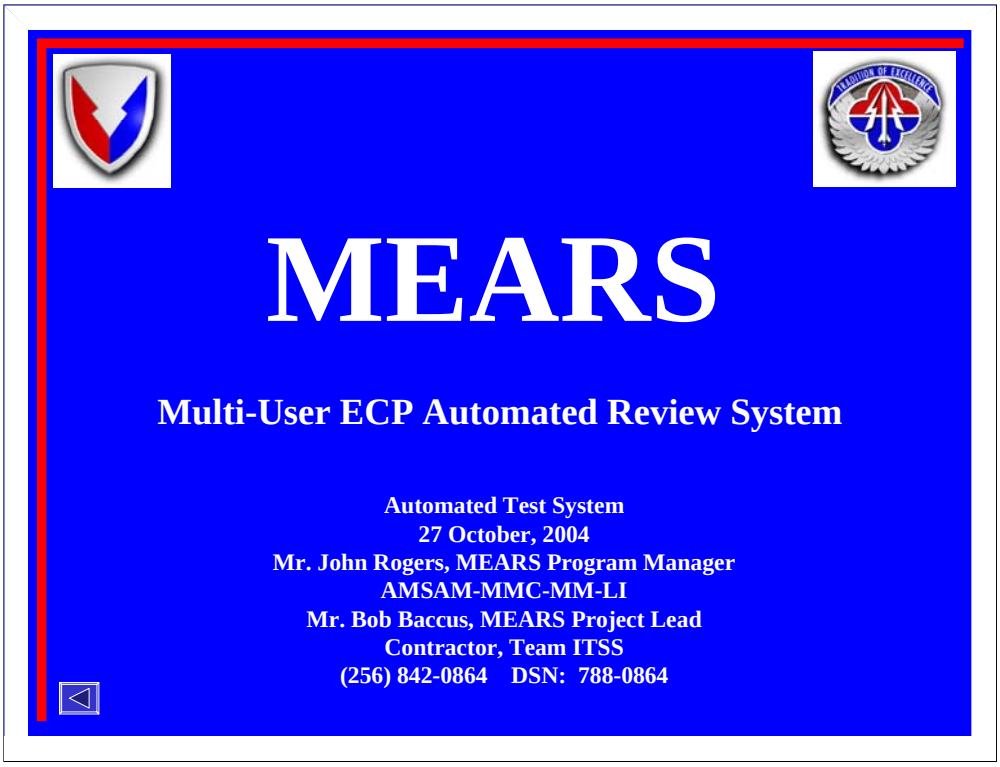


Bob Baccus

Contractor for Jacobs Sverdrup – doing work for

US Army Aviation & Missile Command

Redstone Arsenal, AL

MEARS Project Lead – lead team of contractors in

Development & Support of MEARS product

John Rogers

Government Program Manager

Thank Mr. MacDonald & Ms. Dollberg for the opportunity to talk to you about MEARS.

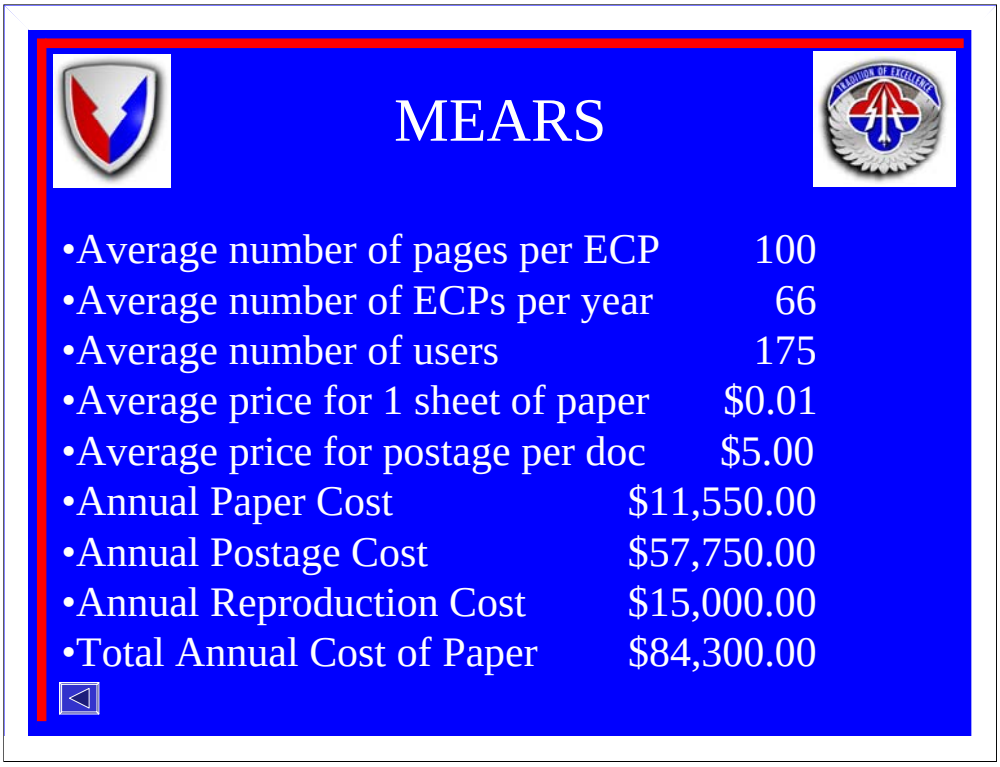
In this Presentation I am going to show you how

MEARS will save you Time and Money. You will receive a great return for your investment in MEARS

MEARS is very flexible, doing a lot of things in a number of ways. We are listening to our customers to make upgrades to MEARS.

Adhere to Best Business Practices – being reviewed by Best Manufacturing Practices next month.

MIL Handbook 61-A – AND we are adding other Government Forms and Documents to our product as requested by our customers

