
DSAMS—Information Serving Security Assistance

By

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INTRODUCTION

The Defense Security Assistance Management System (DSAMS) is a Department of Defense (DoD) standard system operating under a modern information technology infrastructure encompassing the migration and reuse of selected features of existing Security Assistance systems. Incorporating an extensive analysis of the Security Assistance business area and its processes, DSAMS will provide a set of standardized, improved, streamlined, and optimized services. This article provides background on the DSAMS project, discusses the project's evolution, reviews the current status, and provides a look toward the future. The focus is on the business aspects of the system, with all of the functional areas being discussed. It also provides a limited technical description of the hardware, software, and communications architecture.

The DSAMS state-of-the-art technology and suite of applications will provide the backbone for security assistance information needs for the 21st century. It will assure availability of timely and accurate data, beginning with the initial request for a security assistance case, continue through the provision of goods and services, and culminate with the final closeout certification of that case. Rigorous tracking of logistics and financial status as requisitions are released, goods shipped, services performed, and actions billed will be included. The result is a system of benefit to security assistance customers, the Military Departments, and the Department of Defense.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Defense Security Assistance Agency (DSAA) is the principal DoD Agency responsible for administering and executing the Security Assistance Program under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, and the Arms Export Control Act of 1976, as amended. DSAA is a separate agency of the DoD under direction, authority, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, and receives policy direction and staff supervision from the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs.

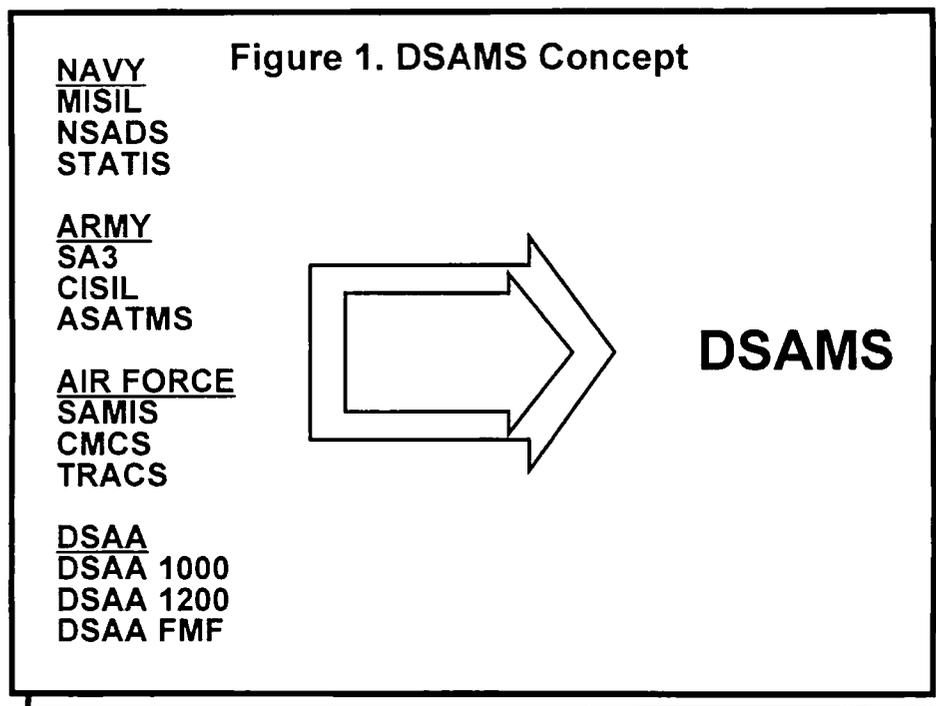
Historically, each Military Department (MILDEP) within the DoD developed, operated, and maintained its own security assistance systems. Over the years these systems grew old, and costs to maintain and modernize them grew as well. To reduce these costs, improve customer support and responsiveness, conform to year 2000 requirements, and field a standard security assistance system across DoD, DSAA established DSAMS as an automated system for security assistance management DoD-wide. A Program Management Office (PMO) within DSAA is assigned responsibility to engineer, design, develop, field and maintain the DSAMS. Initial planning for the project began in late 1994. Over the next two and a half years the project moved at a rapid pace, and continues to do so today.

CONCEPT

DSAMS will use the best features from existing DoD security assistance systems and available Commercial-Off-The-Shelf (COTS) software packages, and will integrate SA processing into a single standard system. The strategy for the development of the DSAMS calls

for a phased implementation replacing all or part of existing MILDEP systems used for managing security assistance. These systems are:

- The Navy's Management Information System for International Logistics (MISIL), Navy Security Assistance Data System (NSADS), and Student Training and Tracking Information System (STATIS)
- The Air Force's Security Assistance Management Information System (SAMIS), Case Management Control System (CMCS), and Training Control System (TRACS)
- The Army's Security Assistance Automation, Army (SA3), Centralized Integrated System for International Logistics (CISIL), and Army Security Assistance Training Management System (ASATMS)
- The DSAA's 1000, 1200 and Foreign Military Financing (FMF) Credit systems



GOAL AND BENEFITS

DSAA's goal is to accrue maximum benefit to the DoD security assistance business area by replacing MILDEP-specific, functionally redundant legacy systems with the consolidation of security assistance processing into one common system.

