CIO Newsletter

Special points of interest:

- Find out how Data Strategy influences business priorities...

- Learn about resourcing efforts to understand IT acquisition...

- Grasp why KM is essential to AFIMSC success...

- Discover how lessons learned shape cloud migration…

- See why asking good questions ensures IT reliability...

First "AFIMSC CIO Newsletter" Published

Welcome to the first edition of the Air Force Installation Mission Support Center (AFIMSC) Chief Information Officer (CIO) Newsletter. Each quarter this newsletter will highlight many Strategic Information Technology areas and program progress. The AFIMSC CIO Newsletter will also highlight many of the changes, updates, modifications, to our programs. We will show metrics to highlight what has been accomplished and areas requiring continuing focus. These products are built from AF systems of record; are intended to focus users attention to priorities, issues within their sphere of influence; put actionable data in the hands of users, help shape decisions and allocation of resources where they need to be; as well as, visualize the impact of postponed actions and allocation of resources.

Your CIO Team:

Mr. Michael J Osborn, Chief Information Officer

Dr. Matthew Gonzalez, Chief Data Officer

Mr. Michael Miller, Chief Technology Officer

Mr. Alejandro Rosally, IT Portfolio Manager

Mr. Calvin Simmons, AFIMSC Knowledge Manager

Mr. Jesse White, IT Requirements Mana

AFIMSC Data Summit 15—17 June 2021

AFIMSC will be hosting a Data Summit with the goal of sharing AF SAF/CO data initiatives, communicate IMSC's data strategy, communicate working efforts, and to listen to PSU IT strategies and data needs. The first two days of the Summit will have PSUs and Enterprise Managers address their IT Strategy, Data & Analytic Strategy, and data needs. Other areas that will be addressed in the first two days include, but are not limited to Dashboards, S3 to S3 Connectors, and Tableau User Groups. A third day of the Summit will also consist of working Breakout sessions. Further preparation of the Summit will include a Tableau Blueprint online survey, to be sent via a formal workflow tasker, to gather senior leader and IT leader's understanding of today's IT and data environment, to be complete by May 27th.

Enterprise IT Data

The AFIMSC Chief Data Office, in conjunction with Booz Allen Hamilton resources, are working toward VAULT initiatives. Inclusive is the identification of 35 authoritative data sources across IMSC to be connected to VAULT for the purposes of federating data. The first of the identified authoritative data sources, SMS Builder, has successfully connected to VAULT with weekly updates. The remainder of the authoritative sources are being prioritized for planning of future VAULT federation to include SMS Paver, and LIMS-EV.

An IMSC Data & Analytics Working Group (DAWG) is being planned to assist in collaboration with this effort, scheduled to begin Summer '21. IMSC's Data Strategy development continues with the development of a CONOPS document inclusive of data governance and data stewardship roles and responsibilities. Identification of data priorities continues within IMSC working in tandem with PSUs and Enterprise Managers. Further analysis of data priorities and authoritative source needs will occur based on feedback within the DAWG, and based on the direction from the DOD Data Strategy and AF Data Strategy.

The 3rd Annual SAF/CO Data Summit occurred February 24-25, '21 with over 300 attendees, inclusive of IMSC employees and contractors. The content of the presentations included morning briefings addressing the current state of data from a DOD and AF perspective to include, Data Maturity, VAULT, Open Data, and Workforce Talent Management. Afternoon working breakout sessions covered Application Programming Interface/Integration Strategy, Data Services References Architecture (DSRA) v2.0, Data Catalog, and Data Stewardship Framework. A download of the various briefings can be found at, https://org2.eis.af.mil/sites/13007/Pages/Data-Summit.aspx .

> *"The first of the identified authoritative data sources, SMS Builder, has successfully connected to VAULT…"*

Enterprise IT Requirements Board

The Enterprise IT Requirements Board (EITRB) was established to review and validate IT requirements for HQ AFIMSC, Detachments, and PSUs. The intent of the EITRB is to ensure we are using Strategic Resourcing when purchasing and to research best ways to fulfill validated requirements. The AFIMSC/CC has directed the OCIO to gain insight and understanding of the IT spending and acquisitions of AFIMSC and its subordinate organizations.   To do this, the EITRB has established its thresholds as:

1)   Any IT requirement that exceeds $50K

2)   Impacts the AFIMSC IT Enterprise, affects or changes the network topology regardless of the dollar amount

3)   Purchase of software or application not listed in the AFIMSC Service Catalog

4)   Any IT related contract that exceeds one year.

All requirements meeting any of these thresholds must be routed to the EITRB for review prior to acquisition. The board has worked diligently to establish a process for

review and has established a form for any new requirements. This form can be found on SharePoint under the IT Resourcing page and has workflows built in that route the form automatically. Additionally, the board has established a process to review Execution Plan requirements to ensure we are getting the best value on all our acquisitions.