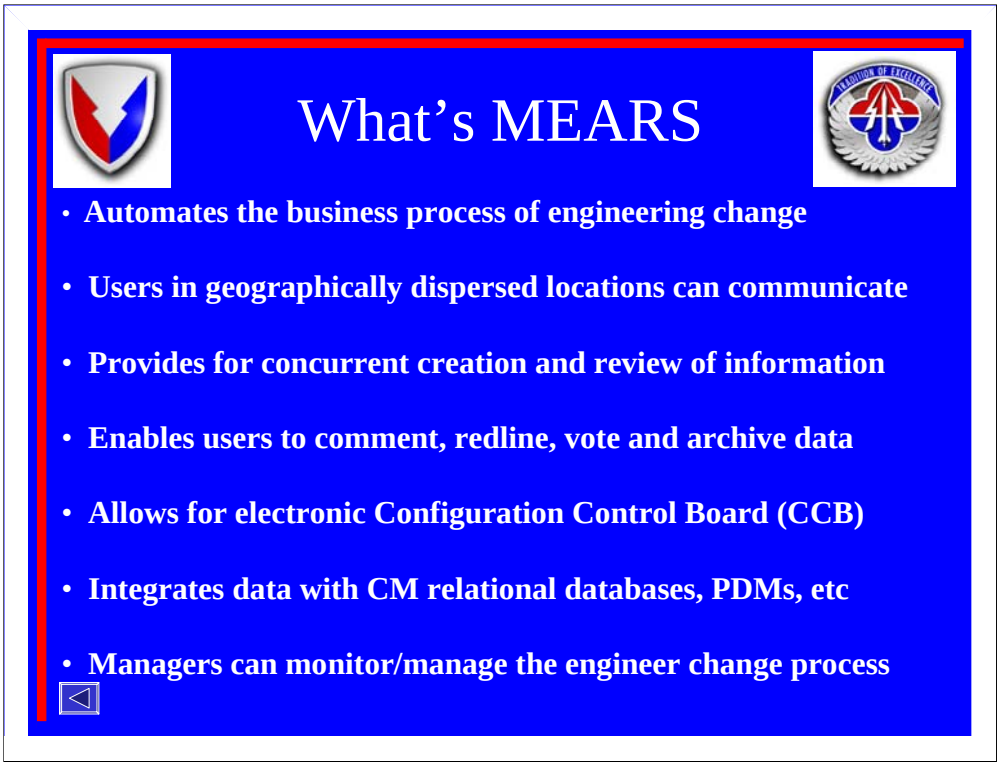


One of our customers did a cost analysis of processing ECPs

This came from the Lower Tier Project Office – Patriot –

2 years old

This is just Material Cost – Does not count the cost of Man Hours



Automates – Takes away the paper & delivering ECPs

Users all over the world – those on TDY – can take part

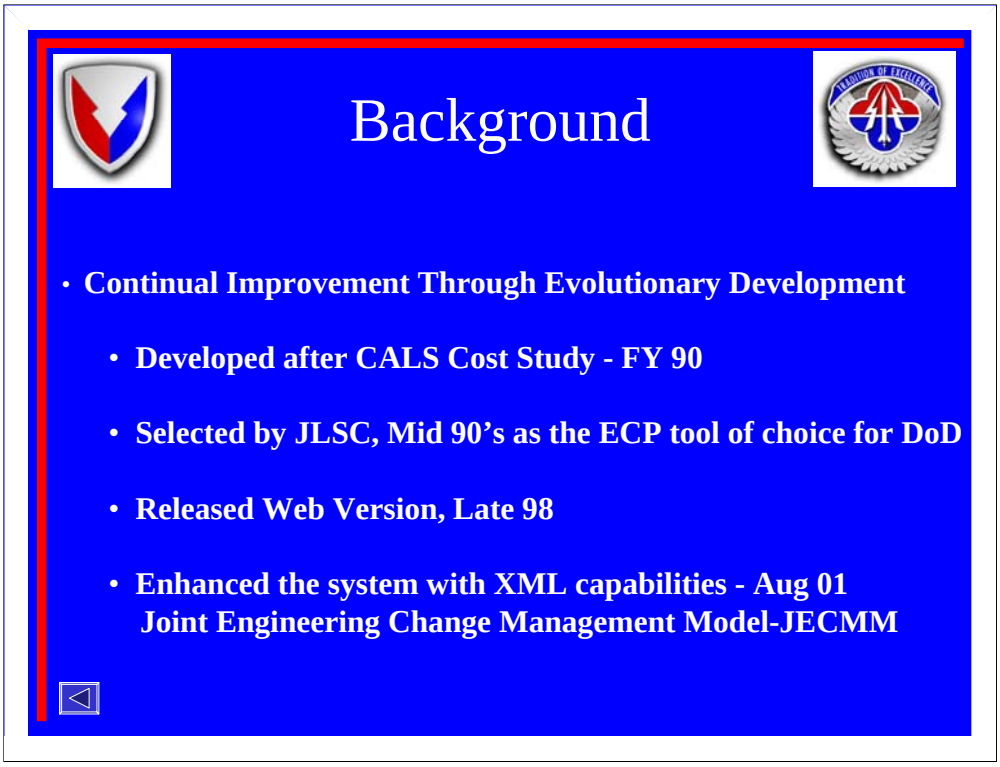
Easy to create & review ECPs

Users can add comments and Redlines to attached drawings and documents. These are saved and displayed by user

You set up your own Configuration Control Board – Different Board for different programs – same people / different roles

Easy porting of data to your own database – no need for entering data twice

Managers can keep status of progress and manage it



Developed by Government

Owned by Government

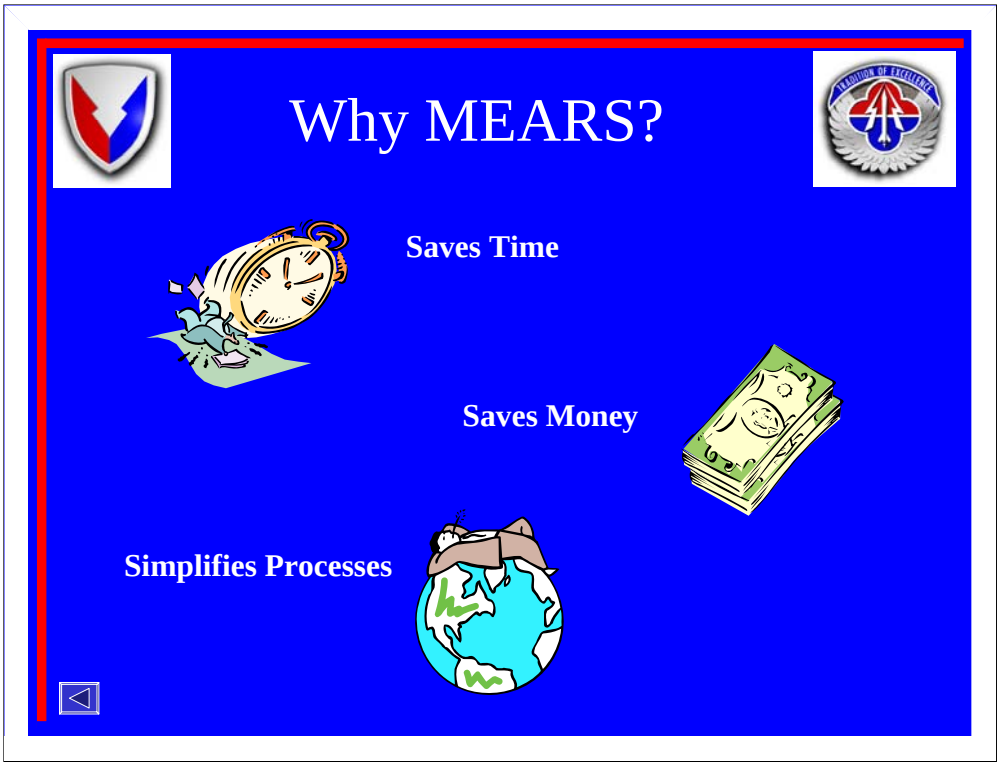
Controlled by Government

Current Version uses Sun Java 2 for displaying data on individual systems.

Next Year – Future MEARS – may use .NET

Release Nov. 6 – Feature Additions

Our customers Love it. They have said they cannot get along without it.



Why use MEARS?

MEARS fits a unique position in the world of Engineering Change Processes

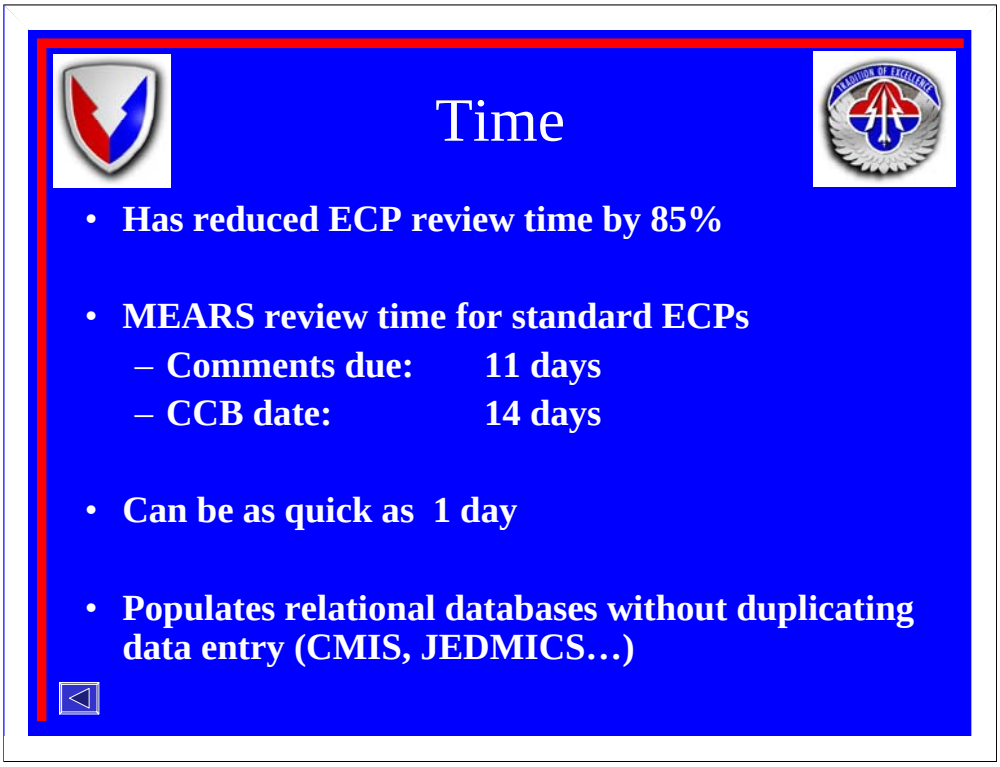
Nothing like it – there are other document management programs – but nothing that handles ECPs, RFWs, and RFDs like MEARS

MEARS is growing and developing new processes – SCN – Software Change Notification – Short Form

