



RCAS NEWS



July 2014

FY2014 VOLUME IV

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- PD RCAS Reinstates Software Release Town Halls
- GA ARNG Personnel Learn the Benefits of RCAS SOH
- RCAS PD Corner
- PD RCAS Recognizes GSME Support
- Meet Your New Personnel Product Owner
- MPDV Generates Strip Maps
- DLP and MDLC Classroom—System Refresh Activities
- FY14 Product Refresh Update
- RCB Attendees Tour RCAS Facilities
- Workshops and SRP Support are Available Now
- The 1243rd Trans Company uses MPDV during an SRP Event
- Upcoming Conferences
- ARNG CIO G6 Presents Challenge Cups to PD RCAS Staff
- It's Official the PD RCAS has moved
- PD RCAS says Farewell to Mr. Mark Montrey
- RCAS Training Corner

**NEED HELP?
HAVE QUESTIONS?
WANT TRAINING?**

Contact a service desk
for assistance:

Army National Guard (ARNG)
1-800-821-3097 (toll free)
United States Army Reserve (USAR)
1-855-558-7272 (toll free)

PD RCAS REINSTATES SOFTWARE RELEASE TOWN HALLS

On July 16, 2014, the Project Directorate (PD) Reserve Component Automation Systems (RCAS) reinstated RCAS Software Release Pre and Post Installation Town Halls coinciding with the fielding of RCAS Release 7.0.7. These Town Halls will be focused on the Army National Guard (ARNG) Data Processing Installation (DPI) and J6 communities throughout the United States and its Territories.

The purpose of these Town Halls is to ensure the DPI and J6 communities are informed of activities surrounding RCAS software releases. The Town Halls will be conducted as a forum where participants will contribute to structured discussions related to Pre and Post

installation activities for major RCAS Releases including dialog on installation preparations and successes, issues, trouble tickets, and recommendations for future RCAS Releases.

The first in the series of Town Halls took place on July 16, 2014 – Post Installation RCAS Release 7.0.7 Activities. Future Town Halls are tentatively scheduled for the following dates:

- September 17, 2014 – Pre Installation RCAS Release 7.0.8 Activities
- November 19, 2014 – Post Installation RCAS Release 7.0.8 Activities

For more information on these Town Halls, contact Ms. Rita Bartholomew, Release Management Support, by phone at 703-806-3119, or by email at rita.g.bartholomew.ctr@mail.mil.

GA ARNG PERSONNEL LEARN THE BENEFITS OF RCAS SOH

Many states within the Army National Guard (ARNG) are taking advantage of what the RCAS Safety and Occupational Health (SOH) application has to offer. The Georgia (GA) ARNG is one of over 40 Guard states and territories that fully understand the benefits of using the SOH application. SOH supports both the ARNG and the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) in complying with Army safety requirements and regulations. SOH provides users the ability to track, manage and report on both ground and aviation accidents and hazards using this real time, web-based, integrated software tool. It also serves the National Guard Bureau (NGB) Safety Managers and Specialists and provides functionality down to the unit and shop supervisor level. SOH is a tool box to help safety professionals manage their safety programs.

This past May, CW4, Randall T. Pifer, Sr., Aviation Safety Specialist for the GA ARNG State Safety Office (an experienced SOH user) and one of the RCAS Government Subject



CW4 Pifer, Sr. provides RCAS SOH training to several Georgia ARNG soldiers from the 878th Engineer Battalion during their Annual Training at Fort Stewart, Georgia. Photo Credit: LTC John M. Till, GA ARNG State Safety Manager.

Matter Experts (GSMEs) for SOH, had the opportunity to provide SOH training to several GA ARNG soldiers from the 878th Engineer Battalion during their Annual Training at Fort Stewart, GA. Chief Pifer was able to coach the class in what SOH has to offer them and covered the SOH and Training Dashboards. He also covered additional topics such as entering an accident and abating hazards from an inspection or from a hazard log. The students also

learned how to build master rosters for adding classes, how to add a class, verify radiation inventory and produce SOH reports. Chief Pifer indicated that the training was well received and the PD RCAS staff sincerely appreciates his efforts.

To find out more about how SOH can benefit your unit or organization, contact Mr. Max Dunn, SOH Product Owner, by phone at 703-806-3128, or by e-mail at max.g.dunn.civ@mail.mil, or Mr. Eric Callagher, Mobilization and Safety Applications Analyst, by phone at 916-206-8750, or by e-mail at eric.n.callagher.ctr@mail.mil.

