

## Agile Development Helps DMHRSi Improve Time to Market

*The Defense Health Services Systems (DHSS) Program Executive Office (PEO) has expanded its program management methodology to include Agile with SCRUM. SCRUM is part of the Agile software development family; a group of software development methodologies based on iterative and incremental development, where requirements and solutions evolve through collaboration between self-organizing, cross-functional teams. Agile methodologies emphasize:*

- *Teamwork*
- *Frequent deliveries of working software*
- *Close customer / deliver team collaboration*
- *Frequent feedback loops*
- *Ability to respond quickly to change*

Scrum (short for “scrummage”) is a rugby term in which the team members gather around the ball to restart the game. In software development, Scrum helps our teams deliver the most important capabilities, per the client, in the shortest amount of time, and then reset to start work on the next high priority items. Working software is created in short time boxes called “sprints” and is ready for demonstration and release in 2-4 week cycles.

The DHSS PEO, Dr. Dan Magee has initiated a program to institutionalize Agile within the PEO. An Agile coach is working with PEO staff to develop a plan for Agile with SCRUM adoption throughout DHSS. Defense Medical Human Resources System internet (DMHRSi) is the first team to start utilizing SCRUM methodology to deliver mission critical application updates to users in a timely manner. The DMHRSi team used the Agile methodology in November and December 2011 to support changes to how DMHRSi manages Privacy Act data. Two 5-member teams (led by a Scrum master) independently conducted two sprint sessions.

In addition, the DMHRSi information management team has participated in Product Ownership training and has been key to the successful implementation of SCRUM. According to Michael Hopper, functional proponent of DMHRSi and Director of Human Capital for Information Management (IM), “Our initial experience with Agile development was extremely enlightening. It was very helpful, from a functional user’s perspective, to listen to daily conversations among developers regarding their progress as well as be readily available to answer questions they had. It kept the process moving forward and we worked as a team to ensure DMHRSi users get what they need. I am encouraged by the initial results.”

After the sessions were complete, both teams felt that the methodology increased participation in the development cycle and decreased the development cycle. The DMHRSi team is incorporating lessons learned from previous sprint sessions to continue to adapt and improve the Agile process within the DHSS PEO.



# DHSS Featured at 2012 TMIMS and HIMSS Annual Conference and Exhibition

*The Tri-Service Medical Information Management Symposium (TMIMS) 2012 was held on Feb. 17-19, 2012 at Bally's Hotel and Conference Center in Las Vegas. The conference kicked off with a keynote address from Navy Surgeon General, Vice Adm. Matthew Nathan, who encouraged collaboration among the Services. Speaking to an audience of more than 1,000 military and civilian health care professionals, Adm. Nathan stated that by effectively coalescing medical resources, the military will enhance health care access, wellness, and provide the continuity of care to service members, their families and veterans.*

Collaboration emerged as the theme of the conference, as exemplified by the joint DHSS, Defense Health Information Management Systems and Military Health System (MHS) Cyberinfrastructure Services (MCiS) presentation. Dr. Magee, DHSS PEO, Col. Silver, DHIMS Program Manager (PM) and Col. Rosado, MCiS PM discussed the capabilities and support services provided by each respective office and shared anecdotes which stressed the collaboration amongst the groups. The Common Access Card (CAC) enforcement of DHSS' DMHRSi, the MHS' human resource management application, for example, helped to decrease the number of customer complaints received by the MCiS led MHS helpdesk by almost 50 percent since deployment in April 2011.

The Tri-Service Medical Information Management Symposium is a joint conference with participation from the Army, Navy and Air Force. The conference is targeted towards IM/Information Technology (IT) professionals and precedes the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) Conference and Exhibition.