Classified Version – used by one customer - SIPRNET

Links to JEDMICS & CMIS

World Class Customer Support



Saving Time

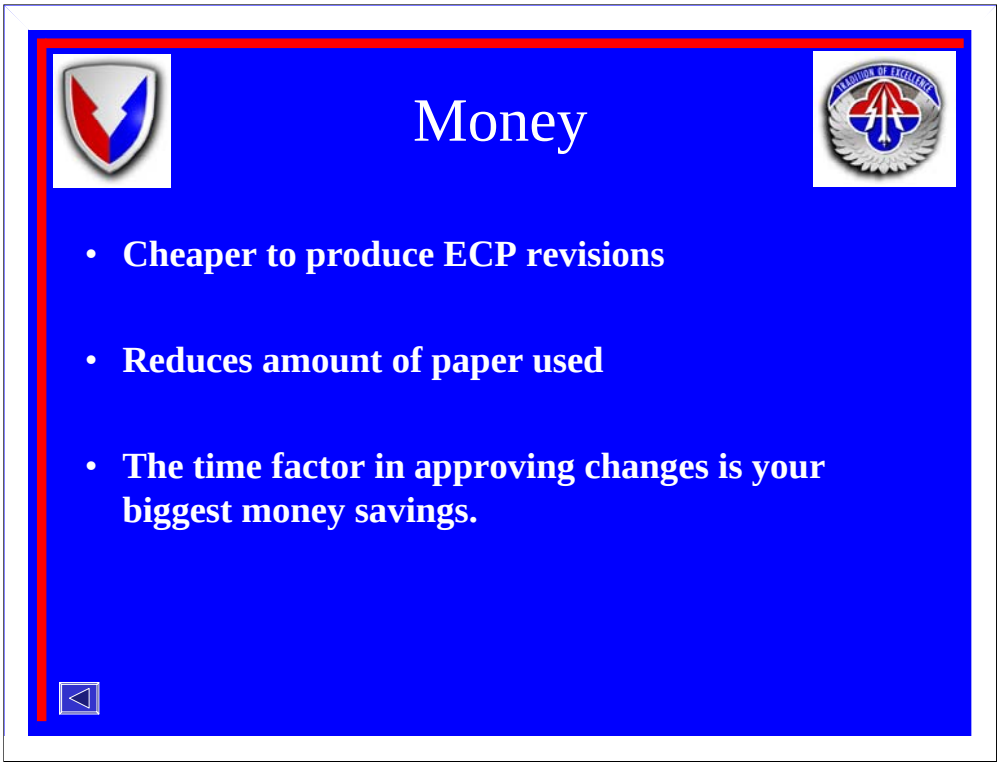
Comments due – 11 days

CCB date - 14 days

This is the average set by our customers. You can configure you own schedule.

Could process an ECP in as little as 1 day

Populates databases without duplicating data – CMIS – JEDMICS



Saves Money

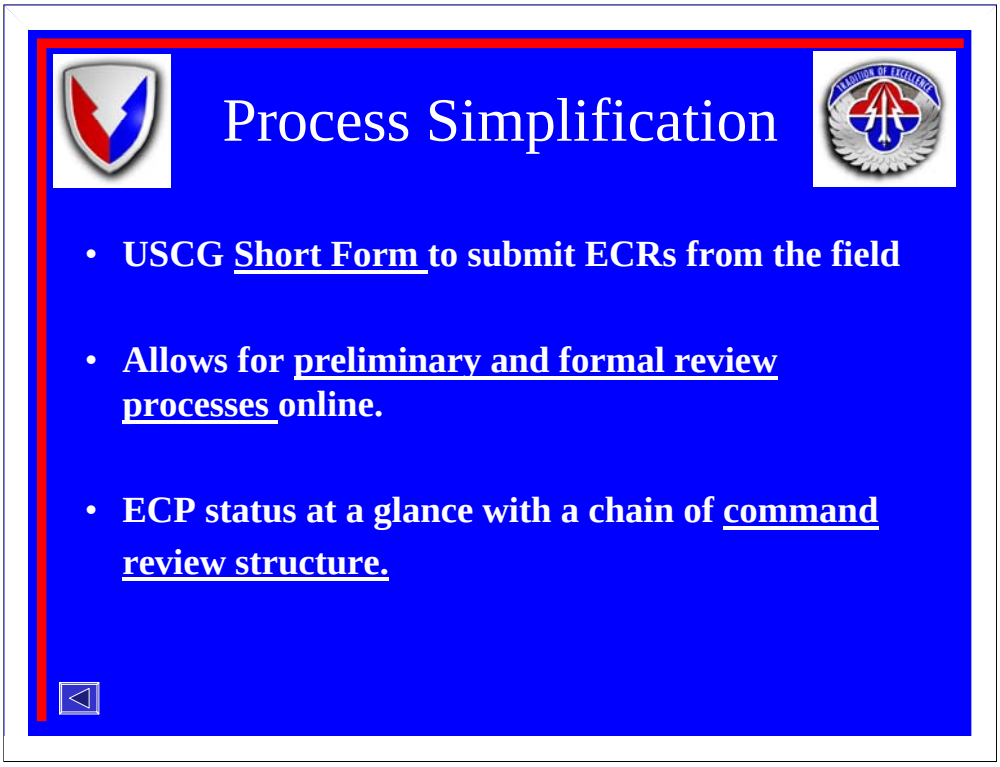
Reduces Paper Cost

Reduces Mailing / Transporting Cost

Reduces Time – biggest saving factor

Think about the time to

1. **Create an ECP**
2. **Attach the drawings & documents to it**
3. **Make Duplicate copies**
4. **Deliver it to the Reviewers**
5. **Have them review it, redline the drawings, add comments to the document**
6. **Deliver the marked up drawings to all reviewers**
7. **The Approval Authority obtain all documents, comments, and then make a decision**

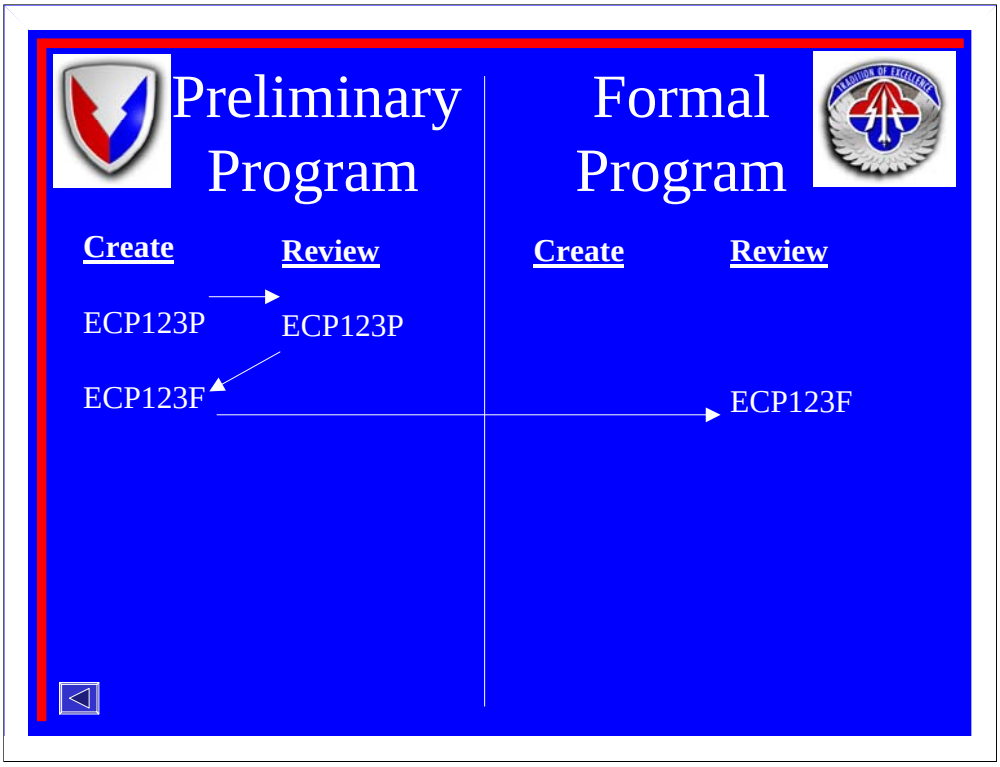


Short Form created for Coast Guard

Wanted ability for person in field to create ECP on site – using only Necessary Fields

