



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

No. 2016-24

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SUBJECT: The Transfer of Data Collected by Global Positioning System (GPS) and Geographic Information System (GIS) Receiver Devices onto CorpsNet.

CATEGORY: Directive and Information. This Engineering and Construction Bulletin (ECB) applies to every CONUS/OCONUS USACE Command. This ECB is effective when issued.

1. References:

- a. CJCSI 6510.01F; Information Assurance (IA) and Support to Computer Network Defense (CND)
- b. Flash Media Exception to Policy Process & Procedures Version 1.2, 14th June, 2013 Information Assurance Branch 7th signal Command (Theater) Fort Gordon, GA

2. **Purpose.** This regulation establishes U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) policies for collection and downloading geospatial data collected using GPS receivers and/or data collectors used in surveying and GIS data collection. Its purpose is to ensure that data collected from various surveying and GIS work in support of USACE activities can be transferred efficiently in a secure manner without having to purchase special equipment or connection devices.

3. **Background.** DoD Instruction 6510.01 limits the use of removable media. This instruction is interpreted as prohibiting flash memory cards and field survey equipment which accept flash media (e.g. SD cards) from being connected to CorpsNet computers. Field data collection activities typically acquire planimetric and topographic features; such as, levee centerlines and slopes, property lines, boundary corners, monuments, fire hydrants, utility poles and edge of road. It is USACE policy that geospatial data collection performed using an electronic data collection device as part of a surveying and mapping activity and/or GIS activity have the ability to be able to be downloaded to a PC or laptop without having to use special equipment or connection devices.

4. Data Transfer Methods.

a. Commercial Business Solutions. Where internet access is available in the field, data can be directly uploaded to vendor web based servers (such as Trimble Connected Community, Trimble TerraFlex or ARCGIS Online) and then transferred to CorpsNet through USACE email (allowing for virus checks) or using USACE CIO/G6 approved file transfer methods. Data the District determines “sensitive”, shall not be uploaded to commercial web based servers. In district offices where there is a USACE Guest ACE-IT Wi-Fi network, users can use this as means of transferring data to commercial web based servers for later download to CorpsNet computer.

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For geospatial data collection devices capable of the transfer of files between the field and a web-based service, such as the Trimble Connected Community (or Trimble TerraFlex) with AccessSync service, field personnel may use this method or service to transfer data from the survey/data collection device to the vendor's storage server. Once the data is loaded to the on-line storage device, it can be transferred to the user's computer on CorpsNet using established methods.

b. **External Hard Drives.** High end data collectors such as the Trimble TSC2 and TSC3 accommodate external hard drives plugged directly into the survey devices and those external drives can then be plugged directly into a computer on CorpsNet.

c. **Survey Data Collection Platforms (DCP's).** DCP's are computers that are considered part of survey equipment and are not under ACE-IT or local IT management. DCP's are not allowed on CorpsNet and file transfer must take place through writing to CD or an external hard drive.

d. **USB Encryption Devices.** DoD/DA approved USB encryption devices are available; however, the devices must be treated as controlled access medium as outlined in reference 2.b.

e. **Data Collection Devices without Flash Memory.** There are several data collection devices that do not contain flash memory and can be connected directly to a CorpsNet computer for download via USB port and approved data transfer software.

5. Purchasing GPS Equipment. GPS equipment used in GIS data collection, surveying data collection, or other geospatial data collection in support of engineering, mapping, real estate, or planning activities should not be purchased through CHES. GPS and survey equipment are considered science and engineering equipment and not business/office equipment. GPS and survey equipment are not part of the consolidated buy program under CHES.

6. Update. All new requirements will be included in the next appropriate policy document update prior the expiration of this ECB.

7. Points of Contact. HQUSACE points of contact for this ECB are Ms. Nancy Blyler, Geospatial Community of Practice Lead, 202-761-7755; Mr. Conrad Rabalais, ACE-IT Chief Operations Division, 601-634-3977.

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