

# ENGINEERING, FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND PROCUREMENT

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## Biomedical Equipment Maintenance

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### Device Codes

Device codes are the key to Air Force-wide tracking of medical device types and the scheduled maintenance program for medical equipment. Using the ECRI universal nomenclature system as a foundation, the AFMLO Clinical Equipment and Maintenance Team has assigned unique device codes for non-medical equipment, test equipment, and Aeromedical evacuation equipment. Additionally, maintenance intervals for both active and stored medical treatment facilities and literals to assist the technician during a PM/Cal are monitored by AFMLO. The system is not yet perfected, as hospitals expand their service by buying new equipment, new device codes are added to the list. These updates are only available on the AFMLO web site. New device code and literals will be listed in future editions of the AFMLL.

### Obtaining New Device Codes

The Device Code Program is managed by AFMLO and is critical to the JCAHO accreditation process. Therefore, it is imperative that new device codes are not arbitrarily assigned and added to the Medical Logistics (MEDLOG) system. If you have a requirement for a new device code, please contact TSgt Stephen Walker, AFMLO/FOM-E. You must provide the recommended literal number(s), from the list at Attachment 1, before a device code is assigned. AFI 41-201 will be updated in the near future to reflect these changes.

### Loading New Device Codes to MEDLOG

To add a new device code, you must complete a SMR (Establish/Revise Scheduled Maintenance Record) transaction. This transaction allows you to modify, add and delete device codes. This is also the transaction for modifying the literal codes. **Attachment 1** shows the date fields for this transaction. Limited information for this document is available on the SSG web-site at:

<http://www.ssg.gunter.af.mil/medsys/medlog/index.html>

A current listing of device codes is available on the AFMLO web-site and a copy has been mailed to each account. If you do not receive a copy by 15 June or if you have any questions regarding device codes, please contact TSgt Stephen Walker. (AFMLO/FOM-E, TSgt Stephen Walker, DSN 343-4039, E-mail: [walkers@ftdetrck-cmail.army.mil](mailto:walkers@ftdetrck-cmail.army.mil))

## Electrical Cable Assembly Set (ECAS) Replacement Program

On 20 Mar 98, HQ AMC/SGX removed all ECAS from service due to potential shock and fire hazards associated with the ECAS AC adapters, part numbers 8564034-10, C-130/141B; and 8564034-30, C-130 (reference HQ AMC/DOV message 202254Z Mar 98, FCIF # 98-02-14). AFMLO is currently in the process of procuring new AC adapters to replace the defective parts. Beginning on or about 1 Jun 98, AFMLO Operating Location 2 (OL-2) will begin shipping new ECAS to all AE units. Initial distribution will provide a one-for-one exchange of new ECAS for those currently on hand for the following assemblages: All active-duty and AFRC/ANG inflight kits (Project Codes XA-XZ, YA-YZ), all active duty MASF (Project Codes RA-RF), and all first increment AFRC/ANG MASF (Project Codes RA).

Upon receipt of the new ECAS, functional managers are required to ship all old ECAS on hand (including all old pigtailed and all cables and testers) to OL-2 at the following address:

Air Force Medical Logistics Office/OL-2  
501 Felix Street, P.O. 6627, Warehouse 6  
Fort Worth, Texas 76115-0627

It is imperative that each FM return the old ECAS to OL-2 as soon as possible after receipt of new sets. The ECAS must be returned to OL-2 for refurbishment in order to meet the remainder of our aeromedical evacuation requirements.

This initial distribution is intended to be a one-for-one exchange only for those items currently on hand for the assemblages noted above. Remaining ECAS will be replaced during the second phase of distribution. In the event the number of ECAS shipped to the FM exceed the number on hand for previously identified assemblages, or the number received is less than those on hand for the identified assemblages, immediately notify HQ AMC/SGXR, Maj Ewing or MSgt Parr, DSN 576-

5070. In order to ensure all requirements are met, please report any discrepancies as soon as possible. (HQ AMC, Maj John Ewing, DSN 576-5070, E-mail: [ewingr@hqamc.safb.af.mil](mailto:ewingr@hqamc.safb.af.mil))

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## Career Advisor's Corner

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### Call for Instructors

There is an immediate need for committed, willing noncommissioned officers (NCOs) for instructor duty. The current requirements are primarily for SSgts with at least an Associate degree. Anyone desiring to help the career field during this critical time is encouraged to apply. Instructor duty at Sheppard AFB TX not only enhances your technical background, but also provides excellent opportunities for civilian education and professional growth. Information on AETC Technical Instructor duty is available in the Specialty Category Guide located in your local Military Personnel Flight (MPF) office (previously Consolidated Base Personnel Office (CBPO)). Interested personnel are encouraged to contact SSgt McCain, Medical Staffing and Training Branch, Randolph AFB TX at DSN 487-3548, or e-mail: [annmarie.mccain@randolph.af.mil](mailto:annmarie.mccain@randolph.af.mil)