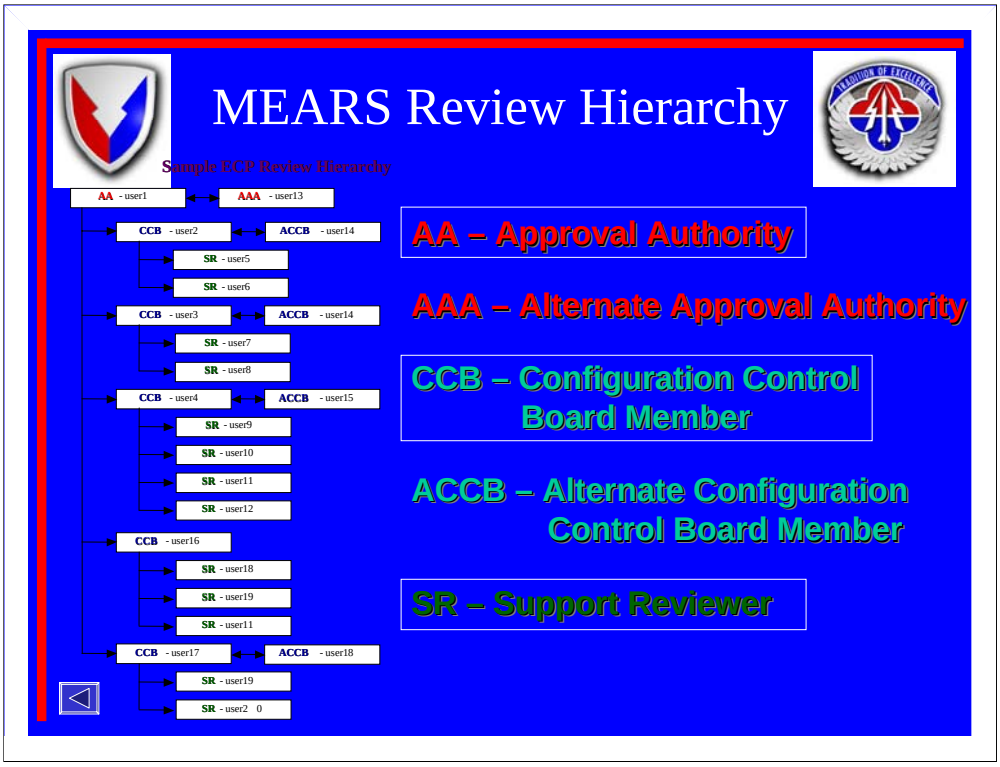
Create ECP – conduct own internal review with a few people – make corrections – place it out for formal review

Approval Authority – check to see who has opened the ECP – read comments – see who has voted on ECP



Here is an example where an ECP is sent for Preliminary Review – ECP123P

It goes back to the Create Step for modification – and then sent to the Final Review – ECP123F

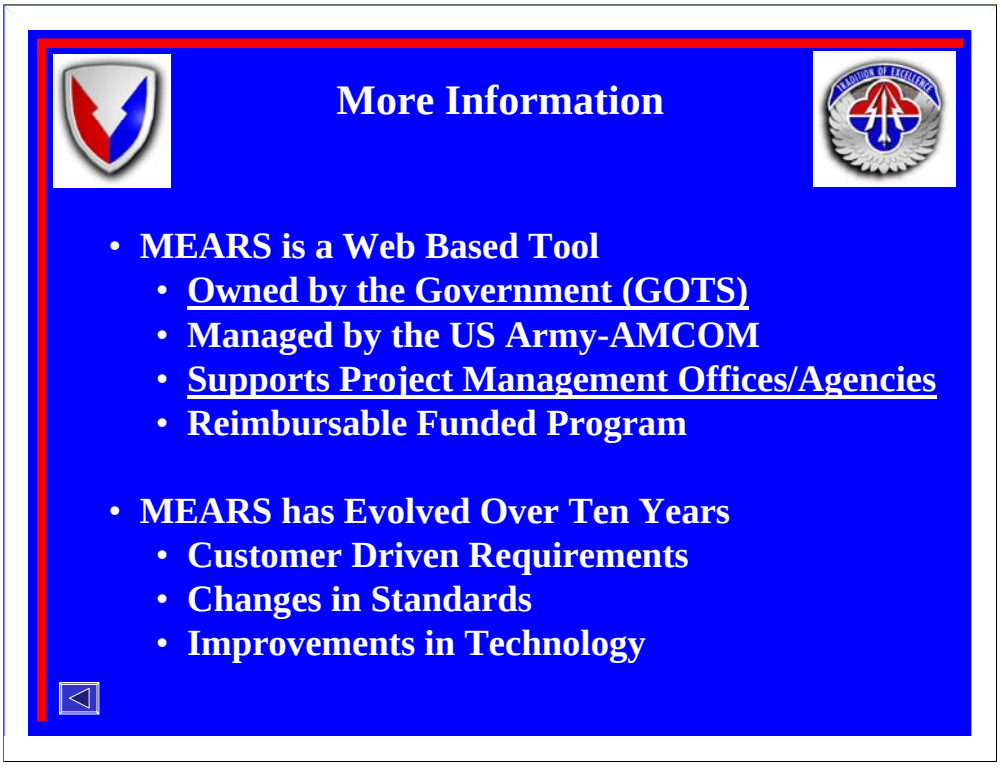


Example of Hierarchy

Top Level – Approval Authority – can have Alternate

CCB Members – Can have Alternate

Each CCB Member can have support Reviewers



MEARS is Web Based – meaning that if a user can get to the NET with Internet Explorer – they can get to MEARS.

MEARS is Government Funded and Government Managed – Developed with Government Funds

MEARS supports a number of Project Management Offices and Agencies – and is a Reinbursable Funded Program

MEARS accepts change requests from users – there is a procedure in place for adding Feature Requests to MEARS

MEARS will stay up with the latest Military Standards and Guidelines – MIL Handbook 61 A

The MEARS Staff includes:

John Rogers – our Government Program Manager

myself – Technical Project Lead

A Lead Developer and 3 other Developers

A Database Specialist

and 3 Customer Support Specialist

System Admin is covered by our Developer Lead and also the Customer Support Specialist

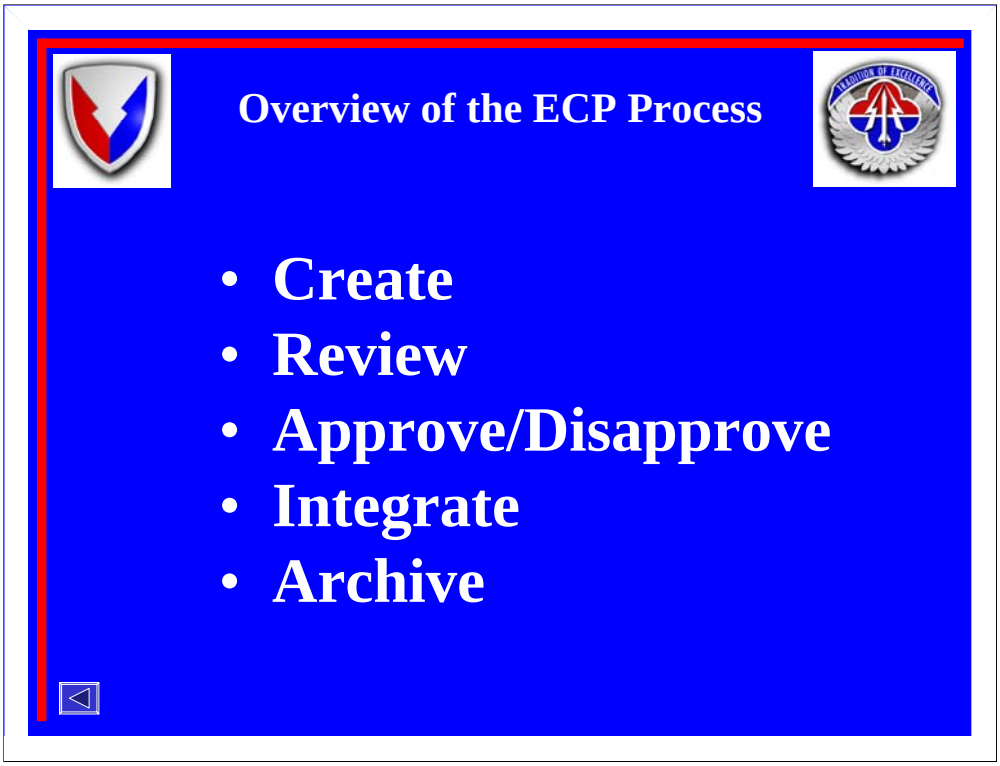
As you can see – we have a number of customers

The Military – especially the Army – is well represented

We also have a number of Support Contractors who perform work for agencies

MEARS has several Foreign Nationals that support Military Agencies.

