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME ON CARD (print): \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

**DEPOSIT INFORMATION:**

The Renaissance Ilikai Waikiki Hotel will confirm your reservation request only when accompanied by a check, money order, or credit card for the 1<sup>st</sup> nights room and tax. Credit card deposits will only be charged if cancelled within 72 hours.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:**

Refunds will be made on reservations cancelled 72 hours prior to arrival. Reservations cancelled within 72 hours of arrival will forfeit the first night's room and tax deposit.

**CUTOFF DATE:**

All reservation requests must be received by **Monday, February 13, 2006**, to receive the group rate. Reservations made after the cutoff date will be subject to the prevailing hotel rates.

**MAIL FORM TO: CALL (voice): FAX:**

Renaissance Ilikai Waikiki Hotel  
1777 Ala Moana Blvd  
Honolulu, HI 96815  
Attn: Reservations Department  
Group Reservations: (808) 949-3811  
Toll Free – US & Canada: 1-800-245-4524  
(808) 947-0892