

Enterprise Insights

Inside this Issue:

PD ES Corner	1
Army Application Migration Business Office Moves Forward with Mission to Support System and Application Owners	2
ALTESS Adds Software-Defined Storage as an Agile Solution for Data Storage	3
EC2M Engineers Transition AKO Disaster Recovery Site	4

PD ES Corner

Jeremy Hiers, Project Director, Enterprise Services

"It's all data distribution, it really is... I think what you'll have in 10 years is a lot fewer physical facilities, much more virtual cloud data that from our standpoint is accessible on whatever the new technology brings."

- Terry Halvorsen,
Department of Defense (DOD) Chief Information Officer (CIO)

This past January, then Acting-DOD CIO Terry Halvorsen hosted the first DOD CIO-sponsored Cloud Industry Day to promote an open dialogue that would help shape DOD's approach to the business of Defense information technology (IT) management. During that event, Mr. Halvorsen spoke about preparing to meet the multiple, wide-ranging requirements that will ensure efficiency and effectiveness in procuring, modernizing, and managing IT solutions for DOD.

As the Army marches out on the Army Network Campaign and recently released Army and DOD Cloud Computing guidance and strategies, Project Director, Enterprise Services (PD ES) finds itself at the center of many of the Army's key modernization efforts. From our support of application modernization and migration to our work preparing for Unified Capabilities and data center consolidation; PD ES has a direct impact on the future of Army enterprise services.

The Army Cloud Strategy called out our Army Application Migration Business Office as a resource to allow application owners who are ready to migrate "to rapidly capitalize on the FedRAMP and DOD-approved government and commercial cloud service". This important work will allow the Army to

take advantage of the economies of scale and subsequent reduction in costs associated with IT operations and maintenance that cloud computing can help realize.



Mr. Jeremy Hiers

Although the Army has gone to great lengths to reduce the cost of its email service, the exponential growth of storage requirements to support individual mailboxes is on an unsustainable path. As DOD Enterprise Email (DEE) moves forward, our Product Director, Enterprise Content Collaboration and Messaging is working in partnership with the Army's CIO/G-6 to help DEE users understand how to manage their email accounts to allow for future growth.

Product Director, Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology Enterprise Services and Systems has aligned its IT strategies with DOD's Better Buying Power Initiative 3.0 resulting in improved data management though the creation of more agility, compatibility, and transparency for its customer systems. *Read more about the Better Buying Power Initiative here: <http://bbp.dau.mil/>.*

PD ES continues to make significant strides. The remainder of fiscal year 2015 provides a promising move in the right direction towards achieving the collective goal of ensuring the seamless delivery of enterprise services, IT, and communication to the tactical edge.



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Army Application Migration Business Office Moves Forward with Mission to Support Application and System Owners

Product Director, Enterprise Computing



In support of the Army Data Center Consolidation Plan (ADCCP), Product Director, Enterprise Computing (PD EC) established the Army Application Migration Business Office to serve as the single point of contact for all Army enterprise system and application owners during migration to Department of Defense-approved enterprise facilities.

Established in June 2014, the Business Office provides both strategic and technical migration guidance, which includes enterprise facility capabilities and services offerings, to system and application owners.

The Office has developed a six-phase, 15-milestone process to guide system and application owners throughout migration. By leveraging this process, the Army Application Migration Business Office centrally tracks migration tasks, evaluates all migration options, and provides recommendations and guidance throughout migration activities.

Since its establishment, the Army Application Migration Business Office has assisted more than 250 systems and applications from roughly 40 commands with migration strategies and efforts.

“The PD EC Team has made significant strides in moving the mission and effort of ADCCP forward,” said Mr. Archie Mackie, Jr., product director for Enterprise Computing. “The Army Application Migration Business Office is yet another opportunity for this team to prove its worth and show its collaborative nature as we work with each Army organization’s application and system owners.”

The Business Office continues to make strides. The PD EC Team re-evaluates and updates its processes to adapt to emerging guidance as the Army determines the way forward for system and application migration. Forthcoming improvements to the Army application migration process include streamlined documentation and new, user-friendly tools to help application and system owners execute migrations more effectively and efficiently.