Benefits

- Reduction of system operation and maintenance costs by consolidating ADP sites, eliminating redundant licensing fees, utilizing a single system, and optimizing communication between user sites.
- Improved and enhanced services and information processing for users and security assistance customers.

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- Near real-time dissemination and implementation of policies affecting security assistance case development and management through centralization of reference data and business rules.
 - Establishment of standard business processes across all DoD security assistance organizations to the extent possible.
 - Modernization of the technology base for security assistance to take advantage of new technology.

DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The original DSAMS conceptual plan called for the support of six core business processes. As system design matured these processes evolved into the current planned functional processes listed below. As analysis and design of the system continues we anticipate additional changes in direction and functionality.

Functional Processes

- Case development, approval, and acceptance
- Case implementation
- Foreign Military Training
- Case execution
- Performance reporting, customer billing, and reimbursement
- Case reconciliation and closure

Foreign military training will be integrated into other DSAMS modules where functional similarities exist, with a separate module to accommodate singular requirements. Security assistance unique finance and accounting functions, originally planned as part of the DSAMS effort, are under the stewardship of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) and will be included in their systems modernization efforts with interfaces to DSAMS. However, some functional processes will include financial management and case accounting functions.

System Development Strategy

For each of the business processes, the systems development strategy encompasses both traditional and more modern system design activities:

- Re-engineer and Standardize Business Processes
- Define Functional Requirements
- Design and Modify the Logical Data Base
- Define Business Rules
- Design and Modify the Physical Data Base
- Design the Application
- Identify, Develop, and Deploy DoD Standard System and MILDEP Legacy System Interfaces

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- Develop Conversion Programs for Populating DSAMS with Legacy System data
 - Conduct User Reviews for Screen Design and Logic
 - Unit and System Testing by the Developer
 - Three Levels of User Testing
 - Initial Operational Capability (IOC)
 - Phased Installation and Implementation
 - Full Operational Capability (FOC)

Classification

DSAMS is an unclassified system. It provides a logically separated view of case data for the MILDEP and a single physical representation to support DSAA visibility requirements.

PROJECT ORGANIZATION

A Program Manager and support staff of Computer Specialists, Program Analysts, and Logistics Management Specialists manage the project. The Project Management Office (PMO) is located in Crystal City, Virginia, at DSAA.

Current design and development for DSAMS is by BDM, Incorporated, and Price Waterhouse utilizing the Defense Enterprise Integration Services (DEIS) contract sponsored by the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA). The contractor is supported by a cadre of Government systems analysts and programmers working directly with the contractor in Falls Church, Virginia, and at the Defense Security Assistance Development Center (DSADC). The DSADC is a DSAA activity physically located at the Naval Inventory Control Point (NAVICP), Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, and is under the operational control of the PMO.

DSAA will capitalize individuals from the MILDEPs involved in SA system design, development, implementation, and maintenance to staff the DSADC and augment the PMO staff. Their responsibilities will include data base administration, help desk, new development and maintenance of DSAMS, and maintenance of the MILDEP legacy systems. The DSADC will play a significantly more important role as design and development shifts from the contractor to the DSADC.

The role of the MILDEPs in DSAMS development is highlighted by the business process expertise provided by groups of Subject Matter Experts (SME), composed of multi-talented individuals that meet to accomplish a specific part of the system development effort. Many are involved in more than one aspect. The CDM involves over 100 individuals. The Case Implementation, Training, and Case Execution modules bring the total to nearly 300 SME directly involved with DSAMS development.

Within the DoD, senior security assistance officials, known as the Counterparts, meet regularly to discuss current security assistance issues. The group receives updates on the DSAMS project, and when needed, provides decisions on important issues.

An Executive Steering Committee (ESC), established in September 1995, provides independent managerial oversight, advice and consent to the Counterparts and PMO in design, development, and implementation of DSAMS. It meets quarterly and is chaired by the DSAA Comptroller. The membership consists of senior civilian and military leaders from each of the services, DFAS, Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), and the training community.

The DSAMS Configuration Control Board (CCB), established in November 1995, provides program oversight and configuration control for DSAMS and the MILDEP Legacy Systems. It is composed of technical and functional managers from the MILDEPs, DFAS, and the training community. It meets quarterly and is chaired by the Program Manager.

PROJECT EVOLUTION

Data Processing Collocation

An early objective of DSAMS was the collocation of the MILDEP data processing centers running the legacy systems to a single location that would also host DSAMS. Extensive technical and economic analysis led to a decision late in 1994 to locate at the Defense Megacenter (DMC) Oklahoma City. Over a period of several months, each of the MILDEPs and DSAA moved their processing to the DMC. The move to Oklahoma City was completed in early 1996. This effort resulted in substantial monetary savings primarily through optimization of communications and decreased software costs. The MILDEPs retain management of their legacy systems through remote access.

