

ITV Operations and Training Newsletter

Check out the J-AIT website: <http://www.ait.army.mil> to view the latest J-AIT contract(s) for AIT and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) hardware, software, technical engineering services, and maintenance.

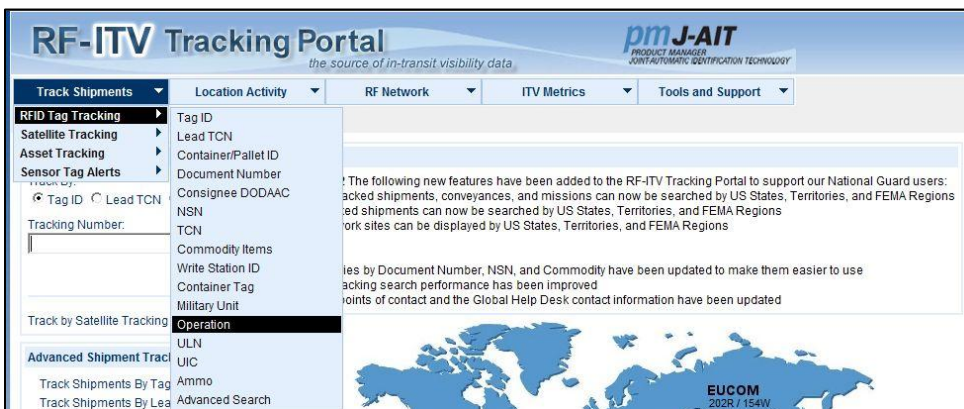
Tracking Unit Movements Using the RF-ITV Tracking Portal

Last month we tracked two operations, Headquarters Detachment, 25th Infantry Division from Afghanistan to Hawaii and Marine Air Group 36 to Thailand and back, by using their operation names. If used properly, the *Operation* field can help you locate your shipments by quickly correlating/identifying/segregating your grouping of shipments.

There are now over 3,254 operation names listed on the **RF-ITV Tracking Portal**. To limit the increasing list, it is important to choose an operation name that doesn't duplicate data points already on the tag (i.e., Transportation Control Numbers (TCNs), document numbers, container numbers or classes of supply) which are available to query on the **RF-ITV Tracking Portal**. Instead, use an operation name or code to identify a "group" of related shipments.

We also noticed that many of these operation names have only one tag or just a few tags associated with them. This raises a concern that many of the operation names being written to tags in the *Operation* field may not be effective. If it is necessary to have just one or a few tags associated with an operation name, we recommend using the **Free Text** field. The *Operation* field can be used in a more efficient way to maximize the portal's full capability and help you track your shipments more easily.

To locate/track your shipments using the operation name, select **Track Shipments > RFID Tag Tracking > Operation**.



For questions or comments, please contact one of the following:

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After clicking **Operation**, the *Unit Movement Tracking* query appears, and you can select or input a specific operation (if you know the name), a list of operations (up to 200), or view or search a list of all the operations listed on the **RF-ITV Tracking Portal**.

If you choose **Show All**, a list of military operations/exercises (if they were entered when the RF tag was written) will be displayed. To sort the entire list, click on *Show All Records* and then click the column header you want to sort by. Scroll down to the operation you would like to view and click the number of shipments to view a list of shipments associated with the operation. The list of tags associated with the operation will open in another browser window.

Things to consider when writing your tags and completing the *Operation* field:

- Be mindful of what data points are already populated on the **RF-ITV Tracking Portal**.
- Do a quick search to look at the operation names already in use so that you can select one that is unique to your needs. This will help you locate and segregate your tags more efficiently.
- Group tags with common or similar missions.
- Consider a unique operation name that separates/identifies your unit's move/mission from the rest. Example: Instead of using just "OEF" use "OEFA1/27INF". **TIP: Be consistent with spelling!**

