

ITV Operations and Training Newsletter

Check out the PM J-AIT website at the new URL: <http://www.ait.army.mil> to view the latest PM 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

For the Operations portion of this issue, we will be looking at how two units wrote RFID tags, and we will track the shipments from start to end.



Operation #1: The first operation we looked at was a redeployment mission of the 25th Infantry Division Headquarters Detachment from Bagram, Afghanistan back to Hawaii. We chose the *Operation Name*, *3BCT_SI_2012* for which 86 tags were written. These tagged shipments traveled via air from Port of Embarkation (POE) OA1, Bagram, Afghanistan to Port of Debarkation (POD) HIK, Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam, Honolulu.

Based on the data from the **RF-ITV Tracking Portal**, the results of our data analysis are:

- Of the 86 tagged shipments we checked, 81 tags (94%) were read at Hickam AFB, and 61 tags (71%) were read at final destination at Schofield Barracks.
- Five tags were written in Bagram but showed no further movement. We cannot determine why these tags, written in March 2012, showed no further movement.
- The average time from write date, through transit, to completion of the trip was approximately 25 days--from Afghanistan to Hawaii.
- Tag data was excellent which allowed us to track this mission from beginning to end.

The 25th Infantry's operation was fairly straightforward and had excellent reads throughout. Now let's look at another operation.

Operation #2: For the second Operation, we chose the *Operation Name* *CG12(MAG36)BB_UD*. This Marine Air Group 36 mission was a container movement exercise for which 47 tags were written using this Operation code. These tagged shipments traveled via sea from POE UB1, Naha, Okinawa (Military Terminal), Ryukyu Island to POD RA7, Chuk Samet, Thailand.



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

Cynthia Jones, RF-ITV Team Chief
cynthia.i.jones26.civ@mail.mil
(703) 325-2289 DSN (312) 221-2289

Reginald Madden, RF-ITV Assistant Team Chief
reginald.m.madden.civ@mail.mil
(703) 325-3237 DSN (312) 221-3237

Virgil Green, RF-ITV Infrastructure Manager
virgil.green.civ@mail.mil
(703) 587-6030

Jerry Rodgers, Operational Readiness
jerry.d.rodgers.ctr@mail.mil
(703) 325-2988 DSN (312) 221-2988

Douglas Cantaral, RF-ITV Operations Specialist
douglas.h.cantaral.civ@mail.mil
(703) 325-3096 DSN (312) 221-3096

Jose Gonzalez, Operational System Engineer
jose.l.gonzalezlatorres.ctr@mail.mil
(703) 325-3026 DSN (312) 221-3026

Chris Maeger, RF-ITV System Analyst
christopher.a.maeger.ctr@mail.mil
(703) 325-3018 DSN (312) 221-3018

PM J-AIT LNOs:

Major Ryan Leonard-Southwest Asia
ryan.d.leonard@afghan.swa.army.mil
011-937-908-43605 DSN (318) 481-4556

Charles Van Sistine-CENTCOM
charles.a.vansistine.ctr@mail.mil
(813) 529-4106 DSN (312) 529-4106

Ken Smith-EUCOM and AFRICOM
john.k.smith23.civ@mail.mil
49-6372-842-3723 DSN (314) 481-3723

Andy Smith-NORTHCOM, FORSCOM, TRANSCOM, SOUTHCOM, National Guard Bureau, Army Materiel Command, US Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps
andy.o.smith.ctr@mail.mil
(703) 325-3116 DSN (312) 221-3116

Whit Norris-PACOM
whit.norris.ctr@pacom.mil
(808) 477-8071 DSN 315-477-8071

RF-ITV Training: RF-ITV Global Help Desk
help.rfitv@us.army.mil
1 (800) 877-7925 DSN 94 wait for dial tone
then dial 1 (800) 877-7925

Based on the data on the ***RF-ITV Tracking Portal***, the results of our data analysis are:

- Of the 47 tagged shipments written in support of Cobra Gold 2012, 39 tags (83%) were read in CHUK SAMET YARD (CHUKR22) (2 weeks to complete) and reached final destination. We noticed in the tag read events that some of the reads on 22 February were done by Handheld Interrogator (HHI) SUBICNCT1R1 which had not been re-registered in Thailand. The operator realized this and re-registered and renamed the HHI to CHUKSAMETR1 to reflect the new location on 25 February.
- The remaining eight tagged shipments were all last read at various read sites in Okinawa and showed no onward movement to Thailand.
- After the completion of the exercise (about 45 days later), 32 of the 39 tagged shipments returned to Okinawa and were read at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) in Futenma, Okinawa, Japan. Five remained in Chuk Samet, Thailand and two tagged shipments appeared to move from Chuk Samet, Thailand to Subic Bay (PALAWANR1 PIER HHI) based on data from the ***RF-ITV Tracking Portal***.
- Eighteen of the 32 tagged shipments that arrived back at MCAS in Futenma, Okinawa, Japan showed onward movement to Subic Bay (PALAWANR1 PIER HHI) in Palawan, Philippines without being re-written. However, based on limited/sporadic reads, we are not certain if these shipments actually moved to Subic Bay or if this resulted from a re-naming/re-registering of an HHI similar to what was mentioned above.
- Tag data contained no Consignee or Consignor Department of Defense Activity Address Code (DoDAAC) making it difficult to determine who these shipments were going to or shipping from.
- We were able to track 83% of the tagged shipments from tag write to arrival for the exercise and 71% of the tagged shipments back to home station, providing in-transit visibility over a 2 month period.

It was noted that during this analysis, we found some anomalies that can serve as lessons learned:

ISSUE: Some reads were by mobile interrogators that were obviously not renamed or re-registered when they were used in new locations. For example, two tagged shipments were read by EUSTIS1204 EUSTISOPSCHECKTEST and one tagged shipment was read by 690RPOE (R-FWD1) which is also Fort Eustis, Virginia, then were read the same day in Chuk Samet, Thailand. Had these tagged shipments not been read in Chuk Samet, Thailand the same day, the data would have given the false impression that these shipments were in Virginia.

LESSON LEARNED: To avoid confusion and reflect actual location, always take the time to rename and reregister your mobile interrogators (Portable Deployment Kit [PDK], Early Entry Deployment Support Kit [EEDSK], or HHI) to reflect the current location. This will allow the correct name and location to be registered and uploaded so that it can be correctly identified on the ***RF-ITV Tracking Portal*** and in mapping applications.

ISSUE: Tagged shipments showed follow-on movement without being re-written.

LESSON LEARNED: Turn the battery around when a tag reaches final destination. Re-write tags for the next mission so that the data on the tag contains accurate information about the current shipment which is important for maintaining in-transit visibility of your cargo. Be sure to verify that the batteries are activated or in the "ON" position when your shipment is ready for movement.

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, PM J-AIT, jerry.d.rodgers.ctr@mail.mil.

Site Analysis: DLA DISTRIBUTION SUSQUEHANNA PA

For this month's analysis we looked at RF-ITV Write site, Device ID TDDSP000001, Device name NEWCUMBERLANDDSSW1. The focus of our analysis was on the data quality and movement of RFID tags being written at site TDDSP000001 during the period of 1 Jan 12 to 2 May 12.

We extracted the data from the **RF-ITV Tracking Portal** by using the query **Track Shipments > Advanced Search**. The **Advanced Search** query is one way to narrow down the results by using several RF data elements when you run a query. The data elements we used were:

Consignor (sender): DODAAC SW3124 (DLA DISTRIBUTION SUSQUEHANNA PA: TRANSPORTATION OFFICER NEW CUMBERLAND PA)

Consignee (receiver): DODAAC MMX800 (USMC MDC LEATHERNECK: OEF M/F MMX800 CAMP LEATHERNECK, AFGHANISTAN)

POE: DOV (DOVER AFB) **POD:** AZ1 (CAMP BASTION LZ)

The screenshot displays the RF-ITV Tracking Portal interface. The left navigation menu shows 'Advanced Search' selected. The main search form is titled 'Advanced Search' and contains the following sections:

- Tracking ID:** Lead TCN*, Container**, VDN***
- Owner:** UIC, ULN, Operation, Military Unit, Free Text
- Write Date:** Select a View: Current Year to Date; Enter a Date Range: *From: 01-JAN-2012 00:00:00, *To: 02-MAY-2012 23:59:59
- Location:** Origin: Consignor DODAAC: SW3124, POE: dov, Destination: Consignee DODAAC: MMX800, POD: az1

A red box highlights the Origin section of the Location field.

