Glossary of Terms

Global Combat Support System – Army

Note: This glossary can be used to research terms during the course of daily operations. It is also valuable during the early education process to familiarize the target user population with the GCSS-Army language set and enable a systematic bridging from legacy STAMIS.
COMMON BUSINESS AREAS

Bill of Materials (BOM)

- A Bill of Material is a complete, formally structured list of the components that makes up a product or assembly. A BOM represents a parent/child relationship between a weapon system or end item, its assemblies, its subassembly components, together with the item number, quantity and unit of measure.

Business Workplace (SBWP)

- The GCSS-Army internal communications network consisting of an EMAIL capability and a WORKFLOW messaging structure. The WORKFLOW process is used to send transactions to Materiel Managers for review.

  Legacy equivalent: Manager Review File (MRF)

Company Code-Army

- Identifies tactical Army as an organization for logistics and financial accounting.

Customer Master

- Contains critical customer information relating to accounts and locations and unique information about customer sets. Included are agency data required to conduct logistics processes, such as Department of Defense Automatic Addressing Codes (DODAACs), Unit Identification Codes (UICs), and geographic data.

Equipment Master

- Equipment Master is the representation of an individual asset or component in GCSS-Army. It contains the data necessary to store and maintain the description and specifications for the item and perform relevant maintenance activities. Included are critical serial numbers for air and ground systems, as well as selected sets of critical components such as critical air safety items.

Force Element (FE)

- An organizational object, or element (such as a Brigade/Regiment, Troop/Battery/Company, Platoon, or Squad/Section), that is uniquely identified and is part of the GCSS-Army organizational structure. This structure is defined by the Modified Table of Organization and Equipment and the Table of Distribution and Allowances (MTOE/TDA). In addition to a long-text title, each FE has a system-generated, eight-digit object ID number and is assigned a UIC-based unit abbreviation.
Inbound Delivery

- Inbound deliveries are created from purchase orders and stock transport orders as a notification and record that an item has been shipped.

Material

- An item of supply or property.

Material Number

- The material number is used by the customer to order supply or property.

  Legacy equivalent: Stock number or part number.

Material Planning Object (MPO)

- Non-expendable items of equipment are identified in GCSS-Army as material planning objects (MPO). An MPO number is created for each piece of equipment. This number remains with the equipment throughout its life cycle. LINs are the building blocks for MPOs.

Material Requirements Planning (MRP)

- A process within GCSS-Army that calculates the quantities needed to satisfy projected consumption or to meet immediate requirements. The planned and the exact requirements quantities trigger the net requirements calculation. The system calculates net requirements for all materials that are to be planned.

  Legacy equivalent: Requirements Determination, Net Asset Computation.

Material Reservation

- A request or instruction to procure a quantity of a material so that it is available at a specific time.

Movement Type

- A three digit code that identifies the reason and type of material movement that is being conducted in GCSS-Army.
MRP Area

- The virtual instance where materials are planned identified by a Force Element number followed by an:
  - UNDERBAR P (\_P) indicating Provision/Consumable
  - UNDERBAR S (\_S) indicating Stock/Property Book item

MRP Planning Run

- The running of a series of batch jobs in order to execute the Materiel Requirements Planning process.

MRP Type

- Defines how a material will be planned. GCSS-Army uses the following:
  a. PD – Material Requirements Planning
  b. VV – Forecast-based Planning
  c. ZM – Mandatory with Safety Stock
  d. ZP – Provisional with Safety Stock
  e. ZV – ROP with All Requirements
  f. ND – No Planning

  Legacy equivalent: Stockage List Code (SLC).

Notification

- A notification is the alert process that informs an end user that some type of action is required for Army equipment.

Outbound Delivery Monitor (OBD)

- A GCSS-Army process that allows a manager to view all Outbound Deliveries. Outbound Deliveries are goods placed into customer bins for pickup or staged for delivery.

Plant 2000 or 2001

- A data element used to designate the financial category of material. Plant 2000 is Operation and Maintenance Activity (OMA) and is used to identify all items in organizational Supply. Plant 2001 is Army Working Capital Fund (AWCF) which is items in the Retail Supply System.
Post Goods Issue (PGI)

- The issuing of supplies to a customer or external vendor.

Provisions

- Provisions are used for the planning of consumable items that a Unit needs to perform its tasks and missions. Examples of Provision usage are Shop Stock, ASL and Basic Load.

Purchase Order (PO) Document Types

- A TWO digit character code (45) used to identify the type of Purchase Order transaction being performed.

