



PACS Forum

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The Key to Interoperability in the Pacific

Issue 2

PACS information on the Web has been updated.



Fiji and Tonga Adopt the NCS

After a couple of false starts, John Webster and John Hurren from CSA, the Australian NCB, finally made it to Fiji and Tonga in late October. The delays proved beneficial as Lt Col John Masson had returned to Fiji from leave and took an active role in discussions.



Brigadier-General E. G. Ganilau, Commander, Republic of Fiji Military Forces, presenting a plaque to John Webster and John Hurren, with Lt Col U.C.V. Vatu.

Prior to the visits both Fiji and Tonga had agreed to adopt the NCS and to seek sponsorship. Australia had agreed to undertake codification activity on behalf of Fiji and Tonga.

During the visits Fiji and Tonga agreed to ratify the Inter-nation Co-operation (or Big Brother) Arrangement for the Provision of Codification Services. Fiji and Tonga have also written to the Chairman, AC/135 formally applying for sponsorship in the NCS.

If the requests for sponsorship are accepted by NATO, Australia can ratify

the agreements and commence to codify for Fiji and Tonga using the appropriate NATO-assigned codes. Further bilateral agreements may be required with certain NATO countries. Australia will have to make changes to CENCAT, our codification system.

In Suva, and later in Nuku'alofa, once the formal PACS business was dealt with, discussions centred on arrangements for the exchange of technical and codification data, standard operating procedures and forms, the retrospective codification task and training requirements.



Col Fetu'utolu Tupou, Commander, Tonga Defence Services, signing the letter requesting sponsorship in the NCS.

Presentations were made to both countries providing an overview of the operation and benefits of the NCS. Although codification forms the basis for logistics operations in the four main categories of acquisition, resource management, maintenance and disposal, it was agreed to gradually develop materiel management requirements. Fiji has begun record-

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