These selection criteria identified 40 tagged shipments to analyze. The results of this data analysis are as follows:

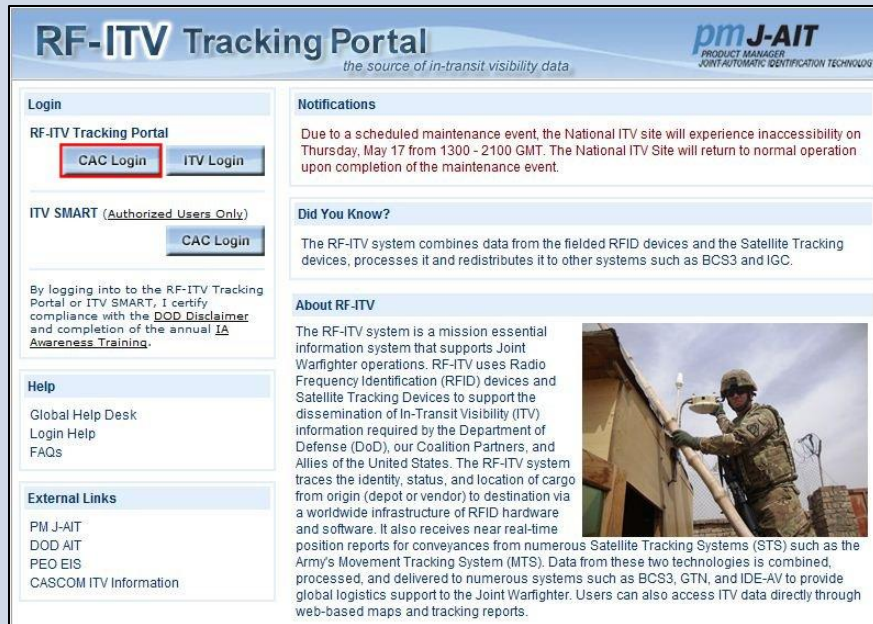
- By comparing the Consignee DODAAC, POD on the RFID tag to the Read events of the tag, and Last Reported Interrogator Name, it was determined that 39 of the 40 tagged shipments had reached their final destination. All 39 of the tagged shipments produced a TK6 transaction. TK6s are created when the Consignee DODAAC on the tag matches the "Supported DODAAC" listed on the read interrogator's registration page.
- The average ship time from write date to receipt was seven days—these were shipments by air.
- The one remaining tagged shipment (tag #18717467557623/TCN SW31232041D434XXX) that did not reach final destination was last read at the Kandahar ATOC Cargo Yard on 22 February.
- Overall, commodity data was excellent. Complete commodity data allows users more options for query searches and provides more complete data sharing with other ITV systems.
- The information provided on the site registration page was found to be correct.

The Regional Training Team's (RTT's) Tips and Tricks

What Kind of Equipment Do I Have?

Have you ever found a piece of RFID equipment in your office or unit storage area and had no idea what you were holding? Maybe you have a tag that does not have a battery cap and need a National Stock Number (NSN) to order a replacement, or perhaps your leader tasks you with verifying the model of interrogator in the Early Entry Deployment Support Kit (EEDSK). There are many reasons for needing such information. Don't panic!—we are here to help. The tips below will help you find the answers you need:

1. The RF-ITV Global Help Desk is open 24/7, and you can find its contact information on the **RF-ITV Tracking Portal**. <https://national.rfitv.army.mil>. Login using your CAC (Common Access Card).
 - b. Login using your CAC.



RF-ITV Tracking Portal
the source of in-transit visibility data

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Login

RF-ITV Tracking Portal

CAC Login | ITV Login

ITV SMART (Authorized Users Only)

CAC Login

By logging into the RF-ITV Tracking Portal or ITV SMART, I certify compliance with the [DOD Disclaimer](#) and completion of the annual [IA Awareness Training](#).

Help

Global Help Desk
Login Help
FAQs

External Links

PM J-AIT
DOD AIT
PEO EIS
CASCOM ITV Information

Notifications

Due to a scheduled maintenance event, the National ITV site will experience inaccessibility on Thursday, May 17 from 1300 - 2100 GMT. The National ITV Site will return to normal operation upon completion of the maintenance event.