MEARS is venturing into the Commercial World and has been favorably received. Look for these announcements in the near future



CREATE

Users can cooperatively and concurrently create documents

Data items adhere to MIL-STD 973 & MIL Handbook 61-A

Document templates can be created and reused

Figures and other attachments can be imported

Specs/Drawings affected can be loaded from a repository

Enclosure editor provided

Changes in document information can be noted

Preview allows easy document validation

REVIEW

Concurrent review of documents by members

CCB status visible on documents

Active and Inactive documents are accessible

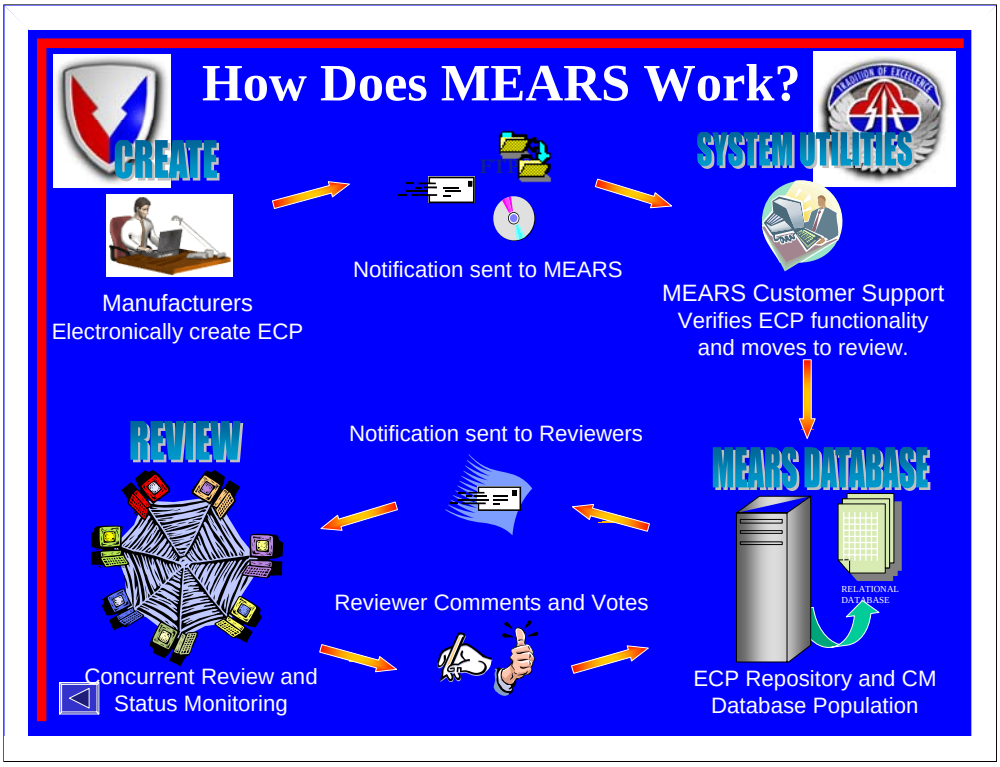
Document status and vote records are always available

Comments easily created and shared

Figures displayed by built-in viewer

Document information can be printed

Document information can be uploaded to relational databases



Selected Persons Electronically create the ECP

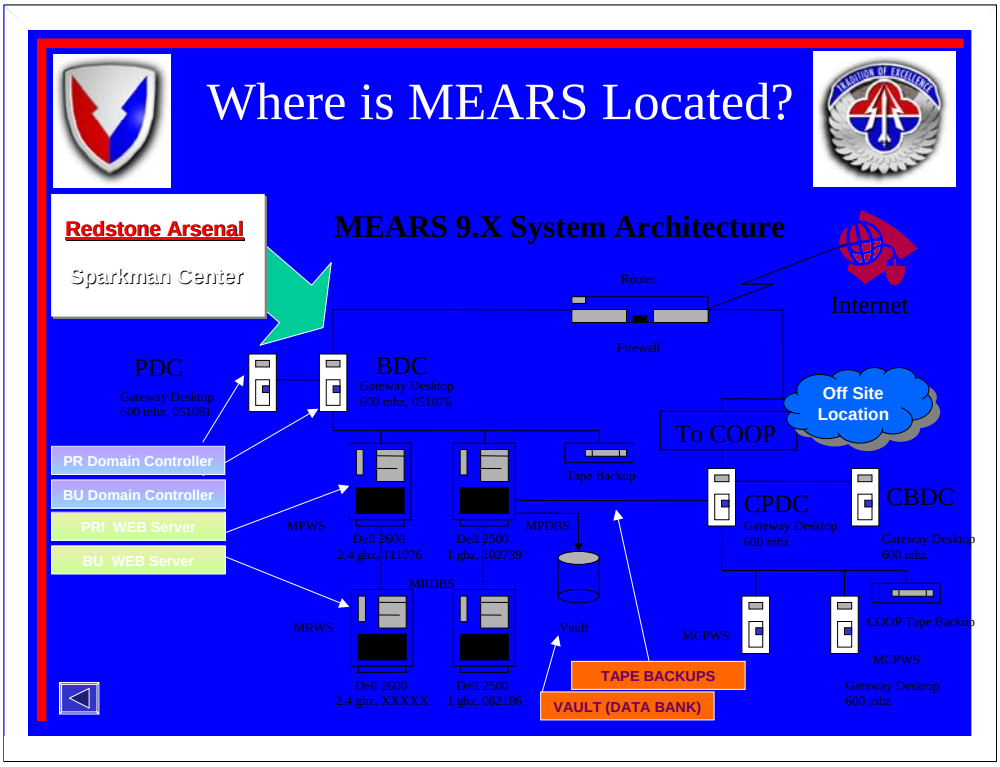
It is then sent to MEARS and our Customer Support group checks the ECP for required fields – the data is not checked

MEARS populates the database with the data

Notification is sent to Reviewers that the ECP is ready for Review

Comments are added and Votes are recorded

Based on Approval Authority's Vote – moved to Archive



MEARS Servers are located in a Secure Basement at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, AL

We have a dual backup system – backs up data to disk and tape

Setting up a COOP – Off Site location for Dual Hardware and Software System

When you obtain MEARS

Receive Access to Web Site –

Creating / Reviewing ECPs, RFWs, RFDs

Creating Reports

Training – On Site or at our facility

3 Hour Create – Just for Creators

3 Hour Review – All Reviewers

Support Services

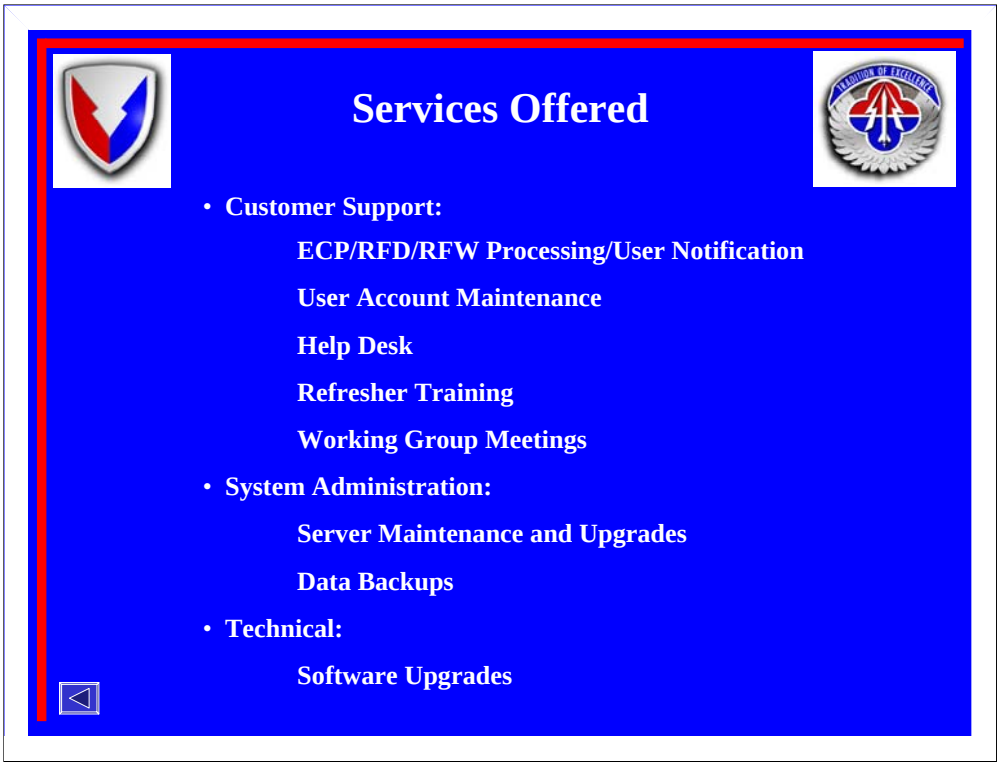
Phone Support – 7 – 4 Central Time (Answering)

On Site Customer Support (if needed)

