

DISA COMSATCOM SCOOP

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UPCOMING EVENTS

11.07.11 – 11.10.11

MILCOM 2011

Baltimore, MD

<http://www.milcom.org/>

11.15.11 – 11.17.11

Strategic Command (STRATCOM) Cyber and Space Symposium

Qwest Center, Omaha, NE

<http://www.afcea.org/events/stratcom/11/introduction.asp>

11.28.11 – 12.01.11

Global MilSatCom

London, United Kingdom

<http://www.smi-online.co.uk/events/overview.asp?is=1&ref=3689>

12.13.11 – 12.15.11

DoD Commercial SATCOM Users Workshop

Crystal Gateway Marriot,

Arlington, VA

<http://www.dodsatcom.com/ginfo.html>

02.06.12 – 02.10.12

Iridium Customer Conference/PMR

Wahiawa, HI

www.iridium.com/

DISA does not formally endorse any non-DISA events. These events are provided for information purposes only.

CENTER CHIEF'S MESSAGE



Welcome to the October issue of the COMSATCOM Scoop. I hope everyone had a happy and safe summer. As we move into fall, one of our highest priorities is still actively migrating the 8,000 plus Inmarsat Mobile Satellite Service (MSS) Communication Service Authorizations (CSAs) to the Future COMSATCOM Services Acquisition (FCSA) General Services Administration Information Technology (IT) Schedule 70 Subscription Services contract. We thank you for your cooperation as we maintain strong relationships with our customers through this transition.

In this issue, you will read about the FY10 Annual Usage Report Data Collection and Training. Here we discuss how the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) has been facilitating training sessions with the United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) to inform stakeholders about the data collection process for the Annual Report.

We feature the Enhance Mobile Satellite Services (EMSS) 9505A satellite phone offered at competitive rates on voice and data packages with unlimited voice plan. We also highlight the DISA Customer & Industry Forum 2011 and COMSATCOM Center's successful track session as part of a great exchange of information of ideas leading to improved capabilities and services DISA provides to the Department of Defense (DoD) community. Finally, we provide an updated quick tips on the transponded capacity "final" requirements package which contains several required documents.

We greatly appreciate the feedback we received about the newsletter and would like to continue to hear from you so we can better serve you. As always, if there are article topics you would like to read about, please let us know by responding to this e-mail with your suggestions. Have a wonderful and safe fall. We hope you enjoy this issue!

— COL Michelle Nassar

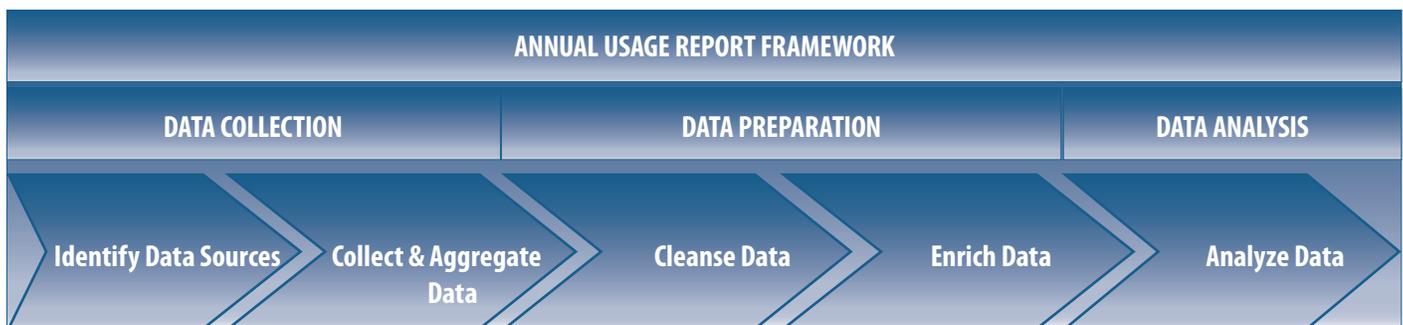
FY10 ANNUAL USAGE REPORT DATA COLLECTION AND TRAINING

The United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) partners with the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) on an annual basis to report on the Department of Defense's (DoD) Commercial Satellite Communications (COMSATCOM) prior year usage and expenditures, pursuant to Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction 6250.1.D. As we develop the FY2010 Report, compliance with the data call is crucial in depicting an accurate picture of all DoD COMSATCOM usage and costs.