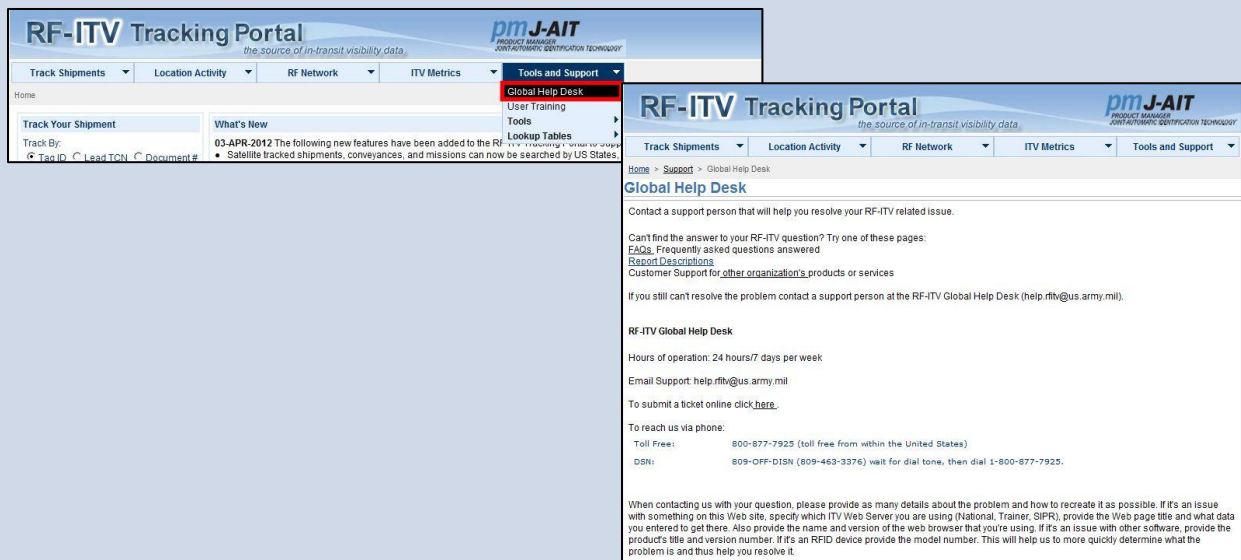
Did You Know?

The RF-ITV system combines data from the fielded RFID devices and the Satellite Tracking devices, processes it and redistributes it to other systems such as BCS3 and IGC.

About RF-ITV

The RF-ITV system is a mission essential information system that supports Joint Warfighter operations. RF-ITV uses Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) devices and Satellite Tracking Devices to support the dissemination of In-Transit Visibility (ITV) information required by the Department of Defense (DoD), our Coalition Partners, and Allies of the United States. The RF-ITV system traces the identity, status, and location of cargo from origin (depot or vendor) to destination via a worldwide infrastructure of RFID hardware and software. It also receives near real-time position reports for conveyances from numerous Satellite Tracking Systems (STS) such as the Army's Movement Tracking System (MTS). Data from these two technologies is combined, processed, and delivered to numerous systems such as BCS3, GTN, and IDE-AV to provide global logistics support to the Joint Warfighter. Users can also access ITV data directly through web-based maps and tracking reports.

Select **Tools and Support > Global Help Desk**.



RF-ITV Tracking Portal
the source of in-transit visibility data

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Track Shipments | Location Activity | RF Network | ITV Metrics | Tools and Support

Home

Track Your Shipment

What's New

03-APR-2012 The following new features have been added to the RF-ITV Tracking Portal:
• Satellite tracked shipments, conveyances, and missions can now be searched by US States.

RF-ITV Tracking Portal
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Home > Support > Global Help Desk

Global Help Desk

Contact a support person that will help you resolve your RF-ITV related issue.

Can't find the answer to your RF-ITV question? Try one of these pages:
[FAQs](#), Frequently asked questions answered
[Report Descriptions](#)
Customer Support for [other organization's](#) products or services

If you still can't resolve the problem contact a support person at the RF-ITV Global Help Desk (help.rfitv@us.army.mil).

RF-ITV Global Help Desk

Hours of operation: 24 hours/7 days per week

Email Support: help.rfitv@us.army.mil

To submit a ticket online [click here](#).