ECP Processing / Hierarchy Modifications

Additional New User / New Software Training

Work Group Meetings

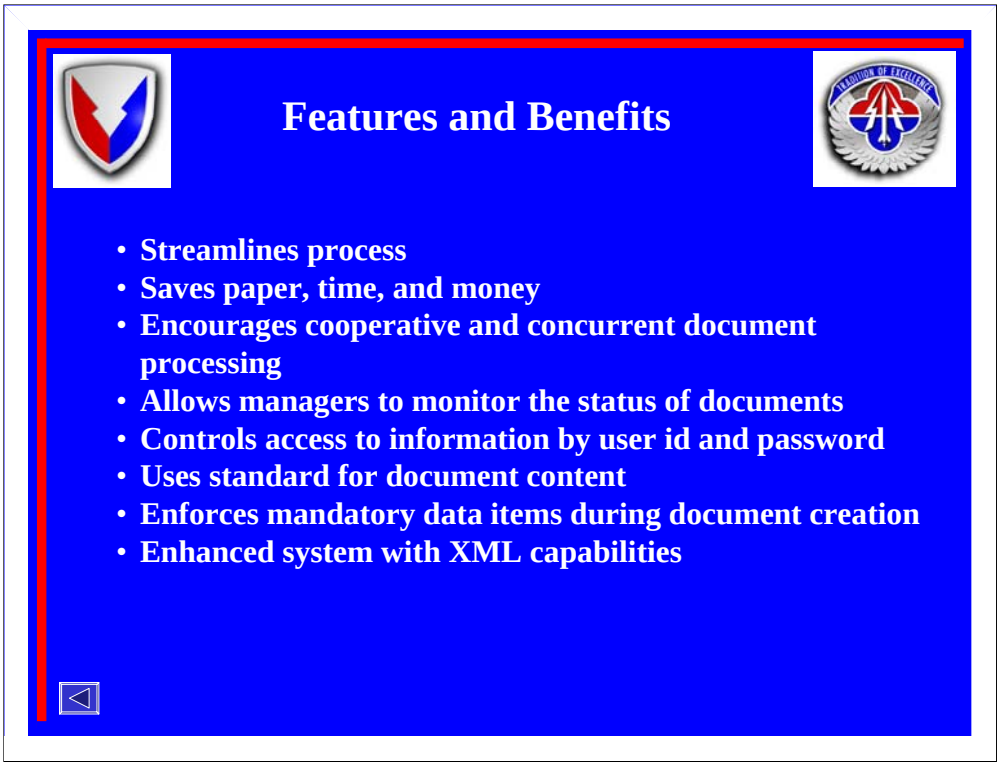


Customer Support is your interface to MEARS

Dedicated and friendly people to assist you

Call 1 Phone Number – Support Specialist will assist you

They wear a lot of hats and should be able to help you with any questions that you might have.



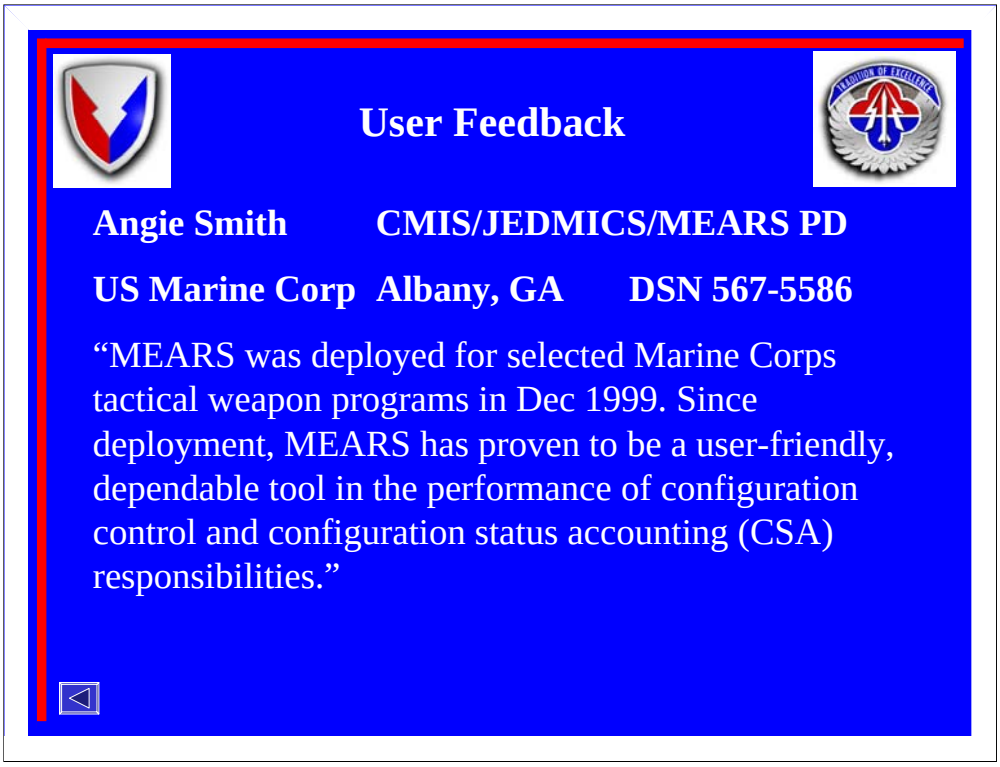
This is a review of our Features and Benefits when using MEARS.

Managers can tell at a glance who has opened an ECP, who has made comments, and who has voted

MEARS data can be ported to relational databases and other programs

MEARS is always looking to the future to add features for our customers

If there is something you need – an addition to MEARS to do something else – LET US KNOW.

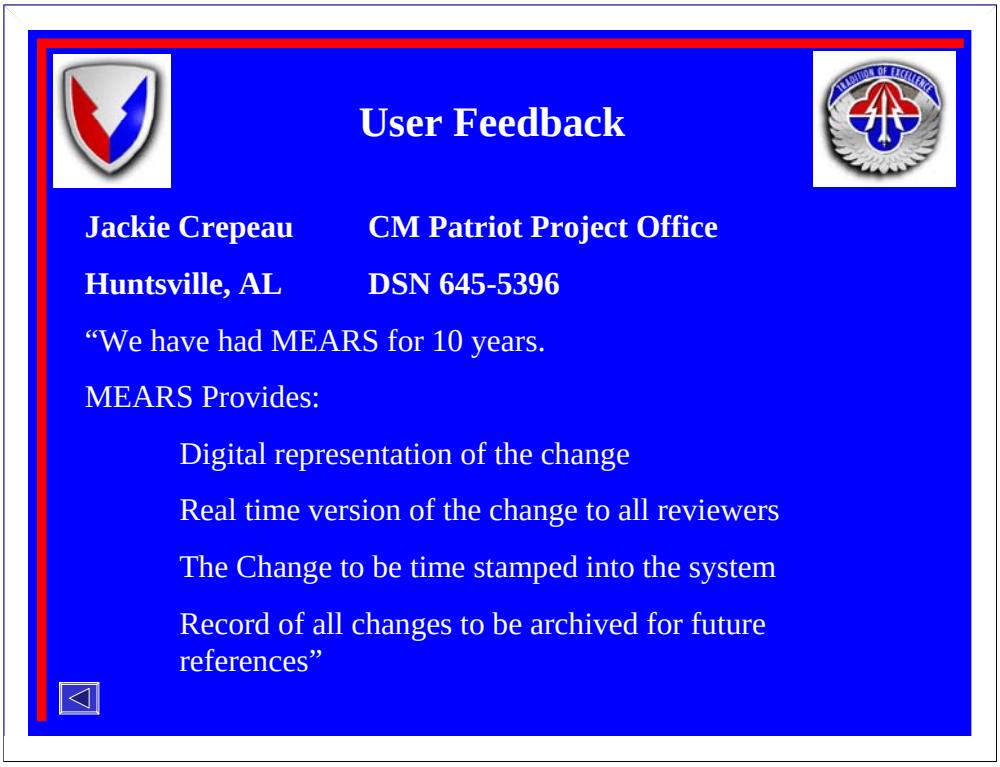


The Marine Corps is our largest customer and we have a great relationship with them.

Here is a statement from Angie Smith – our POC with the Marine Corps.

We have been working with several DCMA offices to set up test programs using MEARS.

Eric Kessler works at DCMA Headquarters in the DC area.



Jackie Crepeau is our contact with the Lower Tier Project Office (Patriot).

She was one of the first customers to come on board with MEARS.

MEARS strives to deliver the Best Product and Support possible.

We hire Customer Support personnel that are courteous, responsive, dependable and informative.

We greatly appreciate our customers, because MEARS is customer driven.

We listen to our customers for Software Feature Upgrades that they think are needed.