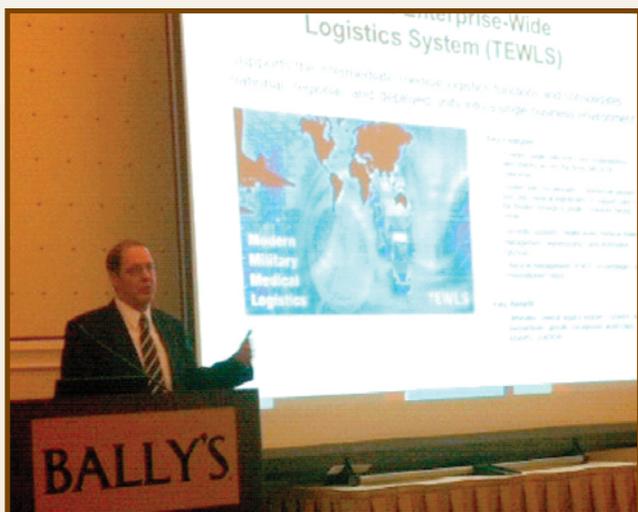
*From left, Jean Stelter, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC); Aria Porter, TOL project coordinator; Jenna Noble, DHSS Clinical Support, Deputy Program Manager and Ann Campbell, SAIC at the 2012 HIMSS Conference.*

The HIMSS 2012 Annual Conference and Exhibition, a one-of-a-kind forum focusing on the latest health IT issues, products and solutions, was held at the Venetian Sand Expo Center in Las Vegas from Feb. 20-24, 2012.

*Continued on page 3*

# DHSS Featured at 2012 TMIMS and HIMSS

*Continued from page 2*



*Dr. Dan Magee, DHSS PEO, presenting the DHSS Overview as part of the joint briefing entitled 'The Military's Electronic Health Record: Sustaining, Training and Transitioning.'*

The TRICARE Online (TOL)/Department of Defense (DoD) Patient Portal was demonstrated live in the MHS Pavilion Conference exhibit area and also featured in the DoD MHS speaker track.

The TOL/DoD Patient Portal briefing titled, "Empowering Patients to Become Active Partners in their Health Care through Patient Self-Service," was a collaborative DoD and Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA) effort in which Jenna L. Noble, DoD, DHSS, Clinical Support Division and Theresa Hancock, Director of VA, Consumers Health Informatics Office, discussed DoD and VA Patient Portal efforts which provide beneficiaries and veterans with enhanced access to health care information and services.

The Defense Logistics Agency was also featured in the DoD MHS speaker track with medical logistics experts Donald Buchwald and Major Achilles Hamilothis presenting, "Pharmacy Business Intelligence Tools Saves Millions", they highlighted several IT tools used to optimize processes which can result in major cost savings for the enterprise.

"Linking People, Potential and Progress," the conference's theme was evident at the event where some of the brightest technology and health care professionals from around the world gathered to participate for 5 days, 400 plus sessions with 500 speakers, and 900 plus exhibits. For additional HIMSS 2012 information please click <http://www.himssconference.org/index.aspx>.

## MHS Learn CAC Enablement Coming Soon

*MHS Learn is excited to announce a new enhancement to our current look and functionality, CAC enablement upgrade.*

MHS Learn will soon become CAC enabled! This will allow our users who currently have CAC cards to sign in to take training without using their username and mandatory 15 character password. Those learners without CAC cards will still be able to log into MHS Learn using their username and password. Also in this update, the current username convention "Firstname.Lastname.Last 4 of SSN" will now change to your current email address to login to the system. This will assist in making the sign in process easier and is another step in protecting your personal information on the web.

If there are any questions on this upgrade, please send an email to [mhslearn@tma.osd.mil](mailto:mhslearn@tma.osd.mil).

# Department of Defense Self Service Logon Registration Coming Soon

*The DoD Self-Service Access Center will soon enhance its DoD Self Service Logon (DS Logon) registration capability. Eligible parties including: DoD sponsors, spouses, and dependents (18 and older), retirees and veterans who are in Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting Systems, will be able to register online and avoid the hassle of in person registration or the inconvenience of waiting for a username and password to be issued via the U.S. mail.*

DS Logon is a secure, self-service logon ID that allows beneficiaries affiliated with the DoD or the VA access to several websites using a single username and password.

A DS Logon supports the Personnel Identity Protection Directive and National Institute of Standards and Technology e-Authentication guidance. It provides a high level of authentication assurance in situations where CAC authentication is not available.