PD CORNER



**MR. RALPH OCASIO
RCAS PROJECT DIRECTOR**

It seems hard to believe that we are already in the final quarter of FY14....the year and the summer are passing so very quickly – Let me again begin by saying “Thank YOU” for all you are doing, as well as for taking the time to read and browse this edition of “RCAS News”. Our team continues to receive outstanding support in your timely response to our data calls and your confirmation of system requirements. Additionally, I sincerely appreciate your support to our transformation to the AGILE software sustainment process. Your collaboration, participation and communication are critical to improving our application capabilities to best serve our soldiers and their units.

We have just completed a quarterly Requirements Control Board (RCB) meeting hosted by Team RCAS in Northern Virginia. I believe this was an excellent exchange of information, and provided the opportunity for many of our key stakeholders to see and experience the environment where our work is done. A special thanks to the entire RCAS Team including our ARNG and USAR RCB participants for an excellent day.

We are just beginning the process of executing an update and refresh to the RCAS operational environment. We will be replacing the existing servers which are approaching the end of their respective lifecycles in May 2015. We look forward to your continued great support. Again – thank you for all you are doing and we look forward to continuing to serve you...be safe out there....

PD RCAS RECOGNIZES GSME SUPPORT

Government Subject Matter Experts (GSMEs) from both the ARNG and USAR play a significant role in keeping RCAS applications the best that they can be. The PD RCAS staff recognizes and appreciates the efforts of all of our GSMEs and their leadership for allowing them the time to assist us in making our products and services even better and more relevant. In this and future editions of the RCAS News we will acknowledge them for the great work they do in service to our soldiers and our nation.



Ms. Cindy S. Marshall serves as Systems Team Chief, G-3/5/7, Force Management Main at the U.S. Army Reserve Command, (USAR) Headquarters, Fort Bragg, NC. She is also the force management GSME for the RCAS Force Authorization suite of applications, and has been an exemplary model for the hands-on approach necessary to sustain high quality software. As a GSME, Ms. Marshall has been consistently available to the PD RCAS team for extensive requirements gathering, questions and answers and Defense Connect Online sessions. Her collaborative nature lends itself well to this type of interaction. She provides expert-level input throughout the planning process, regularly attends sprint demonstrations during a release cycle, and actively participates in all required testing phase requirements.



SFC Marty Phelps serves as the Retirement Points Accounting Management (RPAM) Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) and Retirement Services Officer (RSO) for the Maryland Army National Guard as well as the RPAM NCO In Charge (NCOIC) for Region 2. He has served as a GSME for RCAS since 2006. SFC Phelps is an invaluable GSME through his understanding of the RPAM application and guidance to the PD RCAS team regarding the vast complexities of the RPAM application. A portion of this complexity surrounds the business rules contained within the application that are responsible for calculations and other functionality where the end user will only see the results. Without SFC Phelps’ comprehensive understanding of the regulations and other rules, it would be very difficult for the PD RCAS team to correctly apply these business rules to the RPAM application.



SFC Marty Phelps

SFC Phelps plays an integral part as a participant in supporting the National Guard Bureau (NGB) functional lead during the sprint demonstrations for the Personnel applications, especially the RPAM application. SFC Phelps volunteered to provide a unique opportunity for the PD RCAS team to witness the day-to-day activities he is involved in while utilizing the RPAM application. Most recently, SFC Phelps hosted two separate three-day sessions for the PD RCAS team. RPAM developers visited his location and witnessed how RPAM NCOs conduct day-to-day business utilizing the RPAM application, some of the issues they face and what improvements need to be made to the RPAM application. This first-hand opportunity proved to be invaluable and is greatly appreciated by the developers and the entire PD RCAS team.

Her commitment to the RCAS program cannot be summarized so easily, but a few anecdotes in particular speak to her level of engagement. In early March of 2014, Ms. Marshall drove six hours through a winter storm from Fort Bragg, NC, to Reston, VA in order to be on-hand for the final sprint demonstration of an important software release cycle. She then stayed for the full day to conduct a thorough Release 7.0.7 planning session with the team, providing invaluable real-time requirements feedback. More recently, Ms. Marshall interrupted her own leave to provide a response to the PD RCAS team in support of Release 7.0.7 beta testing. Collaboration like this makes Ms. Marshall an integral part of the PD RCAS team’s formula for success.