To reach us via phone:

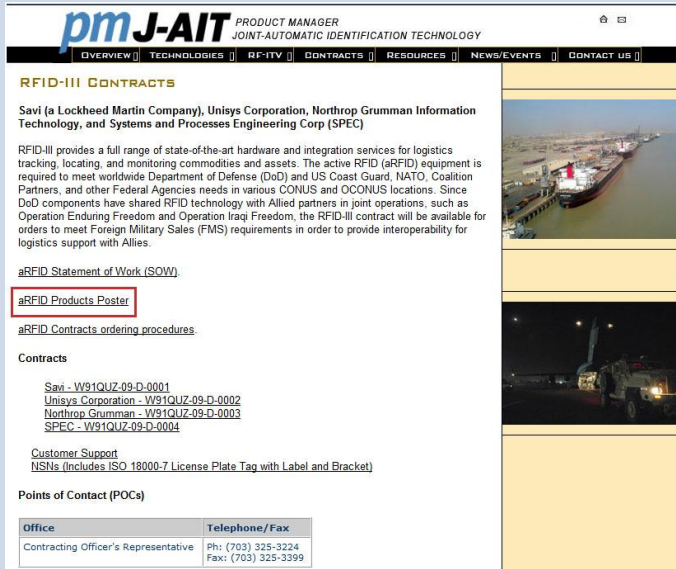
Toll Free: 800-877-7925 (toll free from within the United States)
DSN: 809-0FF-D1SN (809-463-3376) wait for dial tone, then dial 1-800-877-7925.

When contacting us with your question, please provide as many details about the problem and how to recreate it as possible. If it's an issue with something on this Web site, specify which ITV Web Server you are using (National, Trainer, SIPR), provide the Web page title and what data you entered to get there. Also provide the name and version of the web browser that you're using. If it's an issue with other software, provide the product's title and version number. If it's an RFID device provide the model number. This will help us to more quickly determine what the problem is and thus help you resolve it.

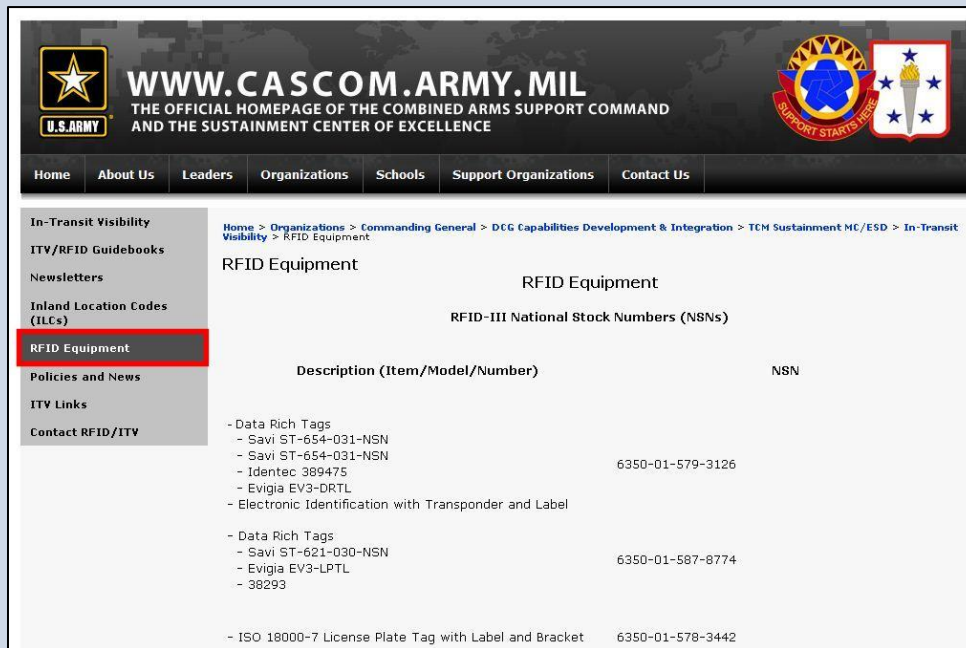
The Regional Training Team's (RTT's) Tips and Tricks

What Kind of Equipment Do I Have? (continued)

2. For a chart of RFID equipment go to the PM J-AIT website at: <http://www.ait.army.mil/Contracts/rfidiii/rfidiii.html>



3. If you need an NSN to order items such as tags, batteries, and battery caps, you can go to the Combined Arms Support Command (CASCOM) site at: <http://www.cascom.army.mil/organizations/cdi/esd/itv/equipment.aspx> where this information is available.



For and From the Field

Reminder

If you have a *Read* or *Write* site that is no longer active or required to support your business processes, please contact the RF-ITV Global Help Desk (GHD) at help.rfitv@us.army.mil or 1 (800) 877-7925 to have it removed from the **RF-ITV Tracking Portal** database.