Conceptual Design

The BDM Enterprise Integration Team, working with DSAA and the MILDEPs, developed a Conceptual Design Document (CDD) documenting the functionality required for security assistance management DoD-wide. The resulting CDD includes automated, automatable, and manual processes that were derived from an analysis of existing security assistance systems and through joint working sessions to develop joint functional process requirements.

Development

The size of the effort required that it be divided into phases for development. The first phase includes design of the logical and physical data base, development of system standards, and development of the first module. Subsequent phases will modify the data base and add modules as defined in the CDD.

The BDM Team began working on the Phase I DSAMS development in November 1995. This team was augmented by Government personnel in June, 1996. Phase I includes the development, testing, and implementation of Case Development functionality as defined in the Operational Concept Description (OCD). Phase I is currently projected to extend through December 1997. Table 1 provides a historical perspective of DSAMS.

Table 1. DSAMS Historical Perspective
1994

September	ADP Site Migration Planning Starts
November	Cost Analysis for Consolidating MILDEP CDAs
December	Defense Megacenter (DMC), Oklahoma City chosen as Single Site

Table 1. DSAMS Historical Perspective (continued)**1995**

January	Air Force Migrates to DMC-OK
January	MILDEP Tiger Teams for SAIMS
February	First Delivery Order against DEIS Contract with BDM/PW
March	Reports of Discrepancy Standardization Starts
March	Data calls to MILDEPs
April - May	MILDEP Business Process Analysis
April - May	MILDEP Systems Analysis
July	Organization, Staffing, and Capitalization Plans Developed
August	LTG Rhame, Director, DSAA approved DSAMS
August	Conceptual Design Document
August	Temporary PMO Established; augmented with 8 MILDEP reps
September	First ESC meeting
September- Feb 96	Case Development Standardization
September-Jan 97	Training Standardization
November	DSAMS General Design Document
November	Second Delivery Order against DEIS Contract with BDM/PW

1996

February - April	Case Development Module (CDM) Functional Requirements
April - September	Prototype Development of CDM
May	Defense Integrated Financial System (DIFS) Migrates to DMC-OK
May	DSAMS Logical Data Base Developed
May	DSAMS Physical Data Base Developed
May	CDM Operational Concept Document
July	CDM Interface Design Document
July	Reports Of Discrepancy Functional Requirements Completed
October	DSAMS Initialized at DMC-OK
October	Case Execution Standardization Begins
October	PMO Augmentation continued
October -Jan 97	Construction of CDM Application
November	Third Delivery Order with BDM/PW
December	Interim Defense Security Assistance Development Center Established

1997

February - April	CDM User Testing
February	Training Functional Requirements Completed
March	Pilot DSAMS Training Course Completed
April - May	Train the Trainer Courses at DISAM
April	Initial Operational Capability (IOC) at U.S. Army Missile Command
April	Capitalization Memorandum Signed by DEPSECDEF
May - November	DSAMS User Training at MILDEP locations
June	Begin Analysis and Design of Case Implementation Module
June	Begin Analysis and Design of Training Module

**Table 1. DSAMS Historical Perspective (continued)
1997 (continued)**

June	Field Release 2.0 of DSAMS at All Operational Sites 1997 and 1998 Planned Events Field Additional Releases of DSAMS Formal Establishment of CDA Establish Navy Initial Operational Capability Establish Air Force Operational Capability Complete Case Execution Standardization Develop Case Execution Functional Requirements Field Case Implementation Module
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SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

System Modules

The planned modules of DSAMS support core business processes for management of the security assistance program. Key financial management requirements are integrated into the modules, while DFAS managed systems security assistance finance and accounting functions will interface to DSAMS. The Case Development Module will interface directly with the legacy systems for its financial requirements until additional DSAMS modules are developed and DFAS fields its new Installation, Departmental and Corporate accounting systems.

Case Development Module (CDM)

The CDM will provide functionality from the entry of an initial request through the development of a Letter of Offer and Acceptance and changes resulting in a Modification or an Amendment. The CDM also initializes centralized Reference Tables and a Workflow application that will be used in other modules. Enhancements to the CDM will include additional functionality to support other security assistance programs such as Leases, Excess Defense Articles, and Drawdowns. Areas currently supported by the CDM are:

- Receive and process a request for goods or services;
- Prepare the appropriate response, such as a Letter of Offer and Acceptance, including pricing and financial calculations;
- Review, coordinate, and approve the response at various levels;
- Record customer approval and respond with appropriate changes if required;
- Monitor and supervise the case development process through workflow, case audit and validation, standard, and ad hoc queries and reports; and,
- Maintain centralized reference information.