Instructor duty in the BMET courses will afford members the opportunity to work with sister Service professionals in the same career field, as a result of full consolidation of BMET training, as well as certification and educational opportunities for career enhancement. If you have any questions, or need assistance completing your package, feel free to contact Capt Weaver or MSgt Coulter, DSN 736-4010 or 736-4011 respectively, or your local MPF. (AFMLO/FOM, CMSgt Alan Christian, DSN 343-4040)

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## Special Section on the Year 2000

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### The Year 2000 Challenge

By now, you should have been exposed to the Year 2000 problem, either through email traffic, your base or local newspaper, the national news, or some other means. With less than 600 days until the year 2000 is upon us, the pressure to identify non-compliant equipment and either repair, replace, or retire the equipment is growing. As the number of days dwindle, the demands on equipment suppliers is bound to grow so identifying equipment that requires some sort of fix as quickly as possible is essential. The Air Force Medical Service should share a mutual goal of no equipment failures due to Year 2000 related problems. Medical Facilities Managers should be actively assuring that all real property installed equipment (RPIE) and other gray area equipment, i.e., security systems, nurse call systems, medical gas alarms, duress alarms, telephone appointment systems, telephone switches, etc., have been accounted for. Nothing must be left to chance.

Although Base Civil Engineering is responsible for surveying and assessing your RPIE items, you must take a hands-on approach in this effort and partner with them to ensure nothing is omitted.

Two Internet web site addresses are provided that contain manufacturer compliance information and may help with your Year 2000 compliance efforts. The first contains copies or links of compliance letters the Air Force Civil Engineers have collected, the second is a General Service Administration (GSA) database of compliance information. The web addresses are as follows:

<http://www.afcesa.af.mil/AFCESA/CompSupport/y2k/y2khome.htm>

[http://globe.lmi.org/lmi\\_pbs/y2kproducts](http://globe.lmi.org/lmi_pbs/y2kproducts)

Even though an item may be listed as compliant on the GSA page, AFMLO suggests you contact the manufacturer's POC and ask about getting a compliance letter. (AFMLO/FOM-F, Capt Robert Zak, DSN 343-4031)

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## Quality Assurance

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### Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Recalls/Alert Notices

**Attachment 2**, paragraph 1, provides information on FDA medical equipment recalls and alerts. Personnel from clinical engineering, biomedical equipment maintenance, quality assurance, and safety should follow the guidance provided to ensure the effective maintenance and management of medical equipment. (AFMLO/FOM-P, Capt David Zemkosky, DSN 343-4028)

### Type III Materiel Complaints - Information Exchange

A summary of the most recent medical materiel complaints involving medical equipment is listed below. This summary is provided for information only. Please note the complaints *are not validated*. They do not constitute a recall, nor do they require you to perform the sort of inspection and reporting associated with equipment hazards. If you have experienced a similar problem locally, please submit an SF 380 in accordance with AFMAN 23-110, Volume 5, Chapter 19. It is important that we receive documentation of equipment problems since severity and the number of separate complaints received frequently judges impact of a materiel defect.

***Infusion Pumps, MDC 13215, Epidural Pump 11010, Model 13960, Abbott Laboratories, Inc.***

An activity reports malfunctions that completely disabled the units on three separate occasions over a six-month period. Symptoms included:

- 1) No power to the unit in either AC or battery mode
- 2) A constantly sounding alarm with an error 8 displayed on the LCD
- 3) A constant sounding alarm with an error 9 displayed on the LCD

These symptoms were reported during pre-operative inspections, not during use on patients. The manufacturer stated these malfunctions occur because of incompatible software with the microprocessor on the APM board. Software has been upgraded with current versions to resolve the malfunctions. The manufacturer also recommended replacing the APM board, part number 101808, at a cost of \$367. The affected units were in service for less than four years and the manufacturer agreed to replace the pumps free of charge. (AFMLO/FOM-E, Capt David Zemkosky, DSN 343-4028)

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## **Medical Equipment Management**

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### **Shared Procurement Equipment Items Currently Available**

AFMLL 04-97, Attachment 1, pages 1 and 2, contains a list of all current Shared Procurement contracts and optional contracts available through the Defense Supply Center Philadelphia (DSCP). If you plan to order any of these items for your facility, use the specific ordering instructions and overall program guidance contained in AFMLL 04-96, pages CE-4 and CE-5. (AFMLO/FOM-P, Capt David Zemkosky, DSN 343-4028)

### **“Piggyback” Contracts Currently Available**

AFMLL 16-96, Attachment 1, pages 4 and 5, contains a list of all current “piggyback” contracts currently available through DSCP. These contracts will allow facilities to “piggyback” requirements onto existing orders placed for specific quantities. Many of these contracts are designed to buy large quantities at reduced prices, and are written with the option of buying additional quantities at the same price. The list includes available quantities and “Order By” dates. To order, send your MILSTRIP requisitions to DSCP, and reference the contract number (from the listing) in the notes section. (AFMLO/FOM-P, Capt David Zemkosky, DSN 343-4028)

WILLIAM H. HILL  
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