Site Analysis: Camp Carroll, Korea



For this month's analysis, we selected the US Army Medical Materiel Command, Camp Carroll, Korea. The timeframe selected was 24 April – 23 May 2012. To obtain a sufficient amount of data to analyze, we reviewed tags from the following five write stations: T002564397E6A/CarrollW13 (seven tagged shipments); T0026B977765D/CarrollW15 (10 tagged shipments); T002564397FF1/CarrollW16 (nine tagged shipments); T002564397B42/CarrollW17 (11 tagged shipments); and T0026B9746D30/CarrollW18 (three tagged shipments). The results of these 40 tags are as follows:

- Consignor Department of Defense Activity Address Code (DODAAC) W567JN (US Army Medical Materiel Center Korea) was used correctly on all 40 tagged shipments.
- Twenty-one of the 40 tagged shipments contained invalid Consignee DODAACs (e.g., Y81228 and Y81213). Per the units, these are supplementary addresses of the end users used for their internal tracking within hospitals. If internal tracking is needed, we recommend putting these supplementary addresses in the **Free Text** block or the **Remarks** column rather than the Consignee DODAAC field.
- By comparing the Consignee DODAAC on the RFID tag to the *Read* events of the tag, and *Last Reported Interrogator Name*, it was determined that 22 of the 40 tagged shipments reached their final destinations. Only seven of the 22 tagged shipments generated "TK6" transactions. TK6 transactions are generated when the Consignee DODAAC on the tag matches the "Supported DODAAC" listed on a read interrogator's registration page. Fifteen shipments did not generate TK6 transactions because they either contained an invalid Consignee DODAAC or the valid DODAACs were not loaded on the read interrogators' registration pages when they were registered.
- Of the 18 shipments that did not reach final destination, three have not moved from the *Write* station. Due to lack of data or inaccurate data, it cannot be determined why 15 of the 40 tagged shipments did not reach final destination.
- None of the 40 tagged shipments contained Port of Embarkation (POE) or Port of Debarkation (POD) Codes. It was determined that all tagged shipments were ground-to-ground; therefore Inland Location Codes (ILCs) should have been used. The ILC for Camp Carroll is 74B. Some other ILCs for Korea are 74Q (Yongsan); 74P (Walker); 74N (Stanley); and 74D (Casey). The complete ILC list (by COCOM) can be found on the CASCOM In-Transit Visibility (ITV) website at: <http://www.cascom.army.mil/organizations/cdi/esd/itv/ilcs.aspx>.
- Overall, commodity data was excellent.
- All five interrogator registration pages had complete information. The format followed the naming convention, and the latitude and longitude were correct.
- All 40 tags had been previously used; and 38 tags have been re-written since this analysis. This shows excellent return/reuse of the RFID tags.

[RF-ITV Global Help Desk \(GHD\)](#)

Toll Free: 1 (800) 877-7925, **DSN:** Dial 94 plus (800) 877-7925,

AKO Instant Messenger Username: help.rfitv

Green Force Tracker/Lotus Sametime Group Name: PEO EIS-PM J-AIT-GHD

Help available 24hours/7 days a week

Email: help.rfitv@us.army.mil

The RFID GHD should be contacted before any attempt to reach an FSE in your area.

If you would like to subscribe to the newsletter or if you have a noteworthy RF-ITV story, lesson-learned, or short article for publication in the newsletter, please submit to Jerry Rodgers, J-AIT, jerry.d.rodgers.ctr@mail.mil.

J-AIT Leadership Change

On 31 May 2012, Colonel Clyde Richards, Program Manager, Defense Communications and Army Transmission Services, presided over a Change of Charter ceremony that marked the passing of responsibilities between the outgoing and incoming leaders of the J-AIT team. Lieutenant Colonel Cary Ferguson had served as Product Manager since 24 June 2009, leading a team of over 175 military, government civilians and contractors located around the world and overseeing the world's largest RF-ITV Network. During his tenure he led the team to a stream of successes in the expansion and enhancement of the Radio Frequency In-Transit Visibility (RF-ITV) infrastructure while at the same time planning and executing the transition of the RF-ITV support services contract to a new vendor. His leadership was fundamental in the migration of the RF-ITV System to an international standard and the application of AIT to a number of logistics challenges such as the automation and life cycle management of the Personnel Parachute System.