Ms. Cindy Marshall

The RCAS Project would not be successful without the dedicated efforts of all of our GSMEs. We recognize them for taking time out of their very busy schedules to keep RCAS applications current and pertinent to the soldiers we all serve every day. THANK YOU!

If you or someone you know would be interested in becoming a GSME for the PD RCAS, please contact Mr. Jim Cook, Chief, RCAS Software Sustainment Division by phone at 703-806-3071 or by email at jim.n.cook.civ@mail.mil.

Stay tuned for more GSME recognition in future editions of the RCAS News.

MEET YOUR NEW PERSONNEL PRODUCT OWNER



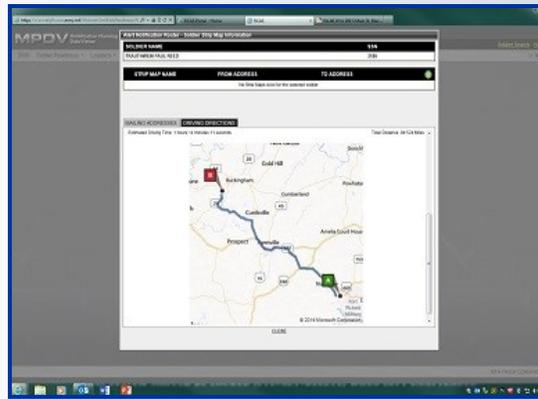
MR. BRADLEY DMUCHOWSKI

Mr. Brad Dmuchowski will be assuming the role of Personnel Product Owner. His responsibilities will include system software sustainment for the Personnel application modules including technical services related to user requirements, design, development, testing, training and fielding. Brad will work directly with military, government and contractor personnel to ensure proper management of the Personnel suite of applications; an integrated automated capability that provides a means to manage Guard and Reserve personnel files, retirement points accounting and orders production.

He won't be assuming the role until March as he will be attending the Armor Basic Officer Leader's Course and Armor Reconnaissance Course this coming August in Ft. Benning, GA. Brad was commissioned as a Cavalry Second Lieutenant in the Maryland Army National Guard last October after attending Officer Candidate School. Brad comes to RCAS directly from the Army Internship Program. While in college, studying Computer Science with a concentration in Business Management and Pre-Med, Brad took part in the Student Career Experience Program. After graduating he applied for the Army Internship Program. Brad has spent the last 3 years on short rotations in Army IT organizations across the Washington Metropolitan Area to include rotations with NETCOM, Army Audit Agency, CIO/G6, Corps of Engineers and more.

In addition to Brad's dual status duties he is the National Vice President for his college fraternity, Delta Epsilon Mu; a national coed Pre-Health fraternity. When he's not otherwise occupied Brad teaches and trains Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Muay Thai, Judo and Wrestling in DC.

MPDV GENERATES STRIP MAPS



Sample Screen Shot of the MPDV Strip Map data entry screen with map displayed. Photo Credit: Pete Van Schagen, RCAS Strategic Communications.

Did you know that Strip Maps are a requirement of FORSCOM Regulation 500-3-3, Annex A, A-3.f which states "Strip maps will be maintained with the unit's notification roster for personnel who do not have an easily identifiable street address.

DLP AND MDLC CLASSROOM — SYSTEM REFRESH ACTIVITIES

The PD RCAS is in the process of procuring, configuring, and fielding the AV800 classroom baseline to upgrade 39 of the earliest versions of the distributed learning classrooms for the Army National Guard (ARNG) Distributed Learning Program (DLP). The AV800 classroom systems will replace the AV600 and AV650 baselines that are currently beyond end of life and lifecycle support. The AV800 baseline is an audio/video technology upgrade of the current classroom to include the Video Tele-Conferencing, matrix switching, projector, video recording, camera and touch panel components. The refreshed classrooms started shipping to sites on June 6, 2014 with installation activities beginning on June 13, 2014. AV800 refreshes will continue through the remainder of FY14.

The Mobile Distributed Learning Classroom (MDLC) is another classroom solution that supports the ARNG training requirements as well as supporting individual state communication requirements during state emergencies. As its name indicates, this classroom may be packed up and relocated to sites as needed. Plans for fielding five mobile classrooms are in the works. Fielding is expected to take place during the fourth quarter of FY14.