The Office evolves to meet new requirements, constantly refining its process.

“While some elements of the migration process are standardized, application and system owners are pleased to know that the Army Application Migration Business Office tailors each migration on a case-by-case basis,” said Mr. Mackie. “The Office analyzes the system or application’s compute resource and information assurance requirements, and other cost drivers prior to proceeding with migration planning.”

Any command that owns an Army enterprise system or application may contact the Army Application Migration Business Office for support by email, telephone, or support ticket.

Contact the Army Application Migration Business Office

By Email

- Send an email to usarmy.belvoir.peo-eis.mbx.army-app-migration-office@mail.mil
 - o Enter the Subject: “Application Migration”
 - o Include your name, email, phone number, organization, command and (primary) application name

By Phone

- Call 1-866-335-2769 (ARMY)
 - o Press 4 (Other)
 - o State that you are requesting information about Application Migration
 - o Provide your name, email, phone number, organization, command and (primary) application name

By Service Ticket

- Submit a ticket to <https://esd-crm.csd.disa.mil/app/ask>
 - o Enter your email address
 - o Enter the Subject: “Application Migration”
 - o In the Question field enter: your name, phone number, organization, command and (primary) application name
 - o Choose the Product as “Application Migration” (Several request types will be displayed)
 - o Select “Request for Information” then click OK
 - o Click “Continue” to submit your request

ALTESS Adds Software-Defined Storage as an Agile Solution for Data Storage

Cost-Effective Move Aligns with DOD's Better Buying Power 3.0 Initiative

Product Director, Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology Enterprise Systems and Services

Product Director, Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology Enterprise Systems and Services (PD ALTESS) now controls its storage capacity and lifecycle in a manner that is transparent to more than 120 customers' storage requirements. Data storage services are now available through a more agile solution, leveraging software-defined storage (SDS) as a means of controlling product lifecycle, customer compatibility, and cost.

By leveraging SDS, ALTESS is able to virtualize all of its block storage resources. Traditionally, enterprise block storage services have been centralized around multiple data storage devices that deliver data through a Fibre Channel (FC) switched environment. Data growth and lifecycle replacements would often result in storage migration efforts requiring service interruptions and long hours for system administrators. In addition, acquiring storage devices required brand-name justification due to services leveraged that were unique to each storage vendor.

"SDS allows ALTESS to connect multiple vendor storage systems with best-practice configurations providing enhanced performance on a per-system configuration," said Mr. Richard Eva, product director for ALTESS. "Integrating these storage systems to a central point allows for a single portal of management for storage administrators. Simplified configuration management is achieved because customer interoperability is only required with the virtual layer."

Newer storage devices can be integrated with no down-time and seamlessly integrated into the existing infrastructure.

While traditional block storage requires FC for delivery, the SDS system allows block storage services to be delivered over IP networks. The new delivery option enhances opportunities for customers based on technical and budgetary needs.

"This system also allows ALTESS the flexibility to migrate data transparently to meet different levels of performance based on projected workloads, unexpected changes in activity, and customer application needs," said Mr. Cam Coble, team lead for Storage Services at ALTESS.

"By adhering to BBP 3.0, ALTESS has seen lower costs through effective vendor competition", said Mr. Eva.

In addition to a more agile solution and increased transparency for customer systems, ALTESS's information technology (IT) strategies are being aligned with the Better Buying Power (BBP) 3.0 initiative from the Department of Defense's Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Office. *Read more about the BBP initiative here: <http://bbp.dau.mil/>.*

Purchases of storage systems are performed on a lowest-cost, technically acceptable basis in alignment with DOD's BBP 3.0 Initiative. Improved requirements



are based on open standards, performance metrics, and other technical needs. As a result, storage systems are purchased as commodities for capacity increases and lifecycle replacements.

"By adhering to BBP 3.0, ALTESS has seen lower costs through effective vendor competition," said Mr. Eva.

