

Press Release

What is all this talk about HSMS (pronounced HISS-MISS): The Hazardous Substance Management System?

Fort Hood enters its final stages of the HSMS implementation that began in 1996.

- 1. DPW Environmental:** President Clinton signed Executive Order 12856, which requires all federal agencies to comply with the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and the Pollution Prevention Act (PPA), in August 1993. With this newly enacted Executive Order, the Department of Army mandated that all installations implement a pharmacy type control of hazardous materials. In 1996, the Directorate of Public Works (DPW) Environmental office coordinated a feasibility study to examine the benefits of implementing the Hazardous Substance Management System (HSMS) at Fort Hood. Established in early 1997, an Installation Hazardous Material Management Working Group (IHMMWG) consisting of representatives from all major organizations on Fort Hood began to coordinate the HSMS implementation process. Alongside Fort Hood's effort was Dynamac, a Corps of Engineers functional contractor, providing contracted support with the HSMS implementation process. With this automated tracking system, Fort Hood will comply with Executive Order 12856 and Department of Army directives.
- 2. What is HSMS?** HSMS is an automated environmental tracking tool that will control and manage the use of hazardous materials from "cradle to grave" on Fort Hood. HSMS performs three major functions, hazardous material management, hazardous waste management, and environmental reporting. With HSMS, Fort Hood's environmental staff will be able to produce reports for submission to regulatory agencies required under the auspices of EPCRA. HSMS is not a supply system, although it relies on logistical systems for data input. HSMS will centralize the storage and handling of hazardous materials in a pharmacy like fashion, allowing for distribution of hazardous materials to authorized users in quantities limited to operational

needs. In addition, HSMS will track hazardous materials throughout their life cycle on Fort Hood allowing for reuse and redistribution on a free-issue basis.

3. What are the Benefits? HSMS and appropriate business practices support requirements for managing hazardous materials and hazardous wastes from “cradle to grave”. Although environmental reporting is the largest benefactor, HSMS will also assist in identifying pollution prevention opportunities throughout the installation. Data that is required to safely handle, transport, and use hazardous materials will be an important part of the system. Soldiers and civilians alike will have the resources needed to manage, monitor, and control hazardous materials they use. A centralized hazardous material facility, called a HazMart on Fort Hood, is a one-stop facility for customers to purchase hazardous materials. With the HazMart, activities on Fort Hood no longer are required to store large quantities of hazardous materials at their facilities. When a requirement for replenishment of hazardous materials arises, customers purchase hazardous materials from the HazMart.

4. Hazardous Material Management Program (HMMP): The HMMP incorporates eight business practice initiatives:

- A centralized hazardous materials management team
- Authorized user/use lists for hazardous materials
- Hazardous material tracking system (HSMS)
- Order/dispense by Unit of Use vs. Unit of Issue
- Establish re-use procedures for hazardous materials left over
- Establish inventory levels of hazardous materials at user/operator levels
- Centralized storage and issue of hazardous materials (HazMart)
- Implement a hazardous material training and awareness program

Incorporating these business practices in everyday operations at Fort Hood promote a safer and manageable hazardous material program. HSMS is an automated tool that assists in incorporating these initiatives into daily operations on Fort Hood.

5. Concept of Operation: When Fort Hood reaches its Initial Operating Capability (IOC) in early November, three HazMarts and nine Petroleum Oil and Lubricants (POL) centralized facilities will exist on Fort Hood. Hazardous materials will be managed at the HazMarts. The DPW HazMart

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located at 77th street and Warehouse Avenue, building 4406, is the focal point for hazardous materials normally purchased locally. With changing policy at Army and installation levels, customers will no longer be allowed to purchase hazardous materials with their Purchase Card (credit card) outside of HazMart channels. Fort Hood's definition of hazardous materials includes items normally regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Transportation (DOT), or the Occupational Safety and Health Agency (OSHA). Basic office supplies and cleaning materials are not included in this definition. For instance, "white out", as it is normally referred to, and scouring powders are exempt from this definition although they may be obtained through the HazMart. The 62nd Quartermaster (QM) Company, located on Santa Fe Avenue, building 4919, assigned to the 13th Corps Support Command (COSCOM), is the focal point for hazardous materials used on a daily basis in the military units and maintenance facilities that support the military population. Most hazardous materials used on a daily basis for the military operation are procured through the 62nd QM using the Standard Army Retail Supply System (SARSS), an existing supply system on Fort Hood. Another HazMart is located at a contractor-operated facility on Hood Army Airfield (HAAF). DynCorp, Fort Hood's installation aviation maintenance contractor, will provide hazardous material support to its aviation and ground support personnel located throughout Fort Hood. DynCorp, a leader in environmental stewardship on Fort Hood, is demonstrating its commitment to the Hazardous Material Management Program by incorporating the eight business practice initiatives into their daily operations. In doing so, DynCorp has significantly reduced the amount of hazardous materials they use daily and have prevented many materials from expiring due to shelf-life expiration dates. The 1st Cavalry Division will have a Petroleum Oil and Lubricants (POL) HazMart at each of its Forward Support Battalions (FSB), the 15th, 115th, 215th, and 615th and the 27th Main Support Battalion (MSB), to manage POL distribution throughout the Division. The 4th Infantry Division will have a Petroleum Oil and Lubricants (POL) HazMart at each of its Forward Support Battalions (FSB), 4th, 204th, 404th, and the 704th Main Support Battalion (MSB), to manage POL distribution throughout the Division. These POL HazMarts will allow for streamlined management of POL distribution and use amongst the many organizations supported by the Support Battalions.

6. **Where are we now?** The Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division, in conjunction with the Installation Hazardous Material Management Working Group (IHMMWG), is implementing the Hazardous Material Pharmacy (HazMart) concept on Fort Hood. This is in concert with the DA fielding plan for HSMS.



Customer service and material tracking are the key to HazMart success

Upon completion of building renovations, the HazMarts will become a consolidated location for hazardous material requisitioning and issuing for all Fort Hood activities. The HazMart will reduce the types and quantities of hazardous materials ordered, reduce the on-hand inventories, and make it easier to implement HSMS. In conjunction with the Force 21 transition, Fort Hood will test HSMS with the Army's new Global Centralized Supply System (GCSS). In all, 20 HSMS workstations are placed strategically around the installation to incorporate centralized hazardous material tracking at the DPW Environmental Division. Plans are to incorporate other directorates that are users of hazardous materials into the centralized HazMart. Fort Hood continues to set the example by implementing a major initiative on a Corps sized installation. Fort Hood's implementation of HSMS is on schedule and the Initial Operating Capability (IOC) date is November 98. For more information, contact Mr. Randy Doyle at 287-1099.