RCAS continues to provide classroom sustainment

Strip maps are to be simple, practical and may begin from any prominent geographical reference point." The Mobilization Planning Data Viewer (MPDV) application can help you with this requirement. Simply click on the Unit Mobilization Tab>Alert Notification Roster>highlight a soldier> and click on the Strip Map button. You have options of entering a Starting and Destination address, or you can select the Unit Address button and Soldier's Home address button which will auto-populate the address fields, then click on "GET DIRECTIONS".

For more detailed information, you can always go to Chapter 8.1.4 in the MPDV User's Manual located under the MPDV application's HELP tab. To find out more about this strip map capability, contact Mr. Max Dunn, MPDV Product Owner, by phone at 703-806-3128, or by e-mail at max.g.dunn.civ@mail.mil.

services to the ARNG DLP. Support for classroom moves, workstation component upgrades, and troubleshooting equipment and connectivity issues are performed along with the AV800 and MDLC refreshes.

For more information please contact LTC Jeffrey T. Yon, Chief, RCAS Infrastructure and Integration Division by phone at 703-806-3090 or by e-mail at jeffrey.t.yon.mil@mail.mil.



The new AV800 baseline, an audio/video technology upgrade for the DLP Classrooms. Photo Credit: Pete Van Schagen, RCAS Strategic Communications.

**MISSION: CONDUCT SUSTAINMENT ACTIVITIES / ACHIEVE COST SAVING
FY14 PRODUCT REFRESH UPDATE**

The RCAS Requirements Management Team continues to leverage the experience and expertise acquired in the past three years coordinating the procurement of new information technology hardware and other related products for ARNG and USAR soldiers and their units. This combined team, consisting of the respective ARNG and USAR G6 communities, primary G6 staff members from NGB and the USARC; and the PD RCAS procurement team, are fully engaged in the acquisition process, driving toward a projected delivery of all products in early 2015. The FY14 program acquisition objective is focused to prepare for the coming year reductions in fiscal resources, and acquire those products which will sustain network infrastructure in order to achieve cost savings rather than increasing capabilities. Recommended areas for consideration are: security, network, voice over internet protocol (VOIP), and virtual environments.

The system equipment and product requirement collection phase is complete. Only a few validations of the respective ARNG State/Territory Bill of Material (BOM) documents remain. The next major

milestone will be the consolidation and submission of the Goal 1 Waivers in accordance with Department of the Army policy, required for the acquisition of selected products. The identification, validation, consolidation and documentation of the total RCAS infrastructure and direct support information technology requirements provide the Project Directorate with both accurate and acknowledged information that is today, and will continue to be extremely important data for the formulation of the RCAS budget. Additionally, this process initiates and maintains the lines of communication with the soldiers and key unit personnel that make the entire process happen.

The PD RCAS team continues to receive outstanding support and assistance from every level of the procurement process organization – Thank YOU!!

For more information about the Product Refresh activities your Point of Contact is Ms. Lesley Plitz, Requirements Manager, phone: (703) 806-3212, e-mail: lesley.p.plitz.civ@mail.mil.

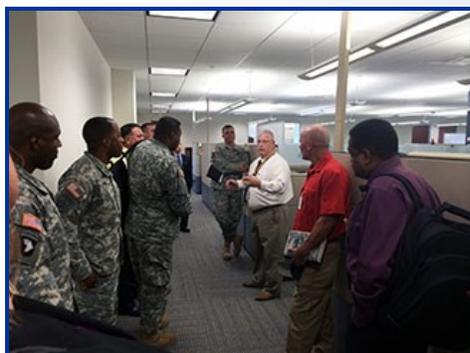
RCB ATTENDEES TOUR RCAS WORK FACILITIES

The July Requirements Control Board (RCB) members and attendees were provided an inside look at two of the primary RCAS work areas in Reston and Chantilly, VA. The meeting was conducted in two phases, and in two locations to showcase the environments supporting the production and delivery of the diverse program capabilities.



RCB members and PD RCAS staff at the morning session of the RCB conducted at the PD RCAS facility in Reston, VA. Photo Credit: Pete Van Schagen, RCAS Strategic Communications.

