



TLETS NEWSLETTER

Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System
Information Management Service
Telecommunications Section

Volume 29 NO. 4

Published by the Texas Department of Public Safety: Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr. Director

4th Quarter 2006

New TLETS Migration

TxDPS has placed the new TLETS system into the production environment and has begun the long anticipated process of moving member agencies onto the new TCP/IP system. The migration will take place over the next 22 months at a steady rate until September 2008. TxDPS has successfully moved more than 30 agencies onto the new system to date.

Due to the number of member agencies that must be moved onto the new TLETS system, it is imperative that several agencies move onto the new system each week. The key prerequisite to migration is the successful completion of the TxDPS security review process which can take several months to complete. The most recent version of the Security Review Packet can be downloaded from www.txdps.state.tx.us/securityreview/. At the security screen, enter the user name: **tcic2000** and case sensitive password: **mel18can2**. Questions regarding the security review packet should be directed to the TxDPS CJIS Information Security Officer, Alan Ferretti, at alan.ferretti@txdps.state.tx.us.

Agencies should recognize that TxDPS will not be able to convert all the agencies at the end of the migration period. If sufficient action is not taken by the member agencies, member agencies will be placed on a mandatory migration schedule. All member agencies are strongly encouraged to begin taking the necessary policy and budgetary steps to facilitate migration to the TCP/IP system within the CJIS Security Policy mandates as soon as possible.

Agency Configurations

TxDPS will continue to provide connectivity to the agency using the same method that is currently provided. The activities required to connect each agency to the IP network will vary significantly. In the new system, a device is equivalent to equipment that is assigned a mnemonic in the current system. In most cases, a printer will not be assigned a mnemonic; instead printing will be accomplished using a windows defined printer. A member agency will have one or more devices connected to the system. For agencies that connect across the TxDPS Satellite network, TxDPS will provide a 10.x.x.x subnet to each agency. Because of the variation in the configuration at the site, TxDPS has attempted to categorize the configurations based on devices.

Small Site refers to an agency on satellite having a single terminal or workstation. They will need a computer that meets or exceeds the specifications provided above and a standard T568b-T568a Cat5 crossover cable to connect the workstation to the satellite transceiver.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

COVER: TLETS RE-ENGINEERING 1

- 2 Re-engineering continued
- 3 Re-engineering continued
- 4 Texas Data Exchange
- 5 AMBER Alert Training - New Agencies – Training Calendar
- 6 4th Quarter TLETS Puzzler

Medium to Large Satellite Site: An agency having more than one device and is connecting to the TxDPS satellite network. The agency will provide the computer equipment for all the devices as well as networking equipment. If the agency can support the subnet provided without using Network Address Translation (NAT), then the agency need only supply a full-duplex switch having enough ports for all the devices needing connectivity. If the agency will be connecting from an IP network and cannot assign the TLETS devices with the TxDPS assigned IP addresses, they will need to use NAT. In this situation, the agency will need to incorporate a standard TCP/IP router with console access to configure NAT. In preparation for each agency's migration, TxDPS will work with the agency and provide any additional information that may be required.

Happy Holidays and New Year to all
continued page 2.

continued from page 1.

Large Terrestrial Sites: Agencies connecting to TxDPS on a terrestrial circuit will need to procure networking equipment compatible with the TLETS network. As soon as the security review packet is received by TxDPS, the agency should expect to be contacted to begin the plan for migration. TxDPS will need to work very closely with these sites during their movement onto the new system.

Workstations and Printers

TxDPS has procured a Java Application referred to as the workstation software to replace the 3270 screens in the legacy SNA environment. This application will be provided at no cost to TLETS member agencies. Each computer running the new workstation software should meet or exceed the following specifications:

- CPU/type/speed: 2 GHz
- Memory: 512 MB
- Display resolution: 1024 x 768
- Disk space available: 100 MB
- Operating system: Windows XP or 2000
- Interface: TCP/IP Network Interface Card (NIC)

The software will be installed from a CD which will be mailed to the agency once the install is scheduled. Instructions for the install will be provided as well. The agency will be required to install the software on each workstation.

Printing from within the application will be accomplished using a Windows defined printer. Printing can be accomplished in a variety of ways.

- The operator may redirect all messages received to a printer. This is equivalent to using F4 in the current 3270 environment, except the printer will not be assigned a mnemonic.
- The operator may select individual messages or groups of messages sent or received for printing. In this mode, the printer is not assigned a mnemonic. Messages are directed to the workstations and the TLETS operator is in control of what is and is not printed. This is somewhat similar to using F10 in the legacy environment.
- The operator may set the workstation software for unattended printing. Setting the workstation to this mode will log the operator out of the workstation and will log the printer onto the message switch. The workstation would remain powered up and logged in, and the printer would need to be available. An agency requiring a TLETS printer for broadcast messages only would use this methodology. This would require the existence of a PC having a windows printer attached; the PC could not be used for access to TLETS.

Telephone Survey

Once a member agency is eligible to move onto the new system, TxDPS will contact the agency and perform a comprehensive survey. The agency will need to identify a single point of contact that will be capable of obtaining the information described below for the conversion.

TLETS Operators

In the new system, TLETS will require user IDs for every operator that runs transactions through the TLETS system. The credentials of the operator will be validated and a secondary check on the training record will take place to verify that the operator has received the proper training. One of the first phases of the migration process is to identify the operators that will be using TLETS.