On behalf of USSTRATCOM, DISA has been facilitating individual training sessions to assist all COCOMs/Services/Agencies (CC/S/As) with their data gathering effort in preparation for the

FY 2010 Annual Report. The purpose of the training is to inform stakeholders about the data collection process and the analytical requirements for putting together the Annual Report. This training consists of an engaging presentation where participants will learn about the methodological aspects of the Annual Report while exploring various examples of the data collection process. The end goal of the training is to provide data collection support to the CC/S/As and educate CC/S/As of the Annual Report process.

The Annual Usage Report applies the following methodical framework and the data collection and preparation plays an essential part in the report development:



The Data Collection process is vital to the Annual Usage Report Framework. It identifies where to obtain data, collect data, and assimilate the data into a workable database. To continue and improve the number of COMSATCOM contracts captured in the report, every year, market research is performed to identify additional contracts currently not captured in the report. The Data Collection process goes through two validation phases to ensure accuracy throughout the Annual Report.

In the first validation phase, the CC/S/As initiate a review of the populated data provided by DISA. The CC/S/As contact the appropriate Point of Contacts (POCs) within their organization to validate the data and provide additional information for contracts not privy to DISA.

The second step of this validation phase is for DISA to conduct a review of the information populated by the CC/S/As, performs initial data analysis and submit data back to CC/S/As to establish an agreement on the COMSATCOM usage and expenditures figures. This step is crucial in reducing the level of effort required to correct any data issues once the report is drafted. The data preparation process follows after the data is finalized. In this process, the data goes through extensive data cleansing and enriching to ensure data accuracy, completeness and consistent naming conversion used throughout the report to ensure a single name used for the same satellite. Data analysis follows once data preparation is completed.

In the Annual Usage Report Framework, each step is essential to provide the most accurate picture of COMSATCOM'S annual usage expenditures. Most importantly, the report relies heavily on the involvement of the CC/S/As to illustrate a precise picture of the DoD COMSATCOM usage and expenditures.

As FY2010 comes to an end, be on the lookout for the FY2011 data collection package in preparation for the FY2011 Annual Report.

THE EMSS 9505A SATELLITE PHONE OFFERS GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS AND UNLIMITED MINUTES

Enhanced Mobile Satellite Services (EMSS) provides secure global SATCOM services under the COMSATCOM Center. EMSS currently offers a breadth of services to include voice, secure voice, netted and multiple data packages, but the EMSS voice telephony continues to be a core service that is offered at competitive rates. An unlimited voice plan is offered to DoD, USG and approved Foreign National 9505A satellite phone users through the DISA Direct Order Entry (DDOE) site. The airtime service cost for the 9505A is comparable with the commercial sector but with two key differentiators – users have the flexibility of unlimited airtime and the added assurance of secure communications.

9505A UNLIMITED airtime fee for FY12 is \$163.13 per month*

The EMSS voice plan and telephony service are enabled by the Iridium 9505A satellite phone, which is a ruggedly built, lightweight handset that provides secure global connectivity through the EMSS Gateway. EMSS allows 9505A users to place unlimited voice calls over the Defense Switched Network (DSN), the Federal Telecommunications System (FTS), and the Public Switched Telephone Networks (PSTN). Secure voice capability can be achieved by utilizing the Iridium Security Module (ISM) which is a National Security Agency (NSA) Type 1 encryption module that attaches to the back of the 9505A in an unobtrusive manner. Secure 9505A calls have the ability to be encrypted up to the Top Secret/Sensitive compartmentalized classification with the proper encryption loaded.

9505A SPECIFICATIONS

- **Weight:** 13.2 ounces
- **Dimensions:** 6.2L x 2.4W x 2.2D inches
- **Lithium ion Battery:** 3.6 hours continuous talk time and 30 hours continuous standby time
- **Capable of TS Secure Calls (with Iridium Secure Module)**

EMSS offers 9505A users a variety of additional capabilities, such as two-way

Short Messaging Services (SMS), two-way unsecure data (2.4kbps) transmission with an optional RS232 adapter, Router-Based Unrestricted Digital Interworking Connectivity Solution (RUDICS) which provides enhanced gateway termination/origination capability for circuit-switched data calls across the satellite network, and the Blue Tick system.

The Blue Tick system enables tracking of remote assets via the Iridium network. It employs hardware and software enhancements to the Iridium handset. The devices are based on the 9505A handset with modified software and a custom module containing a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver. The primary purpose of Blue Tick is the tracking of assets. The system also supports limited bi-directional communications in the form of brevity codes and free text messages.

MODES OF OPERATION

Beacon Mode - Remote GPS

- Select transmit interval
- Turn reporting on or off

Beacon Mode - Free Text

- Compose and read text messages

Tracking Station Mode

- Select receive (polling) interval
- Turn receive (polling) on or off

Distress Mode

- Can be entered from any Beacon Mode
- Activates fixed reporting interval
- The device is "Locked" until Distress Mode is turned off

There are also a number of 9505A accessories.