The meeting agenda provided a detailed program update from Ralph Ocasio, RCAS Project Director, followed by organizational



Mr. Jim Cook, Chief, RCAS Software Sustainment Division, center right, highlights the new Agile Scrum process for RCB members during a tour of the PD RCAS facility in Reston, VA . Photo Credit: Pete Van Schagen, RCAS Strategic Communications.

updates from key G6 staff members attending from the National Guard Bureau (NGB), the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) Command, and the USAR Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command. An extensive overview of the Army National Guard Distributed Learning Program was provided by the NGB G3 attendees. Discussion

also included reviewing the current RCB Charter, conducting more frequent meetings, as well as continuing to transition to a more strategic planning forum to address and discuss future information technology challenges facing the Army National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserve.



Mr. Ocasio, standing left, briefs the RCB during the afternoon session conducted at the PD RCAS integration facility in Chantilly, VA. Photo Credit: Pete Van Schagen, RCAS Strategic Communications.

For more information about this RCB or the RCB process your Point of Contact is Ms. Lesley Plitz, Requirements Manager, phone: (703) 806-3212, e-mail: lesley.p.plitz.civ@mail.mil.

WORKSHOPS AND SRP SUPPORT ARE AVAILABLE NOW

RCAS MPDV provides the ARNG and USAR end users with an automated web-based enterprise solution to track soldier and unit readiness prior to mobilization. In order to assist unit personnel, unit administrators and commanders with the use of this time-saving MPDV tool, the PD RCAS team offers MPDV Leadership Workshops, briefings, and Soldier Readiness Processing (SRP) support for all levels of command. This support is fully funded by the PD RCAS so there is no cost to the field. The Leadership Workshops clarify how MPDV fits into the larger scope of pre-mobilization, the structure of the Army Force Generation (ARFORGEN) process, and the initial phases of mobilization from Alert to Home Station to Mobilization Station.

SRP support events are practical site visits aimed at providing:

- Assistance with setting up a customized MPDV SRP event
- Assisting SRP Station Operators with their role during the SRP using MPDV
- Participating in out brief sessions, as requested

To request an MPDV Leadership Workshop, on-site SRP support or a program briefing contact Mr. Max Dunn, MPDV Product Owner, by phone at 703-806-3128, or by e-mail at max.g.dunn.civ@mail.mil, or Mr. Eric Callagher, Mobilization and Safety Applications Analyst, by phone at 916-206-8750, or by e-mail at eric.n.callagher.ctr@mail.mil.

THE 1243RD TRANSPORTATION COMPANY USES MPDV DURING AN SRP EVENT

As mentioned above, the RCAS MPDV team can help support unit SRP events. One such support event occurred this past May, when Mr. Max Dunn, the RCAS MPDV Product Owner provided SRP support for the 1243rd Transportation Company at Camp Santiago, Puerto Rico. Mr. Dunn assisted unit personnel with the setup of eight SRP stations in MPDV and provided individualized guidance to unit leadership and the 16 station operators manning those stations on the use of MPDV. Over 220 soldiers were checked into the SRP event using scanners that quickly captured the soldier's identity from their Common Access Card (CAC). The process turned minutes into seconds for each soldier being checked in, when compared to the manual check-in process used in the past.



MSG Carlos BaezHernandez, Mobilization Planning NCOIC, PR-ARNG, standing left rear, assists soldiers processing the Personnel Stations during the 1243 TC SRP at Camp Santiago, Puerto Rico. Photo provided by Mr. Max Dunn, RCAS MPDV Product Owner.

The support provided had a very positive impact on the unit's ability to capture accurate Soldier Readiness data in the integrated, web-based MPDV application. Unit leadership expressed their satisfaction with the immediate soldier visibility and control that MPDV provided throughout the SRP process. They were amazed at how quick and easy the Check-In process worked using scanners. The MPDV SRP Status Tracker report produced for the event, provided unit leadership with real time soldier readiness data which will assist the unit with correcting "No Go" issues and transmitting positive soldier readiness data to their respective mobilization station via MPDV.

Utilizing the MPDV SRP reports during the event permitted the SRP staff to identify missing soldiers, and ensure that all soldiers visited every station. The control and real time visibility of soldiers that the MPDV SRP event module provides is one of the most beneficial aspects of the MPDV application.