Since Oct 2020, the board has reviewed 2020 BEAST data and 8 new or changing requirements. The board has looked at several contracts and explored Blanket Purchase Agreement contract vehicles that could be used to reduce the workload on AFIMSC personnel as well as optimize these contracts. Additional-

ly, the board reviewed two new requirements and recommended ways to save money potentially avoiding the expenditure of $250K+ while still achieving the mission. The board is poised to continue reviewing and validating requirements, ensuring AFIMSC is receiving the best IT hardware, software, applications, and services.

All relevant information on the EITRB, meeting minutes, and IT Requirements Form can be found on the IT Resourcing SharePoint site at the link below:

https://org2.eis.af.mil/sites/13944/xzp/ITResourcing/SitePages/Home.aspx

Enterprise Portfolio Management

I'd like to talk about dependency as it relates to IT. Recently an unknown dependency for Adobe Flash Player caused significant delays and additional spending when the application went offline DOD-wide. This event brings attention to the need to understanding system dependencies. System dependencies exist when one piece of software relies on another piece of software to function. From a program standpoint, it is critical for program managers to understand the dependencies within the program portfolios they manage. As IT leaders we must consider the impact of the functional software used to perform our day-to-day missions and how to react if the access to that software becomes limited or unavailable.

The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) would like to thank the programs contributing to our data collection efforts. Although the task was ambitious, we collected information on 26 IT systems to give the Commander and Executive Director a better understanding of the AFIMSC IT Enterprise Portfolio. There are a number of systems we still need to be capture and others that need more information to provide a better picture of AFIMSC IT programs.

We appreciate the opportunity to weigh in on the Continuity of Operations Plan update efforts. Overall, the AFIMSC COOP Plan is a well thought out, intricate and coordinated document. We did insert some comments for consideration based on common assumptions regarding IT and continuity planning. One of the main assumptions is a common understanding of the different types of plans that compliment and support a COOP Plan (i.e. Business Continuity Plan (BCP) vs. Continuity

of Operations Plan (COOP) vs. Information Systems Contingency Plan (ISCP)). We want to ensure planners have the all the pertinent information necessary when considering what plan(s) need to be flushed, updated or created in order to be in the best position possible before, during and after an event occurs.

As missions evolve, new programs come on line and the need for IT support grows we want to ensure that all the teams throughout the AFIMSC Enterprise have the support they need. There are a number of common questions we must address to ensure smart investment of our IT dollars. We need to understand what mission/business/function is requiring the solution, how you currently fulfill that need, and the IT resources you use to get the job done now. We then try to understand what solutions/tools the Air Force already pays for that may accomplish the same job. At this point, we can really assess the gap in mission support and identify the best way to close that gap. Bottom line, we want to ensure you have the right solutions to meet the mission, day in and day out.

In December we swiftly reached out to the directorates/PSUs to coordinate a responses with the AFMC Cyber Office on the urgent SolarWinds hack tasker. The OCIO thanks all the action officers involved for their quick response.

For the Cyber Scorecard, the elements did not change, so please report any new systems, or changes in data for systems, accordingly. When there is a change in the Scorecard we will socialize that information.

In future articles, we'll discuss other topics of relevant common interest…

"…it is critical for program managers to understand the dependencies within the program portfolios they manage."

AFIMSC CIO

Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center (AFIMSC) delivers globally integrated combat support shaping the foundation of America's Air, Space, and Cyberspace capabilities. The Office of the Chief Information Officer leads a cross-functional IT Team to provide affordable, effective, and sustained warfighter support through adaptive, agile, and innovative solutions. The AFIMSC CIO and staff members head the Commander's initiative for Enterprise IT to function as a "unified" center through cross-functional processes and procedures.

Your Success is Our Mission!

XZPT

We must shift from the force we are today, to the force our Nation needs tomorrow"
CMSAF, Joanne Bass

CVR Teams Going Away

The Air Force announced earlier this year the sunset date, June 15, for the DoD funded CVR Teams we've all learned to love, hate or tolerate. Air Force chose to transition to Microsoft Teams in CHES which promises to offer very similar capabilities when fully implemented over the next few months.

Bottom line up front, the transition is not automatic. You must transfer any files, records, video or other artifacts on CVR Teams manually to CHES Teams before the contract ends and the vendor deletes your information.

AFIMSC Director of Staff and the CIO worked up instructions to help staff member's transition information from CVR to CHES "Link Here" The issue is getting people to take action early to prevent the loss of information if they experience issues with the process.

IMSC CIO Michael Osborn recommends employees start the transition early to ensure important records are not lost. While no one expects the manual transition to be difficult, it does take a few steps to accomplish and there are opportunities to have problems. If everyone waits until the last few days, the Help Desk may not have the resources to support everyone that runs into issues. That pretty much ensures the loss of some important data.

According to Col. Kevin Johnson, Deputy Director of Air, Space & Cyberspace Operations and Chief Information Officer, many features you use are available today in CHES Teams and the Air Force continues to add more to ensure a very similar experience to CVR.

According to Mr. Osborn, "Taking action now to transfer your information is critical, but just as important is using the CHES version of Teams to learn how to best use the application to support your team collaboration."

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