Case Implementation Module (CIM)

The CIM covers the process of receipt of customer acceptance through issuance of implementing directions to the case manager and performing activity. This process has completed standardization and development of functional requirements. Design and development began in June 1997. Areas included in the CIM are:

- Process the customer acceptance and implement the case;

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- Process customer collections and transfer administrative fee;
 - Establish funding ceiling; and,
 - Issue implementation direction.

Training Module (TM)

The Training Module is unique in that it contains functionality from all of the other modules. Due to the unique nature of training, DSAMS planners early chose to handle it as a separate module. The Training Standardization Working Group (TSWG) defined training processes and functional requirements and reported to the Training Standardization Team (TST). The Functional Requirements were completed in February 1997 and Design and Development will begin in August 1997. The Training Module will handle non-FMS Training such as International Military Education and Training (IMET) and International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INL), and will include the following functionality:

- Case Development: tuition pricing, quota management, planning
- Case Implementation: financial authority, transfer Obligational Authority, site surveys
- Case Execution: operational (country program) managers, Security Assistance Officers (SAOs), IMSOs, financial
- Performance Reporting: report performance, feedback reporting, Navy-collection voucher
- Reconciliation and Closure: notifications, reports, reconciliation, tracking, archiving

Case Execution Module (CEM)

The CEM is the most exhaustive of the DSAMS modules. It covers the myriad of processes from preparation of project directives or requisitions through the completion of item deliveries or performance of services. The Case Execution Working Group (CEWG) is a large group of SME working to standardize this function. They have been meeting since October, 1996 and will conclude in the Fall, 1997 with a comprehensive set of functional requirements. Included in this module is the Supply Discrepancy Report (SDR) process. The SDR function, previously known as Report of Discrepancy or ROD, was addressed early in the DSAMS evolution because one service had already completed a substantial amount of work on it, and fielded a new application using expert system technology. The CEM will also include access to DSAMS data by security assistance customers. Typical features of the CEM are:

- Prepare and issue project directives;
- Order processing;
- Order fulfillment including issuing requisitions and contracts;
- Delivery of goods and services;
- Access to DSAMS data by security assistance customers; and,
- Processing the case into supply or service complete status.

Performance Reporting Module (PRM)

The PRM will be developed as a separate module, although much of its functionality is performed during case execution. It will also rely heavily on its interfaces to DFAS standard systems. It includes performance reporting, reimbursement for costs incurred, and billing of the customer. Functions this module will perform include:

- Reporting performance including progress payments to contractors;
- Processing reported performance and reimbursement; and,
- Customer billing.

Reconciliation And Closure Module (RCM)

The RCM covers those actions necessary to close a case once it is logistically and financially complete. It will include:

- Reconciliation of logistics and financial records;
- Resolving open RODs and other discrepancies; and,
- Closing the case.