If you would like an MPDV Leadership Workshop or on-site SRP support, contact Mr. Max Dunn, MPDV Product Owner, by phone at 703-806-3128, or by e-mail at max.g.dunn.civ@mail.mil, or Mr. Eric Callagher, Mobilization and Safety Applications Analyst, by phone at 916-206-8750, or by e-mail at eric.n.callagher.ctr@mail.mil.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

PD RCAS provides conference support at the following events:

Army National Guard Joint Assessment Conference
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas
1st Quarter FY2015, dates TBD
U.S. Army Reserve Joint Assessment Conference
Fort Bragg, North Carolina
1st Quarter FY2015, dates TBD

If you are planning to attend any of these workshops or conference events, visit the RCAS area for a software demonstration and to discuss RCAS products and services.

To request RCAS participation at your next conference or workshop event, contact Mr. Pete Van Schagen, RCAS Strategic Communications, by phone at 703-806-3282, or by e-mail at peter.g.vanschagen.ctr@mail.mil or Mr. Max Dunn, MPDV Product Owner, by phone at 703-806-3128, or by e-mail at max.g.dunn.civ@mail.mil.

ARNG CIO G6 PRESENTS CHALLENGE CUPS TO PD RCAS STAFF

On 21 May, 2014, during the ARNG Chief Information Office (CIO) G6 monthly Town Hall at the ARNG Readiness Center in Arlington, VA; COL Mary C. Henry, the ARNG CIO G6 presented PD RCAS staff members LTC Jeffrey T. Yon, Chief, Infrastructure and Integration Division and Mr. Jeffrey C. Faulkner, Section Chief, MILCON with an ARNG CIO G6 Challenge Cup. The cups were presented in recognition of Army Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology (AL&T) Magazine's Annual ALTies Award for Best Article, "Wired for Success"



LTC Yon and Mr. Faulkner receive an ARNG CIO G6 Challenge Cup. Photo Credit: Pete Van Schagen, RCAS Strategic Communications.

which LTC Yon and Mr. Faulkner co-authored. During the Town Hall, COL Henry's staff bid her a fond farewell as she moves on to new adventures in her career and hailed COL Kevin D. Wright as the new ARNG CIO G6. The event was well attended and highlighted the significant accomplishments of both COL Henry as the outgoing and COL Wright as the incoming ARNG CIO G6. The PD RCAS staff will miss COL Henry, but we look forward to working with COL Wright and his staff and thank COL Henry for this recognition.

IT'S OFFICIAL THE PD RCAS HAS MOVED



Entrance to the new PD RCAS Offices at Fort Belvoir, VA. Photo Credit: Pete Van Schagen, RCAS Strategic Communications.

On April 11, 2014, the PD RCAS staff relocated to its new home at 6010 6th Street, Building 1465B, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060. The move went very smoothly, thanks to the planning, preparation, and hard work of the entire PD RCAS Staff.

Fort Belvoir represents a true Army environment, and positions the PD to provide improved service to our

Army National Guard (ARNG) and U. S. Army Reserve (USAR)

customers.

You can get the most up-to-date RCAS contact information by visiting the RCAS homepage on Army Knowledge Online (AKO) at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/207093> and clicking on the Contacts Icon.

For more information about our new home, please contact Mr. Pete Van Schagen, RCAS Strategic Communications, by phone at 703-806-3282, or by e-mail at peter.g.vanschagen.ctr@mail.mil.



RCAS PD Division Suite Entrance. Photo Credit: Pete Van Schagen, RCAS Strategic Communications.

PD RCAS SAYS FAREWELL TO MR. MARK MONTREY



Mr. Mark A. Montrey. Photo Credit: Pete Van Schagen, RCAS Strategic Communications.

After 32 years of hard work and dedication, Mr. Mark Montrey, Division Chief of the PD RCAS Business Management Division, retired on April 30, 2014.

After serving seven years as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Navy stationed in Norfolk/Virginia Beach, Mark worked in private industry for a fortune 500 manufacturing firm in Nashville, TN,

during which time he attended Vanderbilt University and earned an M.B.A. After moving back to Virginia, he became a financial analyst for a large consulting firm in the Washington area where he consulted on programs such as the Naval Industrial Improvement Program, and the Army's Chemical Demilitarization Program. Mr. Montrey entered Government service in January 1990 as a cost analyst in the RCAS Program Management Office, became Budget Officer in 1992, and Chief, Plans, Analysis and Evaluations (PA&E) Section for the National Guard Bureau (NGB) Program Executive Office, Information Systems in November 1995. Mark returned to the PD RCAS in 2006 as the Chief of the Business Management Division.