Learning More About MEARS

Home Page: **http://mears.army.mil**

E-mail Address: **mearssupport@redstone.army.mil**

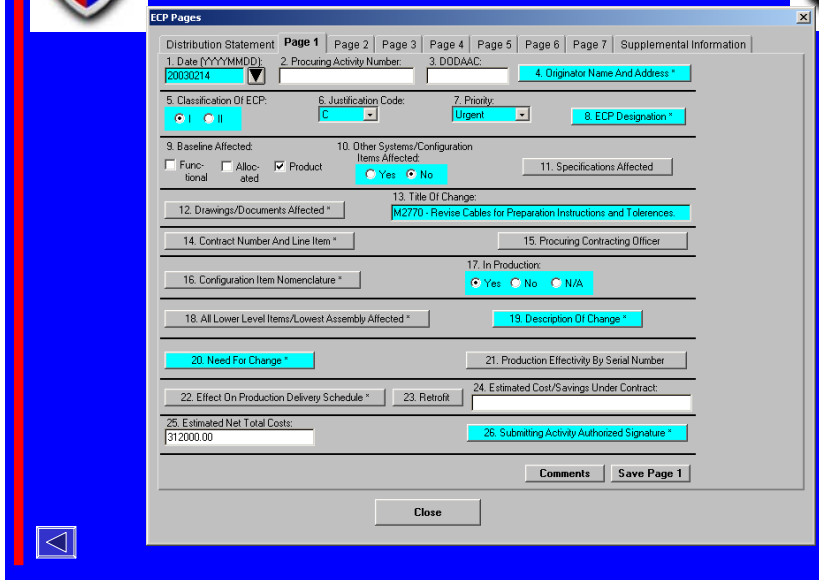
Phone Number: **(256) 842-0864/DSN: 788-0864**

MEARS Login

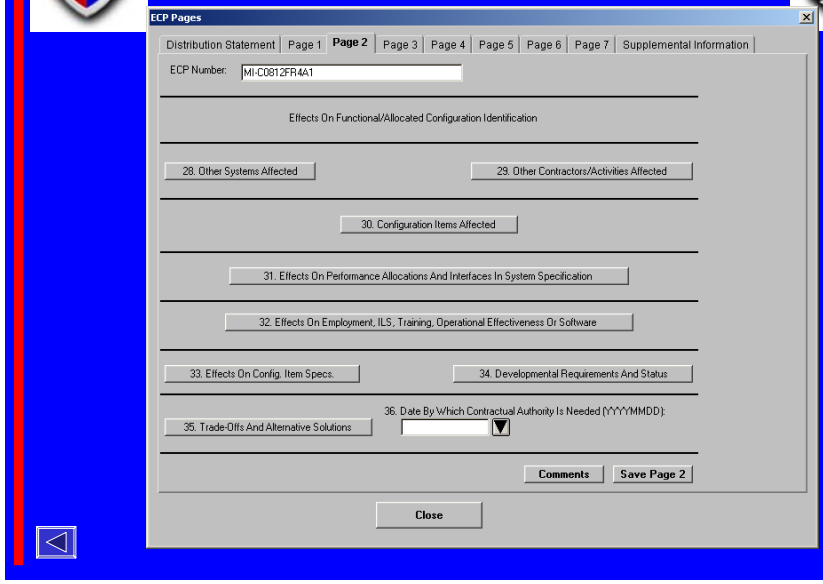
Configuration Management

This is what it looks like…

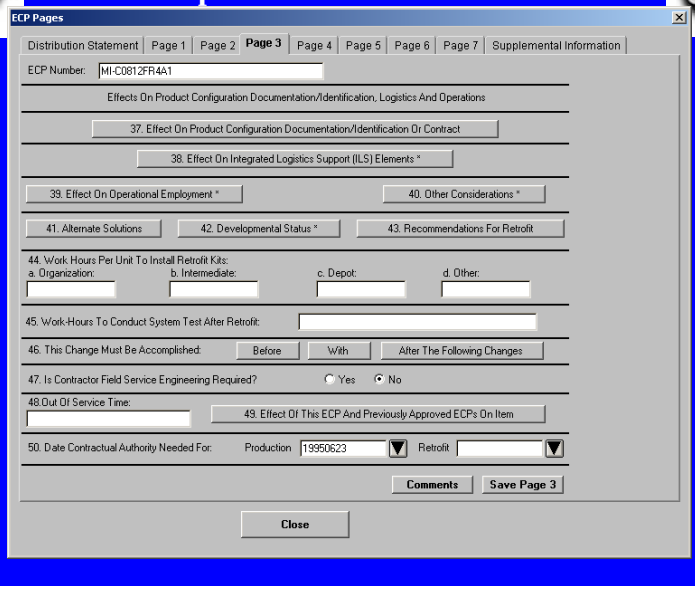
ELEMENTS OF A CHANGE PACKAGE
Preparation & Justification



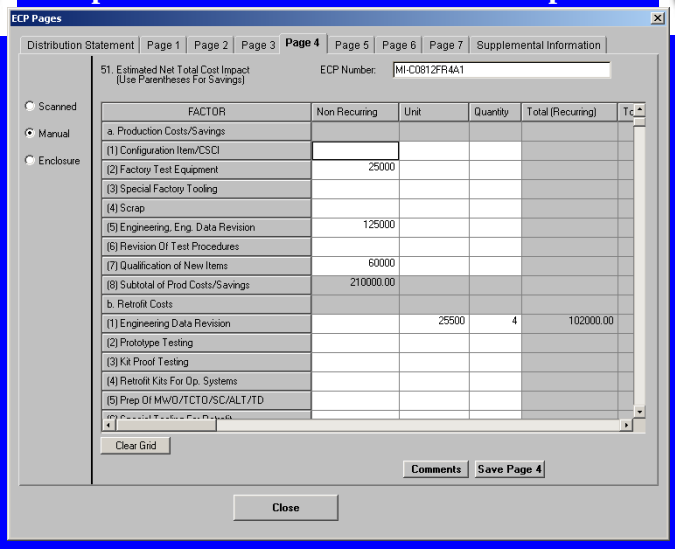
ELEMENTS OF A CHANGE PACKAGE
Preparation & Justification



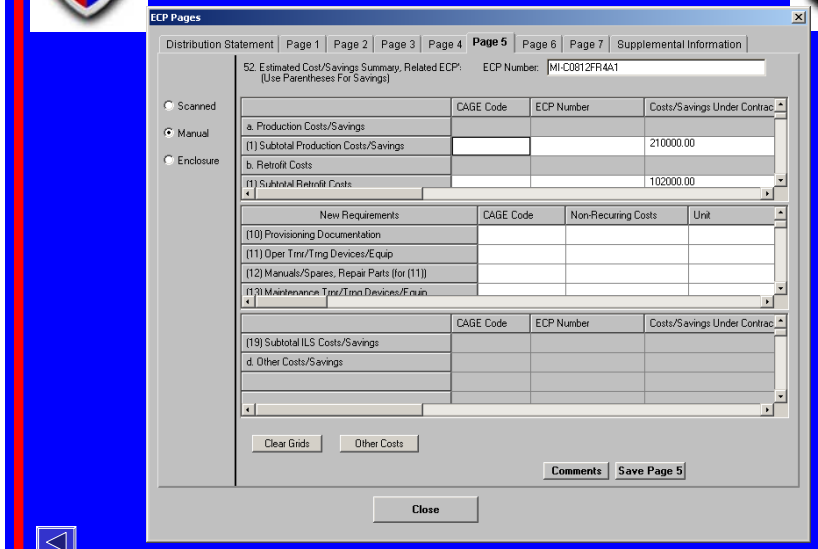
ELEMENTS OF A CHANGE PACKAGE
Preparation & Justification