Special features are now moved to the SDS solution, allowing snapshots, mirroring, and replication of data to be performed across different storage devices regardless of vendor. A per-terabyte model for licensing of special features allows ALTESS to pay only for what it needs rather than license each storage system separately. Without the model, ALTESS would have to license a significant number of storage solutions to maintain the capabilities needed to serve its customers.

By utilizing SDS, ALTESS maintains velocity in providing agile initiatives in its mission to deliver a cost-effective storage platform that positions ALTESS to consolidate and fully utilize shared storage solutions needed by Army IT programs.

EC2M Engineers Transition AKO Disaster Recovery Site

Product Director, Enterprise Content Collaboration and Messaging



On March 11, the Army Knowledge Online (AKO) Disaster Recovery (DR) site officially ceased operations – marking a significant milestone in the AKO transition.

The effort was the final step in Product Director, Enterprise Content Collaboration and Messaging's (PD EC2M's) establishment of an active AKO single sign-on (SSO) and directory capability with Product Director, Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology Enterprise Systems and Services (PD ALTESS).

The DR site's termination resulted from an Army decision to change the Capabilities Production Document (CPD) and, thus, to reduce the high levels of availability AKO maintained since 2005.

Shutting down the DR site saves the government costs associated with network circuits, software licensing, maintenance staffing, and facility rental. The AKO Project Office took on the task of planning for the safe removal and relocation of over 1,000 pieces of equipment valued in excess of \$24 million.

Relocation of the back-up SSO capability to ALTESS began in 2013 as a precondition for an eventual closure of the DR site.

Following the decision on Nov. 7, 2014 by the Army Requirements Oversight Council to approve the CPD changes, the planning to retire the AKO DR Data Center began.

Dismantling a data center of this capacity was a first for the team.

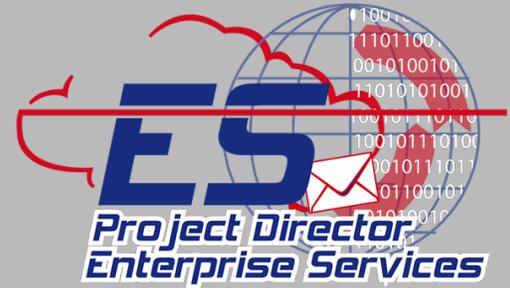
For more than a decade, AKO and its associated organizations, were technically and operationally dependent on the secondary site for testing and redirecting services. Before closing the site, engineers had to eliminate all of the dependencies of the system with no disruption to users.

Unracking, preparing, and removing items from the facility (some items as big as sport utility vehicles) had to be tightly coordinated with the steady stream of deliveries taking the equipment to new locations around the country. Equipment moved to the Ft. Belvoir Property Book Office for turn in; sensitive media was delivered to the National Security Agency at Ft. Meade for destruction, and on-loan items were returned to their parent organizations.

AKO was able to help the General Fund Enterprise Business Systems and ALTESS missions by transferring over 130 items to them. Most importantly, AKO incorporated 430 of the DR items into their Ft. Belvoir data center. These new pieces will either enhance the overall environment or will be stored to meet future hardware needs. These resources make the primary site a far more capable and robust data center, engineered to eliminate single points of failure and positioned to fill the Army's current and evolving requirements.

AKO SSO and Lightweight Directory Access Protocol functions will maintain an off-site continuity of operations capability at ALTESS.

While moving and distributing all of this equipment, the team did it without operational impacts and finished ahead of schedule.



Enterprise Services' SPOTLIGHT

PD ES would like to acknowledge the dedicated service of the men and women who supported the Army Knowledge Online Disaster Recovery Site Transition

AKO DR Overall Planning Team

- Brian Laws
- Robert Marble
- Linda Milks

AKO DR Relocation Team

- Douglas Antos
- John Bigelow
- Noel Campbell
- Kofi Gillespie
- Carl Johnson
- Luster Johnson
- Brian Laws
- Robert Marble
- Linda Milks
- Kizu Nsimpasi
- Wiljohn Punsalen
- Radee Reynolds
- Jennifer Zimmers