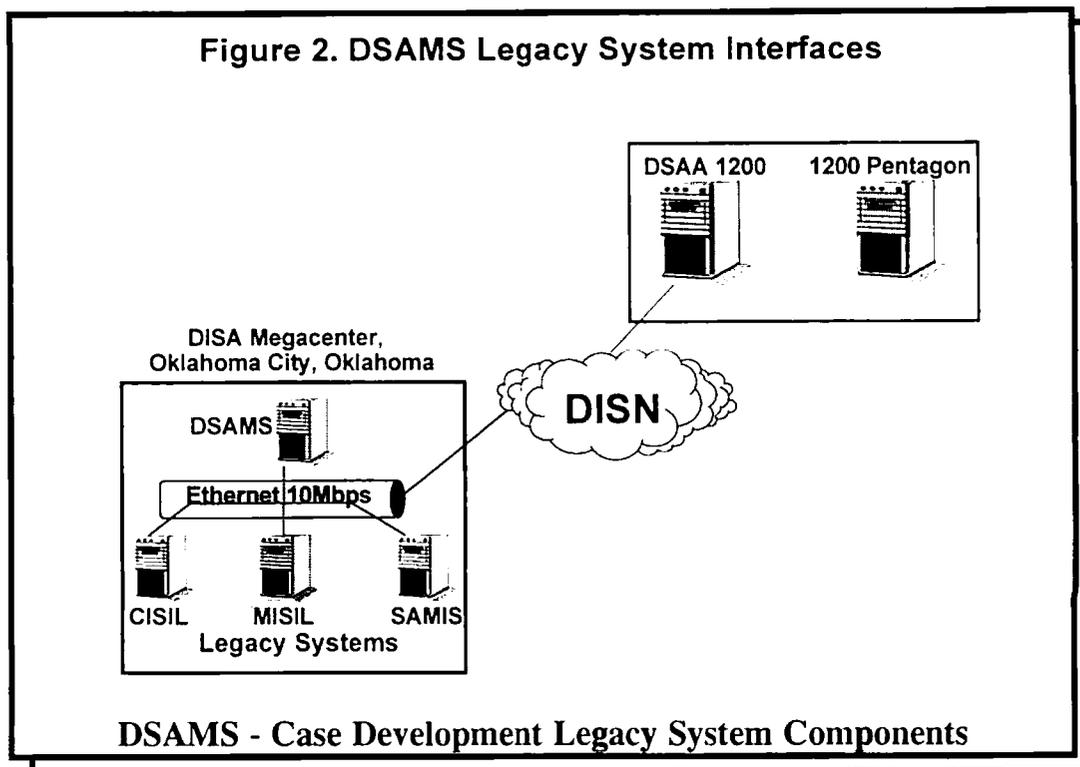
Legacy System Interfaces

DSAMS interfaces encompass two distinct components: (1) maintenance of the data communications that currently exist between the legacy systems and other external systems, and (2) the development of new interfaces between the DSAMS CDM and the existing legacy systems. Only minor changes are required to existing interfaces. Figure 2 represents the DSAMS interface architecture. The DSAMS CDM will send data to and accept data from four legacy systems. These are new interfaces resulting from DSAMS CDM replacing part of the functionality of the legacy systems. Interfaces are automated to allow the transmission process to be triggered at regular time intervals or by an on-line user request.

SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

Application Software

DSAMS development uses several application software development tools. User interface and on-line processing utilize Forté, which consists of a fourth generation language (4GL), a Graphical User Interface (GUI) designer, and various system generation and distribution facilities. The DSAMS application infrastructure is also being developed using Forté. DSAMS CDM standard response documents, management reports, and the ad-hoc reporting facility use Oracle Reports and Impromptu reporting tools focused on the end user. On-line help is provided using Doc-to-Help.