Mark is a four time awardee of the NGB Minuteman Award for outstanding contributions to the National Guard Bureau and recipient of the Army Civilian Achievement Award.

A ceremony and farewell luncheon was held in Mark's honor on April 25, 2014 at the Fort Belvoir Golf Club. Among the attendees were

Retired General J. Ronald (Star) Carey, the first RCAS Program Manager; Mr. Reginald Bagby, Portfolio Manager, Enterprise Management Systems, PEO EIS; Mr. Ralph Ocasio the current RCAS Project Director and three former RCAS Project Directors, Ms. Belva Belfour-Nixon, Mr. Bobby McKinnon and Mr. Tom Neff.

Congratulations to Mark on his retirement after more than 24 years of service to RCAS. We greatly appreciate and acknowledge his selfless service to our great nation and in particular, the RCAS family. Our wish is life's richest blessings in the days ahead and in all his future endeavors.



Mr. Ocasio presents Mark with an American Flag flown over the U. S. Capitol in honor of his retirement. Photo Credit: Pete Van Schagen, RCAS Strategic Communications.

RCAS TRAINING CORNER



Ms. Winkfield, at the podium, instructs students at the PEC on the use of RPAM. Photo provided by Ms. Winkfield, Enterprise Training Lead.

The PD RCAS strives to provide the most innovative synchronous and asynchronous training for our soldiers using a variety of methods such as instructor-led, Video TeleTraining (VTT), Defense Connect Online (DCO) sessions using some of the latest Smart Classroom technologies.

This past June, Ms. Chamele Winkfield, the

Prime Integrator Enterprise Training Lead, instructed a day and a half course on the Retirement Points Accounting Management (RPAM) application. The training was conducted at the Professional Education Center (PEC) at Camp Robinson, North Little Rock, AR and included 25 soldiers based out of ARNG units all across the United States.

The RPAM application is an interactive web-based application that is part of the RCAS suite of software. RPAM creates and updates Retirement Points Account (RPA) records for members of the Army National Guard and imports and validates data from outside databases such as the Standard Installation/ Division Personnel System (SIDPERS).

The collaborative training effort allowed soldiers to learn about business rules and best practices; how to perform military computations; how to maintain RPA records and about a variety of RPAM reports and forms. In addition students shared unit experiences and events related to the RPAM application and the retirement points accounting processes and procedures. Students were also able to navigate through the RPAM training application providing them with hands-on practical experience.

Training on the application’s primary functions included:

- Enabling RPAM Administrators to maintain the Retirement Point accounts of individual Soldiers
- Qualifying Soldiers for Non-Regular Retirement
- Determining retirement pay based on years of creditable service and retirement points earned
- Importing and exporting data to/from other States for Soldiers who move from one State to another

RPAM is only one of many applications for which the PD RCAS provides training. You can view current RCAS application training schedules and other online training opportunities by logging onto the RCAS AKO Homepage at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/207093>, clicking on the Training Support tab at the top and then clicking the RCAS Online Training Link on the left. More general and high level information on RCAS Release 7.0 applications is also available in the form of training videos on the RCAS AKO Training Support page.

The PD RCAS training staff continues to work hard on making Computer Based Training (CBT) courses, on select RCAS applications, available online and is on target to deliver a new course evaluation form by September.

Below is a high level schedule of the types of courses and dates for which the PD RCAS can provide instructor-led training.

	JUL 2014	AUG 2014	SEP 2014
MILPO		27-28	18-19
MPDV	21-25 & 28-31		8-12
RPAM			
SOH		11-15	
UPS/CMS		25-26	15-16

If you don’t see a course listed or available dates or if you need more information on RCAS Training contact Mr. Robert G. Medley, RCAS Training Manager, by phone at 703-806-3163, or by e-mail at robert.g.medley.civ@mail.mil.



We are on the web at

<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/207093>

Want to provide input to RCAS News or be added to the distribution list, contact Mr. Pete Van Schagen at peter.g.vanschagen.ctr@mail.mil.
Reserve Component Automation Systems, ATTN: PD RCAS, 6010 6th Street, Building 1465B, Fort Belvoir, Virginia 22060