

IN THE NEWS

Base network leads way to new AF standards

By Staff Sgt. Michael Duhe
437 AW Public Affairs

An information technology summit for Air Force leaders held in July resulted in a bold new communications idea: base computer networks would be centralized and administered at the command level.

Air Mobility Command officials stepped forward and volunteered to be a model for the idea, which is hoped to save money and manpower and improve efficiency as well, according to Capt. Joe Trechter, 437th Communications Squadron Information Systems Flight commander.

Network administrators at Scott AFB, Ill., are now overseeing the computer networks of AMC's 13 bases.

The 437 CS Information Systems Flight recently established remote connectivity of its exchange network with their Scott counterparts, Trechter said. This involves e-mail service for both general population (or "commercial") users on base and those using the Defense Message System. Approximately 4,500 users rely on the commercial servers, while DMS servers support about 100 accounts, Trechter said.

The most visible change for e-mail users is the global address list - it has been expanded to include units and individuals Air Force-wide, including non-AMC bases. The global address list now includes civilian contractors, such as Boeing and Northrop Grumman. In the "big picture," all Air Force bases, units and members will be available on the global address list

of each user.

"I think it's a wonderful feature, as long as it works," said e-mail user Jim Cheeseborough, an air operations specialist with the 437th Current Operations flight.

Another benefit is that DMS users who once had two separate Microsoft Outlook accounts now have one for both commercial use and DMS messages, said Al Green, chief of the Network Control Center. "That helps them out a great deal," he commented.

To establish remote connectivity with Headquarters AMC, a server was sent to Charleston AFB and installed by 437th Information Systems Flight members in the base NCC. The server is a six-foot rack that came with pre-loaded software.

"We had to make some minor local configurations," said Tech.Sgt. Russell Barnes, assistant chief network administrator.

The task of installing the server and bringing it online was expected to take 72 hours. However, information systems flight members worked long hours and service was established after only 24 hours, Trechter said. The "down time" for e-mail users on base was limited to one day.

"Another thing we're accomplishing is complying with the Air Force e-mail design document, which sets the standard for each address on the global address list," Barnes explained. This information includes the member's name, rank, unit, office symbol and phone number.

As of last week, a small number of e-mail users (between 40-50) encountered

problems with their accounts while the global address list was updated to Air Force standards, Trechter said.

"We couldn't have done this without the support of the base, and our customers have been very understanding," Green commented.

The next step is to stabilize the system. "It used to be we were controlling everything here and knew when something didn't work," Trechter said. "But now we've got Scott AFB who can remotely control

things and make certain changes to our system. So, we've got to work on that coordination and establish the process. So far, there's been very good teamwork going on between us and the people at the Network Operations Center at Scott."

The flight's goal, according to Green, is to help ensure customers on base are provided with equal or better service from network administrators at Scott AFB.

For more information, call 963-3492.



photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Duhe
Senior Airman Nate Rainey, 437th Communications Squadron, inserts a Microsoft Exchange disk into a server at the base Network Control Center.

VENGA A LA GRAN FIESTA

(Come to the big party)

Hispanic Heritage Month is nationally recognized Sept. 15 through Oct. 15. Charleston AFB is celebrating by hosting a number of events. For more information, don't hesitate to call 1st Lt. Gregg Beeber or Master Sgt. Edison Velez at 963-2904.



■ Sept. 18---Luncheon at the Charleston Club, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. RSVP by Thursday.

■ Sept. 23---Soccer clinic by the Charleston Battery at the base soccer fields. Times to be announced.

■ Sept. 30---Piñata Party at the youth center pavilion, noon-4 p.m.

■ Oct. 19---Banquet and "Latin Dance Night" at the Charleston Club. Times to be announced.

POCs

Logistics Group --- Senior Airman David Guevara...963-2326
Support Group --- Master Sgt. Hector Mojica.....963-4295
Operations Group --- Joyce Anchors.....963-2158
Medical Group --- Master Sgt. Frank Lisenbee.....963-6846

437 AW voting assistance officers

Below is a list of voting assistance officers for the 437th Airlift Wing.

Questions about absentee ballots and state restrictions should be directed to the following individuals:

Wing Staff

Senior Airman Robert Griffith, 963-2126
Staff Sgt. David Kigerl, 963-5480

Logistics Group

Aircraft Generation and group staff: Capt. Robert Whetzel, 963-6100
Contracting: Staff Sgt. Ray Alls, 963-5189
Logistics Support: Senior Airman Meriam Mays, 963-2337

Maintenance: Lt. Clint Fisher, 963-4646
Supply: Lt. Michael

Campos, 963-4881
Transportation, Master Sgt. Jerry Page, 963-4247
Master Sgt. Matt Reese, 963-4201

Medical Group

Support Squadron and group staff: Staff Sgt. Donna Williams, 963-6809
Operations: Staff Sgt. Josh Glover, 963-6880
Aerospace Medicine: Master Sgt. Varner Walker, 963-6952

Operations Group

14th Airlift Squadron: Lt. Peter Schnobrich, 963-2150
15th Airlift Squadron: Lt. Morgan Murphy, 963-2180
17th Airlift

Squadron: Tech. Sgt. Ed Ebersole, 963-2798
Aerial Port: Lt. Larry Earick, 963-3200

Operations Support and group staff: Lt. Daryl Corneille, 963-5618

Support Group

Civil Engineering: Lt. Courtney Chronley, 963-3986
Communications: Airman 1st Class Kip MacTaggart, 963-4434

Mission Support: Staff Sgt. Juan Marrero, 963-4567
Security Forces: Staff Sgt. Anthony Quigley, 963-3965
Services and group staff: Lt. Carrie McGrew, 963-6257

Tenant Units

Combat Camera: Vanessa Foreman, 963-3367
Master Sgt. Willard Pretlow, 963-4440
All others: Maj. Charles Schott, 963-2569