Purchase Requisition (PR)

- A request from a customer to a supplier (PBO, SSA or External Vendor) to deliver a quantity of material or to perform services at a given point in time, before converting the PR to a Purchase Order (PO).

Standard Unit of Measure

- Specifies which unit of measure is used for calculations in the MRP list and the stock/requirements list.

Stock

- Non-expendable items of equipment identified in GCSS-Army as Material Planning Objects (MPO). An MPO number is created for each piece of equipment.

Stock Transport Order (STO)

- Used to transfer stock from plant to plant or storage location to storage location. Stock Transport Orders are used for bin-to-bin movements within the same storage location.

Storage Location

- Physical location where inventory is stored or virtual location where inventory is planned.

Supersession Chain (SSC)

- In GCSS-Army, all substitute parts are part of a supersession chain (SSC). The SSC lists the prime number and valid substitutes within that chain.

  Legacy equivalent: Interchangeability and Substitutability (I&S).
Vendor Master

- This data set contains critical information for approved vendors relating to accounts and locations, and unique information relating to products and services approved for purchase. In GCSS-Army, the vendor master consists of data from the Defense Logistics Information Service’s Central Contractor Registry and the DOD Routing Identifier Code.

Work Order Settlement

- The process of moving labor cost incurred (Activity Type Hours times Activity Price) from the work order object to a cost center associated with the work order.

Work Center

- A Work Center is used to define work organizations/resources (people, tools and equipment) to be used in the maintenance processing to plan and execute the actual work.

PROPERTY BOOK

Consolidated Property Listing (Unit Roll Up)

- A listing that captures all assets for a Force Element and its subordinate elements. Generated in Microsoft Excel, this listing can be easily manipulated to extract relevant information.

MAINTENANCE

- Maintenance Item: Describes preventive maintenance tasks that are required. The maintenance item associates the individual equipment with a task list that details the maintenance procedures that must be executed for that item.

- Maintenance Plan: Associates maintenance items with a scheduling indicator. A maintenance plan can be time based, calendar based, and/or usage based.

- Maintenance Stocks: Repair parts and other supplies normally carried by maintenance organizations; i.e., bench stock, shop stock and combat spares
• Measurement Document: an electronic record of a counter reading at a particular point in time. Measurement documents are used as a basis for the counter and/or condition based maintenance related activities.

• Measuring Point: Used to capture information regarding usage on all types of equipment where lifecycle management requires that usage data be captured.

• Counter: An object (i.e. odometer, tachometer, etc) mounted on a piece of equipment by which readings are taken to object wear, consumption, or the reduction of a working supply.

• Multi Counter Plan: Maintenance plans that are based on two scheduling factors [single & multiple]. When using multiple counter plans, the maintenance routine is executed when either measurement is exceeded.

• Functional Location: The hierarchical location of a component or equipment and any of its sub-components. It also represents the place at which a maintenance task is performed.

• Integrated Product and Process Engineering (iPPE): Loads header and structures of an end item. The allowable material is linked to the appropriate nodes. These structures and the source for the allowable list are determined by MMDF / LCF.

• Available to Promise (ATP): the ability to check if the components on a work order are in stock.

• Single Cycle Plan: Maintenance plans with time-based or performance-based maintenance cycles.

• Operator Confirmation: a process used when returning equipment from regular / alert dispatch. It updates the end item, component usage, operator record, and fuel usage.

• Notification: A process for documenting that some form of maintenance is required for Army equipment. Common maintenance notifications include:

  D1  Equipment Utilization (Dispatch)
  CE  Controlled Exchange
  HS  Historical Notification
  M1  Maintenance Request
  MW  Modification Work Order
  O1  Oil Sample
  PM  Preventive Maintenance

• PM Order Confirmation: A quantitative measure of maintenance capability usually expressed as the number of man-hours or direct labor applied to a work order.

• Technically Complete (TECO): status of the work order process when work is complete on that specific work order.
• Work Order Forwarding: A process used when a maintenance task for an equipment/functional location cannot be performed at a facility where it was initiated and needs to be sent to another maintenance facility, either internal or external, for further processing.

UNIT SUPPLY

Change Order

• In a Unit Supply environment this is used to add or remove items on a Shortage Annex.

Individual Property Listing

• A listing of equipment or supplies issued to a person. Equivalent to a Hand Receipt.

Material BOM (Bill of Materials or Component Listing)

• A complete formally structured list of the components that makes up an End Item. Work Order (PB01)
• In a Unit Supply environment a work order documents component shortages for a particular end item.