9505A OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES

- Data Adaptor - RS232
- Rollable Solar Charger
- Foldable Solar Charger
- Charger Extension Cords
- International Plug Kit
- AC Travel Charger
- Auto Accessory Adaptor
- Rechargeable Batteries
- Portable and Mounted Antennas
- Holsters and Carrying Cases

EMSS services and products can be purchased through the DDOE website at <https://www.disadirect.disa.mil/>. The 24x7 EMSS Help Desk is available to answer all customer questions about the 9505A as well as the full suite of EMSS products, accessories, services, and capabilities.

EMSS Help Desk (24/7)

CML: (877) 449-0600

DSN: (312) 282-1048

Look for more EMSS products and service articles in future issues.

*Some customers may experience a supplemental monthly EMSS Gateway fee. Please see the FY12 Billing Prices on DDOE for more information.

DISA CUSTOMER AND INDUSTRY FORUM 2011



The Defense Information System's Agency (DISA) Customer & Industry Forum 2011 was held at the Baltimore Convention Center in Baltimore, MD, from August 15-18, 2011. This year's forum combined DISA's annual Partnership Conference with the Forecast to Industry, and brought together customers, federal agencies, Information Technology (IT) professionals and subject matter experts (SMEs) who collaborate and support the Department of Defense (DoD) mission.

The forum provided opportunities to engage with DISA senior leaders, project leads, and action officers of critical programs and initiatives. COL Michelle Nassar, the Commercial Satellite Communications (COMSATCOM) Center Chief, presented a one-hour "COMSATCOM Update" track session with a "Question and Answer" segment following the briefing. The purpose was to provide an overview of COMSATCOM Center (NSK) functions and activities. COL Nassar provided a COMSATCOM Overview—mission, organization, and Future COMSATCOM Services Acquisition (FCSA). The Center's Division Chiefs also provided Division Reviews—Acquisition Services Division (ASD)/NSK3, Commercial Satellite Services Division (CSD)/NSK2, and Enhanced Mobile Satellite Services (EMSS) Division/NSK1.

The track session was well-attended and participants had the opportunity to engage with COMSATCOM Center SMEs on

FCSA and the ordering process. There were discussions about the EMSS products and services as well as the ordering process. EMSS conducted a demonstration of the Distributed Tactical Communications System (DTCS) capabilities with real-time use of the system and its handsets.

The forum also included "The Forecast to Industry Day Program" which featured series of briefings by DISA Senior Staff who addressed acquisition issues and planned procurements for the FY 2012-2013. Ms. Kathleen Miller, Director of DISA's Procurement Directorate and Chief of the Defense Information Technology Contracting Organization (DITCO) hosted the program.

For more information on the Customer & Industry Forum 2011, please go to the DISA website at <http://www.disa.mil/conferences/2011/index.html>.

REQUIREMENTS DEVELOPMENT QUICK TIPS

As the availability of Commercial Satellite Communications (COMSATCOM) in certain regions becomes increasingly limited, and fiscal restraints on Department of Defense (DoD) and spending continues to increase, it is more important than ever to capture clearly defined, accurate requirements for the lease of COMSATCOM bandwidth and services. A thorough, hard look at requirements should be conducted for all COMSATCOM leases for both new and existing requirements. This helps ensure your requirements are completely satisfied in the most cost effective and bandwidth efficient solution possible, while providing the highest level of service to the Warfighter.

Here are five areas to consider when developing your requirements:

Coverage Area: Consider what is the minimum coverage area required to accomplish your mission. If the coverage is required for fixed terminals, then the geo-location of those terminals is sufficient. For mobile terminals, this can be specified by listing countries or latitude/longitude points to specify a region or box on a map.

Elevation Angle Limitations: If equipment has any limitations on the elevation angles or azimuth, it needs to be stated.

Multiple Transponders: For requirements that are larger than one transponder, state if all bandwidth needs to be on a single beam or if multiple beams are acceptable.

Modem Limitations: Consider any limitations to the modems or earth terminal that will not allow certain encoding or error corrections.

Host Nation Agreements (HNA): If terminals will be operating outside of the United States, then a HNA will be required. All countries that the terminals will be operating in will need to be stated.

As always, the COMSATCOM Center is able to help you refine your technical requirements to get you the best service possible. Please keep in mind when vendor proposals are evaluated, they are evaluated against the governments stated requirements in the Request for Quote (RFQ). It is imperative all requirements are stated in the Performance Work Statement (PWS).

For More Information, Please Visit: <http://www.disa.mil/satcom/sco/index.html>