A DS Logon allows web access to several applications. It is currently available at:

- **TOL** <https://www.tricareonline.com/>
- **Beneficiary Web Enrollment** <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/bwe/>
- **myDoDbenefits** <http://mydodbenefits.dmdc.osd.mil/>
- **Transferability of Education Benefits** <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB>
- **VA's eBenefits portal** <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/>
- **DS Logon Self-Service** website <https://myaccess.dmdc.osd.mil/dsaccess/>

Additional websites may use DS Logon in the future.

For additional information regarding DS Logon accounts, please visit the DoD Self-Service Access Center Frequently Asked Questions webpage located at: <https://myaccess.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/dsaccess/pub/FAQ.do>.

## Step-by-Step Online Help for DMHRSi Users

*Users of the DMHRSi can access standardized online step-by-step procedures to help them maximize their productivity.*

Online help is available in the form of Tutor Processes (viewable documents) and the User Productivity Kit Help Topics (UPK-Help Topics), which demonstrates actual human to application interaction.

For DMHRSi Tutor Processes: Select HELP from the DMHRSi home page. Select the DMHRSi HELP under ORACLE HRMS; then select DMHRSi ONLINE HELP or DMHRSi SELF SERVICE, then select the link to the desired Tutor Process.

For DMHRSi UPK Help Topics: Training can be accessed through the MHS-Learn learning portal at <https://mhslearn.csd.disa.mil/ilearn/en/learner/mhs/portal/home.jsp>. For expediency, use the Search Catalog field and enter "DMHRSi" as a search criteria. From the results, select the link "See all 74 results in Self-Paced Topics," then select the desired DMHRSi UPK Help Topic.

# DOEHRS-IH Online Refresher Training

## Available on 3/22/2012

DHSS will hold the next Defense Occupational and Environmental Health Readiness System-Industrial Hygiene online refresher training session on Thurs., March 22, 2012 at the following times:

- Session 1 0800 to 0930 EST.
- Session 2 1300 to 1430 EST.
- Session 3 2000 to 2130 EST.

Interested parties, please send an email to Catherine Murray (Catherine.Murray.ctr@tma.osd.mil) to register. Please include the session you will be attending. Sessions for which no users register will be cancelled.

Registered users will receive a reminder e-mail message with the teleconference number and the web conference link (also provided below).

For future planning, online refresher training sessions are usually held on the fourth Thursday of each month. Please send suggestions for future training sessions to [doehrs@ngc.com](mailto:doehrs@ngc.com).

Defense Connect Online (DCO) will be used for the web sessions. Below you will find instructions for joining the web session with a DCO account, and instructions for users without DCO accounts and users who cannot remember their login and password. Please use the set of instructions which best reflects your DCO account status.

Instructions for users with a DCO account:

1. Click on the following link: <https://connect.dco.dod.mil/doehrsrefresher>
2. Select "Enter with your login and password", if you have a DCO login
3. Enter your Login, Password and then select "Enter Room"
4. Dial into the teleconference number provided in the email received prior to the meeting

Instructions for users without a DCO account and users who cannot remember their login and password:

1. Click on the following link:  
<https://connect.dco.dod.mil/doehrsrefresher>
2. The page defaults to "Enter as a Guest"
3. Enter your first and last name in the "Type your name:"
4. Select the "Enter Room" button
5. Dial into the teleconference number provided in the email received prior to the meeting.

Dial-in information for Sessions will be provided in the meeting notice.

**Please Note: You will not hear audio unless you dial into the teleconference number.**



# eXpresso

## **PMITS User Tip: Reset your Modem**

When running a data exchange through the 56K modem on Patient Movement Items Tracking System (PMITS) 1.0.3, the bottom of the communication will say 'Modem is Ready' or 'Modem Reset Failed.' If the communication says 'Modem Reset Failed,' the modem needs to be reset within the application.

For an easy fix, follow the steps below.

1. Log out of PMITS 1.0.3
2. Restart the computer
3. Ensure that the 'Allow Modem' box is checked on the 'setup' tab

For additional information / assistance or to make suggestions on how we can better serve you, please contact the MHS Helpdesk at [mhssc@tma.osd.mil](mailto:mhssc@tma.osd.mil) or call 800-600-9332.



The DHSS develops and maintains 32 products and initiatives for the Department of Defense Military Health System. For more information on DHSS, please click <http://bit.ly/g803mM>.

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