ELEMENTS OF A CHANGE PACKAGE
Preparation & Justification - Cost Impact

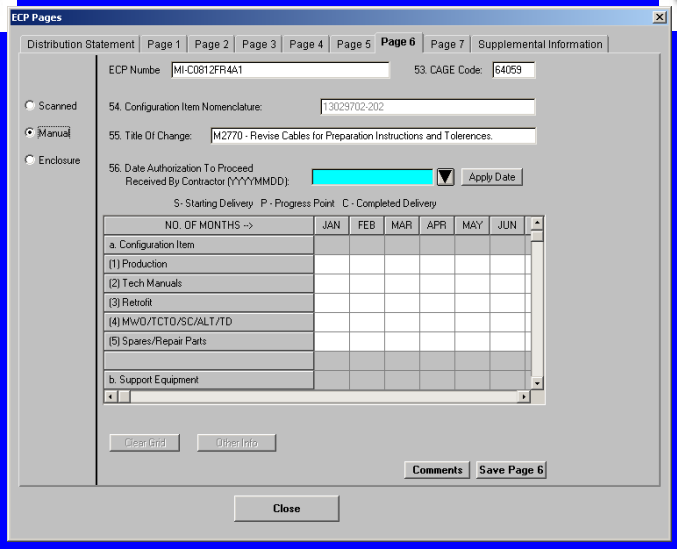


ELEMENTS OF A CHANGE PACKAGE
Preparation & Justification - Cost Savings



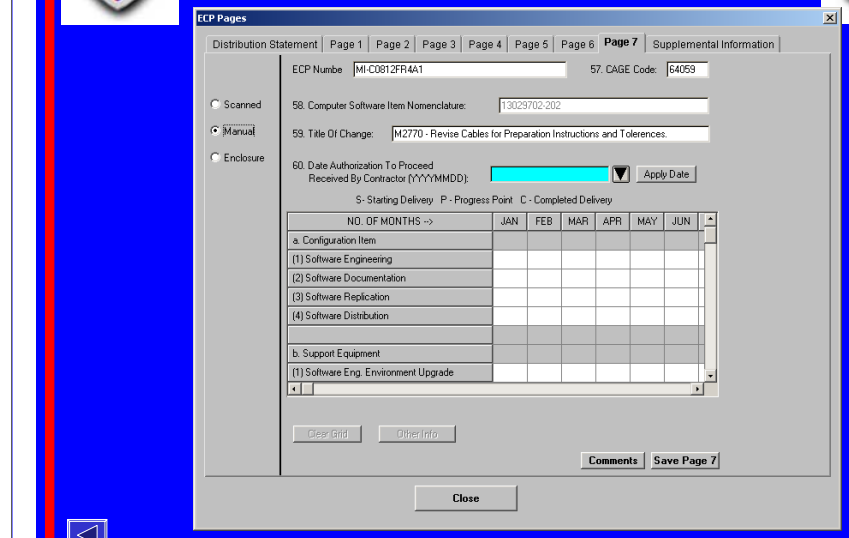
ELEMENTS OF A CHANGE PACKAGE

Preparation & Justification - Hardware Milestones

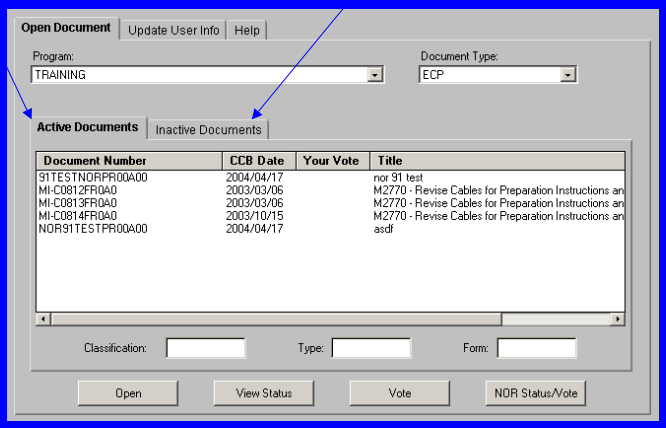


ELEMENTS OF A CHANGE PACKAGE

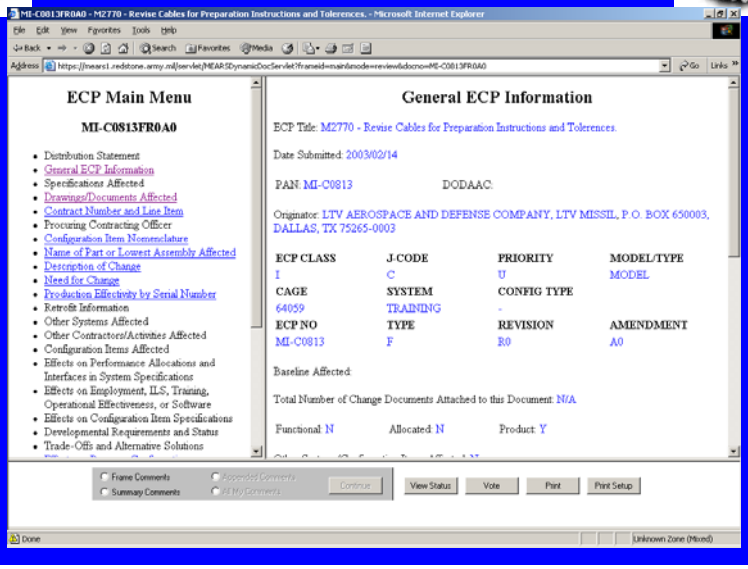
Preparation & Justification - Software Milestones



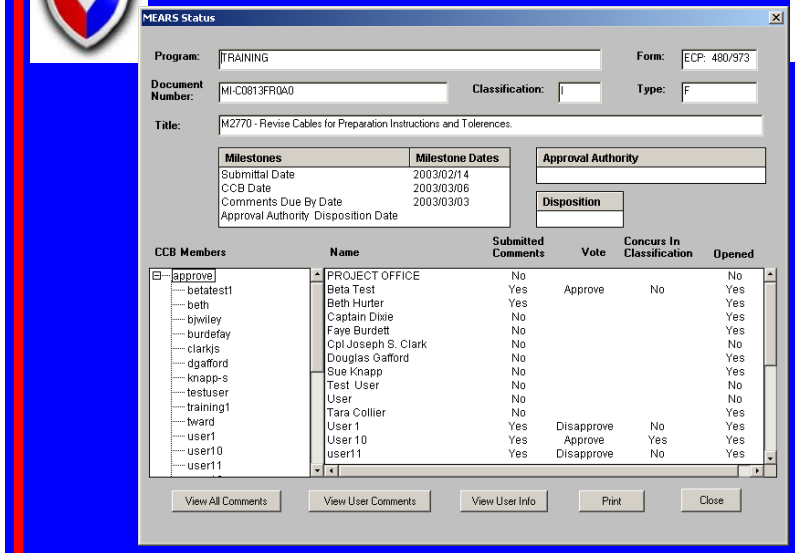
MEARS Review Document Repository
Active and Inactive Documents

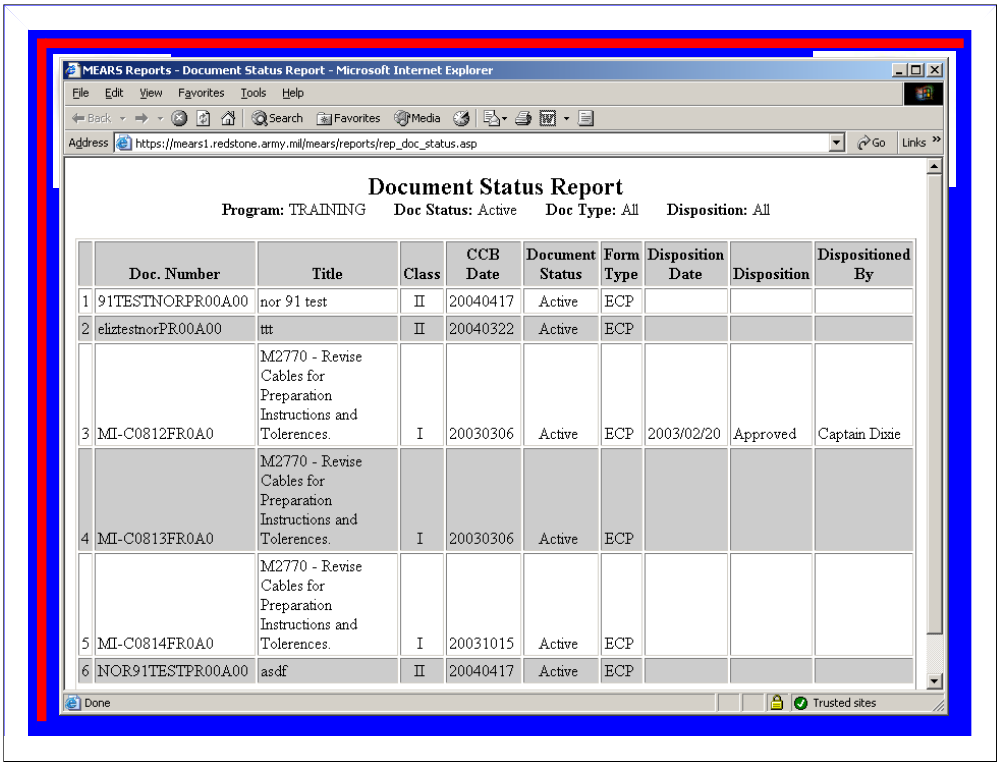


Evaluation and Coordination of an ECP Change Package via CCB Comments and Votes



ECP Status & Disposition





Document Status Report

Program: TRAINING **Doc Status:** Active **Doc Type:** All **Disposition:** All

	Doc. Number	Title	Class	CCB Date	Document Status	Form Type	Disposition Date	Disposition	Dispositioned By
1	91TESTNORPR00A00	nor 91 test	II	20040417	Active	ECP			
2	eliztestnorPR00A00	ttt	II	20040322	Active	ECP			
3	MI-C0812FR0A0	M2770 - Revise Cables for Preparation Instructions and Tolerences.	I	20030306	Active	ECP	2003/02/20	Approved	Captain Dixie
4	MI-C0813FR0A0	M2770 - Revise Cables for Preparation Instructions and Tolerences.	I	20030306	Active	ECP			
5	MI-C0814FR0A0	M2770 - Revise Cables for Preparation Instructions and Tolerences.	I	20031015	Active	ECP			
6	NOR91TESTPR00A00	asdf	II	20040417	Active	ECP			