Global Combat Support System – Army (GCSS-Army)

Executive Summary
- The Global Combat Support System – Army (GCSS-Army) Release 1.1 is operationally effective, operationally suitable, and survivable against cyber threats. DOT&E recommendations from the June 2012 IOT&E report included continued test and evaluation for future upgrades, monitoring scalability as the user population increases, and achieving financial auditability no later than 2017.
- The Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC) will participate in the Lead Site Verification Test in January 2013 to evaluate GCSS-Army's operational effectiveness, operational suitability, and survivability for use by the Army National Guard, Army Reserves, and Directorate of Logistics.

System
- GCSS-Army is an information technology system made up of commercial off-the-shelf and non-developmental software and server hardware.
- The core functionality of GCSS-Army comes from the adaptation of a commercially-available Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. The ERP system integrates internal and external management information across an entire organization, including finance/accounting, manufacturing, sales and service, and customer relationship management, and automates this activity with an integrated software application.
- The hardware component of GCSS-Army is limited to the production server in Redstone, Alabama, and the Continuity of Operation server in Radford, Virginia.
- The GCSS-Army program includes the Army Enterprise Systems Integration Program (AESIP) that provides the enterprise hub services, centralized master data management, and cross functional business intelligence and analytics for the Army ERP solutions, including the General Fund Enterprise Business System and Logistics Modernization Program.
- GCSS-Army executes finance actions and thus is subject to the 2010 National Defense Authorization Act requirements to be auditable by 2017.

Mission
Army logisticians will use this system to access information and exchange operational logistics data related to tactical maintenance, materiel management, property accountability, tactical financial management, and logistics planning.

Major Contractors
- ERP Solution Component: Northrop Grumman Space and Mission Systems Corporation – Carson, California
- AESIP Component: Computer Sciences Corporation – Falls Church, Virginia

Activity
- DOT&E published an IOT&E report on GCSS-Army Release 1.1 in June 2012 based on the following three test events. These events were conducted in accordance with the DOT&E-approved test plan.
  - ATEC Release 1.1 testing conducted from August through October 2011. The 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, at Fort Bliss, Texas, and Defense Finance and Accounting Office at Rome, New York, participated in the IOT&E.
  - The GCSS-Army Cyber Threat Test conducted by the U.S. Army Threat System Management Office from September 2011, and the Program Management Office's corrective actions up through March 2012.
  - A Continuity of Operation demonstration conducted by the GCSS-Army and AESIP product manager in November 2011, which evaluated the system's ability to restore operations in the event of a declared disaster at the production server in Redstone Arsenal, Alabama.

- DOT&E and ATEC are planning to conduct or participate in a series of test events to address the recommended changes listed in the DOT&E-published IOT&E report.
  - Lead Site Verification Test at the National Guard, Army Reserve, and the Directorate of Logistics module in January 2013.
  - Test for scalability of GCSS-Army's ability to support the entire Army when the loading tool can be developed, verified, validated, and accredited.
  - Test for future upgrades as the program manager develops new functions. A Risk Assessment will determine the scope of the test in accordance with the DOT&E-published Guidelines for Operational Test and Evaluation of Information and Business Systems memorandum.

Assessment

DOT&E evaluated GCSS-Army Release 1.1 as operationally effective, operationally suitable, and survivable against cyber threats. DOT&E recommended the Army address the following.

- The Army conducted IOT&E with 545 users, compared to the total expected user population of 168,000 when fully deployed.
- The Army had not developed GCSS-Army versions for Army Reserve and National Guard units at the time of the IOT&E.
- The 2010 National Defense Authorization Act requires financial audibility by 2017. GCSS-Army had not achieved this requirement at the time of IOT&E.

Recommendations

- Status of Previous Recommendations. The Army is making progress implementing the previous recommendations.
- FY12 Recommendations.
  1. The Army needs to take steps to achieve financial auditability no later than 2017.
  2. The Army should continue to collect data for computational (server capacity, storage, and bandwidth) and human factors (help desk responsiveness, overhead labor and communication costs, and data noise) impacts of an increased user base. Use such data to establish a pattern of demand on the system, so that future demand can be adequately anticipated and resourced as more users come online.
  3. The Army should conduct test and evaluation when the software is developed for Army Reserve and National Guard units in accordance with the September 2010 DOT&E-published Guidelines for Operational Test and Evaluation of Information and Business Systems memorandum.