

# US Air Force Modernization Project

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**Photographs/Prints:** Upon Request to the issuer

(Florence, SC) SATIS, Inc. announces the completion of a major modernization project for the United States Air Force, Air Logistics Command (WRALC) at Robins AFB in Warner Robins, Georgia. The USAF utilized a complex mainframe database, used by engineering teams, to track the performance and status of projects involving vendor-supplied items. The data generated by the teams provide engineers with the information needed to produce and maintain high quality and highly reliable components and systems for use in the nation's defense. As many items purchased are unique and must perform under difficult conditions, the ALC used the Test Management and Control System (TMACS) to insure item compliance with purchase specifications. With thousands of projects to track and hundreds of attributes for each project, the system became unresponsive. And with the increased network traffic seen with the expansion of the command and with most desktops now with Internet access, a different approach was required.

SATIS, Inc. of Florence, SC designed and implemented a new TMACS system operating from a Web Server and using only a standard browser on the engineer's desktop to access and maintain TMACS. Due to the efficient architecture of the system, the system speed was increased, the usability of the system improved and the capability of the system enhanced. Using lower-level computer code to access the system database, along with the high-level browser code for the user interface, the training for new users will be decreased and system response improved. In addition to desktop access to the database, users may elect to save the formatted data and reports to MS Excel or a text file for further analysis. Savings to the Command are realized in increased productivity, decreased training, increased data analysis capabilities and lower maintenance costs.

According to Karen Works, Software Development Manager for SATIS, "The TMACS mainframe system was complex from the designer's and user's perspective. Our goal was to make use of the system intuitive; therefore, decreasing the training time and increasing productivity while also improving system response time. This was accomplished using software techniques that were even more complex than the original but presenting the user with a straightforward interface using a standard web browser. The burden of complexity was shifted from the user to the software developer".

The TMACS system utilizes Microsoft's SQL database, Internet Information Server, Index Server and ActiveX technologies. The core software code is written in MS C++ and the user interface was developed using MS InterDev and Front Page. Reporting functions were developed using Seagate's Crystal Reports and Microsoft's NetDDE.

*Heritage Digital is a privately held concern located in Florence, South Carolina. The company, specializing in Internet/intranet applications, database, programming and imaging and was established in 1997.*