Weapons Load Crew Management Program Update

Air Force Logistics Management Agency/LGM
501 Ward Street
Maxwell AFB, Gunter Annex AL 36114-3236
(205) 416-4581 or DSN 596-4581

HQ USAF/ILM
1030 Air Force Pentagon, Washington, DC 20330-1030

Weapons Load Crew Management Program consists of a user's manual and software (4 each 3.5" floppy disks)

Distribution Statement A: Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

Weapons Load Crew Management Program, AFLMA Project # LM9611300: The 1994 release of the Weapons Load Crew Management Program (WLCMP) was rapidly becoming outdated. The implementation of new computer operating systems and increased user demands for program flexibility were rapidly negating WLCMP's advantages. Movement of crew members between crews was an awkward process in the Ada programming language version. Widely used throughout the Air Force (including Air National Guard and Reserve units), WLCMP is a efficient way of managing load crew training, eliminating much of the time and manpower that is required by manual tracking procedures. The MS Access based version of WLCMP is intuitive to use and incorporates many new reporting features available to all user levels. These new reporting capabilities will allow improved training and trend analysis while reducing the number of man-hours required to collect the data. The program provides "real time" load crew status to multiple work centers while protecting the database from unauthorized or untrained personnel. The WLCMP is now "year 2000" compliant.
LETTER REPORT
WEAPONS LOAD CREW MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (WLCMP) UPDATE

PROJECT MANAGERS: CMSGT ALLAN C. RICHARDSON, JR.
MSGT STANLEY G. MYNCRYWOR

SENIOR ANALYST: MS MARY DONALD, GS-12

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BACKGROUND: The Weapons Load Crew Management Program (WLCMP), proficiency tracking software written in ADA programming language, was originally developed in 1994 by the Air Force Logistics Management Agency. The software was rapidly becoming outdated with the implementation of new computer operating systems and increased user demands for program flexibility. Movement of crew members from one crew to another was an awkward process under the WLCMP ADA version. Development of an improved method to accomplish this action would simplify operations, save additional time, and reduce the potential for error during the annual records review/re-accomplishment. Other reported problems with the ADA version included: difficulty in adding additional maintenance forms, lack of real-time load crew status reporting, and no multi-user level capability via a local area network (LAN). Widely used throughout the Air Force (including Air National Guard and Reserve units), WLCMP is an efficient way of managing load crew training, eliminating much of the time and manpower that is required by manual tracking procedures.

OBJECTIVES: Update the current WLCMP using Microsoft Access.

METHODOLOGY: Major command representatives from PACAF, ACC, and the ANG met with the AFLMA in September 1996 to refine the list of suggestions submitted by field users and to help develop a requirements list for the new program. Initial programming was finished in March 1997, followed by beta testing at Moody AFB and Eielson AFB. Barksdale AFB was added to the beta phase in April of the same year at the request of HQ ACC/LGWS. Local Area Network (LAN) testing began at Moody AFB in April 1997.

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CONCLUSION: The MS Access based version of WLCMP is easier to use and incorporates many new features that will be useful at all user levels. The new reporting capabilities will allow improved training and trend analysis. The program provides near "real time" load crew status to multiple work centers while protecting the database from unauthorized or untrained personnel. Help files have also been added to assist the operator when needed. The WLCMP is now "year 2000" compliant.

RECOMMENDATION:
1. AFLMA maintain the Weapons Load Crew Management Program until its functionality is subsumed by IMDS.
2. Limit AFLMA involvement to correcting any technical problems in the existing program.
3. AFLMA will not support further enhancements or modification to the WLCMP.

DISTRIBUTION: Refer to attached Standard Form 298.