The database functions are supported by Oracle and take advantage of several Oracle features as well as ANSI SQL standard capabilities, such as referential integrity, key constraints, database record locking, triggers, and stored procedures. The Perl language is used for development of external interface programs. Forté runs on both the client and server. The DSAMS design took advantage of this by designing the application so that functions which more appropriately should run on the client, such as window management, memory management, and immediate data validation, will execute on the client, while functions requiring database access and calculation-heavy processing will be executed on the server.

The DSAMS application uses an object oriented approach for software development. The design takes advantage of key features of object oriented design and allows for segregation of functions on the client and the server. Standards for the DSAMS software design were developed and incorporated into the software design process. These standards encompass naming conventions; formatting of code; window visual design standards, including the use of widgets, field labels, buttons, folder tabs, etc.; and other requirements for design and development of the application software.

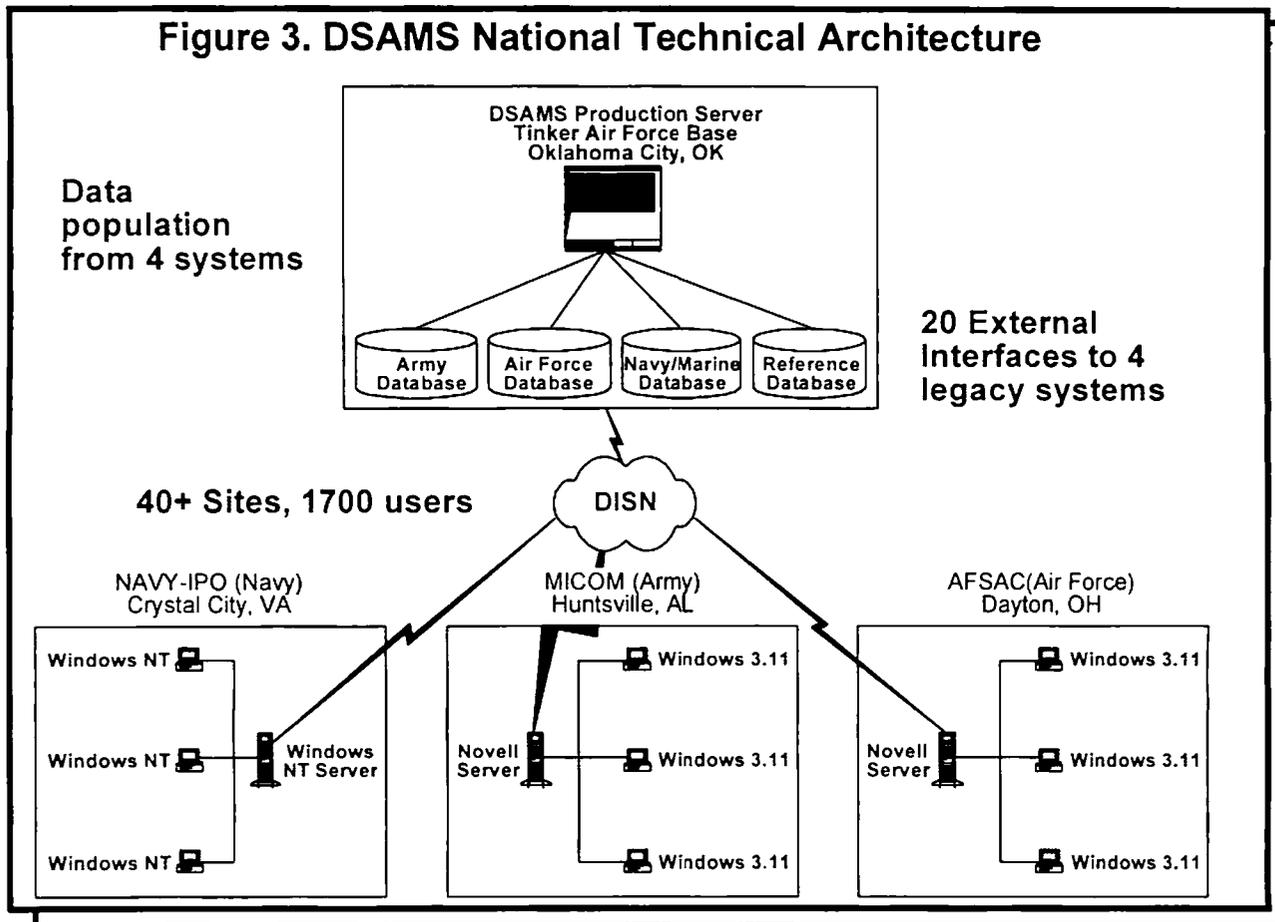
The DSAMS CDM consists of a single Computer Software Configuration Item (CSCI), subdivided into several major components. Each of the components consists of separate pieces of the software, identified as Computer System Units (CSU). The CSUs are the basis for user access privileges. The primary components are: User interface and On-Line processing; Application infrastructure; Reporting subsystem; Batch Interface Processing; and Database management system.