SUPPLY MANAGEMENT

MRP Exception Message

• (Created during the GCSS-Army planning run): Refers to an individual MRP element displayed MRP Exception Messages identify imbalances between supply and demand and usually require action on the part of the Stock Control Manager or Clerk to correct.

Maintenance Significant Part (MSP)

• A critical, repairable, and typically high dollar readiness driver.

Traffic Lights

• Status indicator icons displayed in GCSS-Army in the form of a traffic light. Used to prioritize of information viewed based on predetermined conditions and system settings.

Planned Delivery Time (PDT)

• The number of days elapsed from the initial generation of the Purchase Order/Stock Transport Order to the date of actual receipt of the item. PDT is captured for each Material Number that is forecasted using any approved forecasting model.
Consumption Base Planning

- The concept of basing your planning on consumption rather than demands.

Forecasting

- The GCSS-Army process that leverages consumption history to calculate supply requirements for a period of months into the future. Forecasting occurs when historical consumption data exists for the material and location. Forecasting is typically run by MRP Area.

MRP Controller

- The MRP controller is the person responsible for the availability of consumable materials for maintenance and internal customers. This individual ensures that correct materials are procured at the correct time and in the correct quantities.

Warehouse Activity Monitor (WAM)

- Decision Support Tool used to monitor the status of critical processes and situations in a warehouse. The primary purpose of the WAM is to alert managers of bottlenecks occurring in the flow of assets and transactions through the warehouse. Examples are: (a) Unconfirmed Transfer Orders, (b) Open Transfer Requirements, (c) Open Posting Change Notices, and (d) Open Deliveries.

Authorized To Forecast

- The GCSS-Army Demand Analysis process which recommends additions to and deletions from the Authorized Stockage List (ASL).

Overdue Deliveries

- Items ordered that have not arrived within a calculated Planned Delivery Time (PDT). In GCSS-Army PDT is calculated by individual material (NIIN).

Consumption

- Quantity of items consumed per requirement.

PERSONNEL PROCESS (HR)

Accounting Indicator (Aind)

- These codes segregate the labor performed into the categories of Direct and Indirect Labor. The time expenditure collected is for both Productive (Direct and Indirect Labor) and Non-Productive work on a work order.
Cross-Application Time Sheet (CATS)

- The Time Sheet is a cross-application tool for recording employee working times. Working times are recorded centrally, together with cost accounting and labor confirmation.

Delimit

- When a person is no longer assigned to a GCSS-Army unit, the Delimited status is applied, which inactivates the individual’s records in GCSS-Army.

Employee Group

- Allows for the definition of the employee relationship to Army.

Employee Subgroup

- The breakdown of an Employee Group, which provides for extensive groupings in order to more efficiently process personnel activities. i.e., Active Army, Reserve, National Guard, Foreign Nationals, Government Civilians and Contractors.

Info Type

- Info types store related fields’ information such as name, military rank, unit assignment, position assignment, Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) and Additional Skill Identifiers (ASI’s).

Personnel Area

- The Personnel Area represents specific areas [i.e. State] of an enterprise that are commonly organized to enable personnel headcount, readiness reporting and time management.

Personnel Number

- A system-generated number assigned to on-boarded [in process] individuals at the time their personnel Master Data Record is created in GCSS-Army.

FINANCE

Activity Types

- A cost object that represents a group of resources within a cost center. These resource groups have capacity and a unit of measure such as: labor hours, machine hours, square footage, etc. Activity types are consumed and used to produce the products and services of the organization.

Allotment
• An allotment is a distribution of budget authority to an execution level accounting entity. It authorizes the incurrence of obligations within a specified amount. Sub allotments may be used to further subdivide the budget authority.

Application of Funds

• Determines what funds made available by a source of funds may be used for. This definition is time-dependent and therefore determines how long a fund is valid.

Availability Control

• Used to check consumable budget (budget or releases) against consumed amounts (commitment or actual postings) within a budget process.

Annual Funding Program (AFP)

• Budget authority that is available for obligation only during a specified fiscal year that expires at the end of that period.

Available Allotment

• A distribution of budget authority to an execution level accounting entity. It authorizes the incurrence of obligation with a specified amount. Sub-allotment may be used to further subdivide the budget authority.

Background Processing

• Lower priority system tasks that can be processed in the background, while the user works interactively, via the monitor screen, on higher priority tasks.