The J-AIT team welcomed its new leader, Jim Alexander, an Air Force veteran, who has served as the Deputy PM since September 2009. Prior to that, he had served as the RF-ITV Team lead since 2006, after joining J-AIT in 2005 as system configuration manager.

From the entire J-AIT team, many thanks to Lieutenant Colonel Ferguson for his contributions to J-AIT and its mission and best wishes for much success in his future endeavors. We look forward to continuing our critical mission under Product Director Jim Alexander's leadership.



Jim Alexander accepts the J-AIT Charter from COL Richards as LTC Ferguson looks on. (Photo by Linda Valenzano, PM DCATS PAO)

For and From the Field

Coming Soon

The non-Common Access Card (CAC) ITV Login on the **RF-ITV Tracking Portal** will be going away as of 24 October 2012. Anyone who accesses the Tracking Portal via a non-CAC ITV Login (username and password) should coordinate with their sponsor to get a CAC so they can continue to use the system.



New Requirements for Country Codes

A Secretary of Defense memorandum dated 6 June 2011 requires that the RF-ITV System migrate away from the Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) two-character country codes to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 3166-1 two-character country codes. Program Managers should ensure transition is complete by 30 September 2012.

To read more about this mandated Country Code migration go to:

<https://www.cascom.lee.army.mil/private/ITV/documentation/DoDCountryCode6Jun11.pdf>

Global Help Desk (GHD) Proactive Data Quality Improvement Efforts





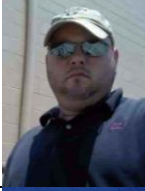


Provided by Rodney Edmonds, GHD Team Lead

The RF-ITV Global Help Desk (GHD) is available every day to all worldwide users of the **RF-ITV Tracking Portal**, on a 24 hour basis, providing a lengthy list of support services. The **RF-ITV Tracking Portal's** database consists of information that to a large degree is manually generated and compiled by individual users. As a result, at any given moment in time, a percentage of the data uploaded to, and processed by the tracking portal is subject to human error.

Over the past two months, the GHD has altered its approach to customer service by proactively addressing several of the most common data integrity concerns. In addition to their regular duties, GHD analysts are actively seeking out instances where data has been posted to the **RF-ITV Tracking Portal** with inherent errors (the system is capable of filtering out data with certain problems). Upon discovery, GHD analysts reach out to Points of Contact (POCs) at each location and attempt to provide assistance with correcting said errors. It is important that you keep your contact information current on your site's registration page so that the GHD is able to contact you and provide assistance. We also recommend that the POC you choose be an individual that writes the tags and not a POC from the chain such as the Sustainment Automated Support Management Office (SASMO).

If you are contacted by a GHD analyst in regards to either of the above mentioned problems at your location, please cooperate with their efforts to help resolve the issue. As you know, all users play a part in maintaining system security...and the same rule applies to all users responsible for uploading data to the **RF-ITV Tracking Portal** – each must do their part to maintain data integrity.

Individual GHD analysts are focused on RFID *Read* and/or *Write* sites exhibiting problems in the following respective key areas of concern:

	Rodney Edmonds > GHD Team Lead
	Tomislav Tolnaj > FDU (computer) System Clocks running ahead of GMT (Zulu time)
	Stuart Appleton > Over-interrogation of RFID tags (Dead Battery report)
	Rakesh Singh > Missing and/or incorrect Latitude/Longitude information
	Casey Chestnut > Naming Convention compliance (duplicate names, missing descriptions, etc.)
	Hector Prieto > Locations uploading tags with missing License Plate or Commodity data
	Colby Lovell > Invalid Port Codes and Inland Codes (ILCs)