Technical Architecture

A combined BDM/PW and government team defined the technical architecture for the system and DSAA procured the hardware. The development server is at the BDM Team loca-

tion in Falls Church, Virginia, and the production server hardware is at the Defense Mega-center (DMC), Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Eventually the development server will transition to the DSADC at Mechanicsburg, PA. At the client sites, workstations and supporting hardware and software will be reused, upgraded or replaced to meet minimum standards. Current plans include over 1700 users at 40 sites throughout the United States. Sites vary in size from a few users to several hundred. Figure 3 is a notional diagram of the DSAMS architecture. Legacy data will be converted from four existing service systems to populate the DSAMS CDM data base. Interfaces to the legacy systems will provide information needed for case execution, and provide DSAMS information needed for case development.

Figure 3. DSAMS National Technical Architecture

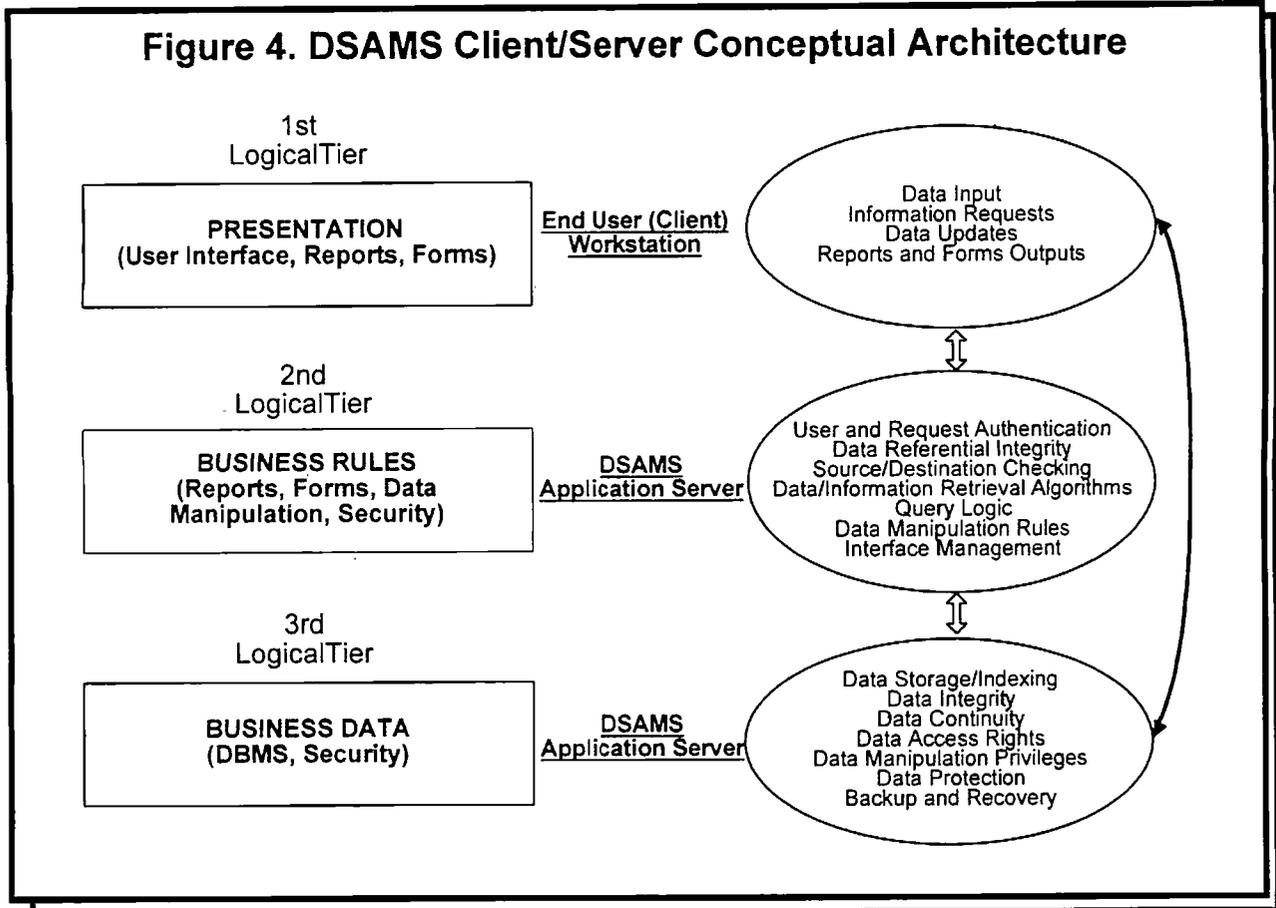


Client/Server Hardware And Software

DSAMS implements the client/server architecture by using a two-tier physical and three-tier logical approach as portrayed in Figure 4. Forte' will allow DSAMS to transition to the more traditional three-tier physical architecture in the future. The server functions as the application and data base server and handles centralized processing. The DSAMS client provides the Graphical User Interface (GUI) to the application and data base, and furnishes response document and report printing, and ad hoc query tools.

The server handles all user requests for DSAMS CDM data. It is connected to the DMC Local Area Network (LAN) through the assignment of an Internet Protocol (IP) address; all clients can access the server. Specifications for the server are in Table 2. The DSAMS client hardware is a PC. The client architecture allows the end user to (1) Interact with the DSAMS

the GUI interface at a normal resolution, (2) maintain compatibility with networking services, (3) access Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS) word processing, spreadsheet, and report writer packages, and (4) use other applications installed on the client. Productivity software must reside on the client machine or a LAN servicing the client for DSAMS to take full advantage of COTS integration. Table 3 identifies the ideal DSAMS Client; however DSAMS will run in a lesser configuration, and will be doing so at many of the user sites.



Item	Function
HP 9000 T520	Main Platform with multiple Processors, 1 Gigabyte of memory, CD-ROM, DAT tape drive, 160 Gigabytes of RAID5 technology Disk Storage.
ANSI C++ Compiler	To support Forte application
HP-UX	UNIX Operating System
Forte	Application Interface Between Client And Server
SQL*Net	Data Base Connectivity
Oracle	Data Base Management System

Table 1. DSAMS Server Hardware and Executive Hardware

Hardware	Software
Pentium 133 or 166 MHz	Windows NT or Windows 95
32 MB RAM	MS Office Professional 4.3 or higher
1 GB IDE Hard Drive	MS TCP/IP software
3.5" 1.44 MB diskette drive	Forté Application Software
CD-ROM	Oracle Reports - Report Writer
17" SVGA 1024x768 resolution	Impromptu - Ad Hoc Query Tool
	SQL*Net - Data Base Connectivity

Table 2. DSAMS Client Ideal Hardware and Software

Telecommunications

Most users will access DSAMS through the Defense Integrated Switched Network (DISN). Communications between the client and the server are handled through Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP). The TCP/IP protocol works across a variety of connections, and communications are virtually seamless to the user due to the inherent flexibility of the TCP/IP protocol. The DISN network is a combination of several different defense networks. The Non-Secure Internet Protocol Router Network (NIPRNET) is the main traffic path for users of the DISN. The NIPRNET is a switched telecommunications network connected through routers and multiple high speed communications links.

THE FUTURE

Operation

DSAMS will continue to operate at the DMC-OK for the foreseeable future. Data base administration and application help desk support will be the responsibility of the DSADC. Resource capitalization from the MILDEPs will allow for decreased reliance on contract support. Each service will administer its own user access program based on PMO approved plans. User groups for each module will be responsible for recommending required functional changes to keep the system current. The existing CCB and ESC structure will provide oversight and guidance.

Scheduled software releases will provide new modules, correct identified problems, and provide enhanced functionality to already fielded modules. Continual evaluation and analysis of client and server hardware, communications, and executive software upgrades will be accomplished by the DSADC with appropriate action taken based on impact and resources.

Development

Future DSAMS modules will be developed following the concepts in the OCD and GDD. Functional requirements will be reviewed and validated prior to moving to design and development by the DSADC. New development should last through the year 2000. The initial development effort includes Case Implementation, Training, deferred functionality from Case Development and interfaces to DFAS designated systems and DoD standard logistics systems. As appropriate, new versions of executive software (i.e., Oracle, Forté) will be reviewed and if fielded, changes will be made to application software to take advantage of any new or enhanced capabilities.