Billing Document Flow

• The sequence of unique documents from order to financials. For example, sales order, delivery, debit memo, billing and invoice.

Billing Type

• Invoices, credit memos, debit memos and cancellation documents.

Budget Object

• The budget object is an element of the budget structure. It comprises a combination of fund, fund center and commitment item. Budget can be allocated this combination.

Budgetary Accounts

• Accounts in the United States Standard General Ledger (USSGL) that record the appropriation, appointment, allocation, commitment, obligation and expenditure process.
Cost Center

- A unit of the organization from a costing perspective; used to collect costs and to track and manage costs for responsibility segments of the Army.

Expenses

- For purposes of this topic, expenses equal disbursements + increases in accounts payables.

Foreground Processing

- System tasks that are processed at a high priority by a user, interactively via the monitor screen.

Functional Area

- Functional area is an FM budget object defined as a funds control element as well as an element to capture execution data. All funds will be distributed to the highest level functional area (i.e., Army) and will be further delineated to specific functional areas for the execution of funds.

Fund

- The Fund master record is a separate and distinct fiscal/accounting object containing a self-balancing set of accounts used to budget and control costs and to identify the source and the use of funding. The Fund is the lowest level at which a balance sheet can be created.

Funded Program

- Master data in the Funds Management module that tracks execution of funding for specific programs or projects. Utilizes a 24 character alphanumeric field where the numbering scheme is dependent upon the project.

Funds Center

- The Funds Center record contains information about specific organizational elements in the Army that are authorized to receive, distribute, and manage funds. Utilizes a 13 character alphanumeric code for identification.

G/L Balances

- Amounts resulting from the difference between the debit and credit side of an account.

General Ledger Account Master

- A data record containing information that controls how data is entered into a G/L account and how that account is managed.
Internal Order

- A cost object that can be used to plan, collect and settle costs of special projects or tasks within an organization.

Multiple Posting Periods

- When working with multiple entities across distant time zones, the determination of when to open/close posting is carefully analyzed. Many factors are considered including locations, time-zones, system date and work processes.

Obligation

- Legal reservation of funds by the federal government that will result in outlays, immediately or in the future. Budgetary resources must be available before obligations can be legally incurred.

Period Closing in Material Management

- Transferring material stocks to Profit Center Accounting in the course of closing operations in Materials Management.

Period End Close Business Rules

- Typically include policies and cut-off dates for P/E Closing.

Period-End Close Master Schedule

- Typically includes specific dates and times to perform P/E Close activities.

Period-End Close

- This process in Funds Management allows the tracking of encumbrance of funds during the period end or fiscal year end in order to control any adjustments that need to be made to the selected fund/fund center (UIC).

Posting Period

- A period within a fiscal year, such as a particular month, for which GCSS-Army transaction figures are updated. Every GCSS-Army transaction that is posted is assigned to a particular posting period. The transaction figures are then updated for this period.

Posting Periods in Cost Management

- Closing the previous CM period locks out settlement, allocations and activities from posting in the prior period. Only one CM period should be open for posting at a time.
Posting Periods in Financials

• Closing/Opening FI periods control accounting periods that are open for financial posting. Only one FI period should be open for posting at a time, except posting periods 13-16 at year-end.

Primary Cost Elements

• A cost or revenue-relevant item in the chart of accounts, for which a corresponding general ledger (G/L) account exists in Financial Accounting (FI).

Project System

• Optimizes business processes from project planning to carrying out the project; and enables a project progress analysis. You can plan, execute and control projects in a target-orientated and a business fashion.

Projects

• A major part of the internal processes of an organization and are structured according to the project work.

Proprietary Accounts

• Accounts in the USSGL that contain records of the receipts of funds from the U.S. Treasury and the proper classification of assets, liabilities and net position.

Reimbursable Sales Order

• Required in order to accumulate the costs and produce a bill. The sales order must reference a WBSE for cost collection and billing.

Resource Related Billing (RRB)

• Accumulates the expenses for a WBSE incurred in each period that can be invoiced.

Schedule Manager (SCMA)

• A function that enables, or simplifies, the definition, scheduling, execution and control of periodically recurring tasks, such as period-end closing.

Secondary Cost Element

• Internal allocation account not associated with a GL account. Example: Labor Charge – REG
Settlement Rules

- Rules that determine the portions of equipment maintenance costs that are settled/transfered to a cost receiver (cost center or WBSE). Examples: equipment maintenance work orders within the command structure or equipment maintenance work orders for reimbursable sales orders.