Enhanced Functionality

Beyond business process specific functionality, DSAMS will grow to include integrated tools that enhance user capabilities. Some of these capabilities will be introduced in Case Development, but the majority will be fielded concurrent with other modules.

- Hybrid coordination-based and document-based workflow supporting task assignment, tracking, document review and approval processing, and workload management.
- Full integration of COTS software to support creation and customization of acknowledgments and other correspondence, customization of system output, maintenance of case notes, attachments, and terms and conditions.
- Data sharing or warehousing for advanced ad hoc query and automated reporting to support detailed workflow statistics, review and analysis, and special studies and reports.
- Imaging and document management to support association of external paper correspondence, electronic mail, fax, and images within a case or in an electronic correspondence file.
- Integration of Electronic Commerce (EC), Electronic Data Interchange (EDI), and digitized signatures.

FOREIGN CUSTOMER ACCESS

DSAMS does not include direct system access by foreign customers. Access to logistics data through the STARR/PC system, access to MILDEP legacy systems or through the International Logistics Communication System (ILCS) will continue. With the implementation of the Case Execution Module, DSAMS will provide data in place of the MILDEP systems. We anticipate improved timeliness of data and an increase in the scope of data available in DSAMS, and therefore more data obtainable to the customer. As the system matures we will look at different access methods and ways to distribute data to better serve the foreign customer.

CONCLUSION

With DSAMS, the DoD security assistance community will have an integrated single system operating in a modern information technology infrastructure to serve its ever growing information needs. Users and Security Assistance customers will benefit. Redundancies will be minimized, error rates reduced, and decision support information will be improved. It will result in improved information, streamlined security assistance services, and reduction in long-term costs.

This article is not the complete authority on DSAMS, but a representation of the system at a particular point in time. As the system grows and the number of users increase, you can expect changes in both the logical and physical design. Please contact the DSAMS PMO at DSN 664-6586 or 1-703-604-6586 for additional information.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mr. Chester Jay Freedenthal wrote, compiled and edited this article with the help of co-workers in the Defense Security Assistance Management System (DSAMS) Project Management Office (PMO). It is largely based on a paper presented to the Navy International Logistics Symposium - 97 in Arlington, Virginia, in July 1997. Mr. Freedenthal is a member of the DSAMS project management staff of the Defense Security Assistance Agency in Arlington, Virginia and has worked on the DSAMS project since 1995. He has served in a myriad of logistics and automation positions in the U.S. Army Materiel Command, the U.S. Army Security Assistance Command and the Defense Security Assistance Agency. He graduated from the University of New Mexico with a BBA, and attended graduate school at the Universities of Texas and Missouri. He has attended DISAM, the Army Logistics Management College and is a 1991 graduate of the Army Management Staff College. You may contact Mr. Freedenthal at DSN 664-6586 or 1-703-604-6586 or email <chester.freedenthal@osd.pentagon.mil>.

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

You may find the following glossary of abbreviations and acronyms helpful in understanding this article:

4GL	Fourth Generation Language
ASATMS	Army Security Assistance Training Management System
CISIL	Centralized Integrated System for Integrated Logistics
CDA	Central Design Agency/Activity
CDD	Conceptual Design Document
CDM	Case Development Module
CMCS	Case Management Control System
COTS	Commercial-off-the-Shelf
CSU	Computer Software Unit
DBDD	Database Design Description
DDRS	Defense Data Repository System
DEIS	Defense Enterprise Integration System
DFAS	Defense Finance and Accounting Service
DIFS	Defense Integrated Financial System
DID	Data Item Description
DISAM	Defense Institute for Security Assistance Management
DISN	Defense Integrated Switched Network
DMC	Defense Megacenter
DoD	Department of Defense
DSAA	Defense Security Assistance Agency
DSADC	Defense Security Assistance Development Center
DSAMS	Defense Security Assistance Management System
EDA	Excess Defense Articles
ERD	Entity Relationship Diagram
FMS	Foreign Military Sales
FMSCS	Foreign Military Sales Credit System
FOC	Full Operational Capability
GDD	General Design Document
GUI	Graphical User Interface
ILCS	International Logistics Communication System
IMET	International Military Education and Training
INL	International Narcotics and Law Enforcement
IOC	Initial Operational Capability
LDM	Logical Data Model
MILDEP	Military Department
MISIL	Management Information System for International Logistics
NAVICP	Navy Inventory Control Point
NSADS	Navy Security Assistance Data System
OCD	Operational Concept Description
PMO	Program Management Office
SA	Security Assistance
SA3	Security Assistance Automation, Army
SAIMS	Security Assistance Information Management System
SAMIS	Security Assistance Management Information System
SAMM	Security Assistance Management Manual
SAN	Security Assistance Network
SME	Subject Matter Expert
STATIS	Student Training and Tracking Information System
STARR/PC	Air Force sponsored system for retrieving DoD logistics data
TRACS	Training Control System