Prior to the migration, TxDPS will provide the migrating agency a spreadsheet containing operators that TxDPS believes are associated with the local agency. The Agency contact will be required to review the list of operators and identify additions, deletions, and corrections on the spreadsheet. TxDPS requests that the original spreadsheet remain intact with notes in the spreadsheet of changes you wish to make. TxDPS will provide detailed instructions and requests that those instructions be followed closely to facilitate the migration effort.

continued page 3.

continued from page 2

After the spreadsheet is returned to TxDPS, TxDPS will assign authorization levels (certifications) and expiration dates based on the training records it has on file. Questions related to the certification or expiration date should be directed to the Crime Records Service CIB TCIC Training at 512-424-2832 or by email <mailto:tcic.training@txdps.state.tx.us>

TxDPS will allow operators who have not received TCIC classroom training or who have failed to take the re-test in the allotted time to perform transactions for a period of 6 months in a probationary status. This should provide the agency adequate time to ensure that operators have received the required training.

Evaluation of Devices

TxDPS will review the current number of devices with the agency and identify any devices that may no longer be necessary at the agency. TxDPS will look at the number of transactions that have been run on each device for the last 6-8 months. Devices that are unused will be eliminated from the configuration. If the agency has requested additional devices in the Security Review Process, TxDPS will make every effort to accommodate that request.

Hours of Operation

Criminal Justice agencies open less than 24 hours that have records entered into TCIC/NCIC and have hit confirmations confirmed by another agency will be required to identify the mnemonic of the agency it wishes to receive its traffic during the off-hours. TxDPS will configure the system to automatically re-route traffic during the hours that the agency is closed. The agency will no longer have the ability to change routing themselves.

Radius Broadcast

The new system provides the capability for agencies to send a message to agencies within a specified distance from a central point. Most agencies that receive any broadcast message have already been configured with this capability. During the telephone survey, TxDPS will determine the device(s) that will receive such broadcasts.

Scheduled Date

TxDPS will work with each agency to determine the best date for the conversion. If the date needs to be adjusted, please notify the TLETS order center as soon as possible.

Additional Information

Please refer to the link below for additional conversion information:

http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/director_staff/information_management/tlets/reeng/reengindex.htm. At the security screen, enter username: **tlets** and the case sensitive password: **#5Et3a**.

- It is recommended that you print out the documentation before attempting connectivity and read carefully.
- Prepare your agency's equipment prior to the scheduled date. The software can be installed ahead of time, but it cannot be installed unless your equipment is successfully connected to the TLETS network.

The following documents are useful for technical staff assisting with the conversion:

- Single Workstation Setup and/or Multiple Device Connectivity Guide (Depending on the agency's configuration.)
- Workstation CD Install (TxDPS will provide software; do not attempt to install until you have a working and active connection to the Omnixx server.)

The following documents are useful for the operators using the new Java Application:

- Omnixx Force Training Manual
- Omnixx Force Shortcut Keys
- Quick Start Guide

Agencies having one or more interface connections should find the following information helpful:

- DMPP-2020 Interface Specification
- DMPP-2020 Technical Guide
- DSEO-2020 Technical Specification
- OFML Interface Specification

- DMPP-2020 Abbreviated Guide
- Encryption Example
- Rules for Interface Testing

Confirmation letter

Near the scheduled date, TxDPS will send your agency a written confirmation regarding the scheduled date for conversion and will include a Terminal Connection Report (TCR).

Help Desk

If any questions arise during or after the installation, call Network Operations at 1-800-638-5387 or TLETS Order Center, tlets_order_center@txdps.state.tx.us, 512-424-2256.

TDEx: Connecting Texas' Law Enforcement Community

Until recently, Texas law enforcement officials had no quick access to important criminal justice information. Many relied on calls to other agencies to get the information they needed, a sometimes long and cumbersome process. That is changing, now that the Governor's Division of Emergency Management and the Texas Office of Homeland Security are behind a new initiative that is already making progress in the fight against violent and organized crime. Texas Data Exchange (TDEx) is a comprehensive information sharing portal that allows criminal justice agencies to exchange jail and records management systems data.

"In this post-9-11 society, crime and terrorism are no longer discrete activities with jurisdictional boundaries," said Steve McCraw, director of the Texas Office of Homeland Security. "Law enforcement at all levels collects and stores tremendous amounts of information relevant to homeland security and public safety. This information must be shared to the widest extent possible."

The Governor's Division of Emergency Management has provided law enforcement with unlimited use of the TDEx system without costs to the agency or end users. The law enforcement community is urged to sign up and utilize this valuable information resource tool that is continually updated. TDEx may be accessed at www.tdex.state.tx.us with self-registration available online through a link on the TDEx log-in page. Users can quickly search subject or incident information across Texas and the nation and share it through one portal. Users can search current or past incarcerations in Texas jails and prisons; access more than one million booking photos from across the nation; create and view photo line ups; and search by name, physical characteristics, social security number, or vehicle.

Users can place a watch on absconders, sex offenders, suspects, and other persons of interest and be notified by e-mail when a record matching the name is entered into the TDEx database. Law enforcement can also access multi-jurisdictional reports including incident, booking, and traffic citations.

TDEx draws its information from a number of law enforcement databases, including the Texas Rangers, DPS Criminal Law Enforcement Records and Information Systems, the highway patrol, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, and more than 920 county jail, incarceration record systems. Nearly 3,000 Texas police officers, sheriffs, and other law enforcement officials currently use TDEx, with an average of 500 new users added each month. The results speak for themselves.

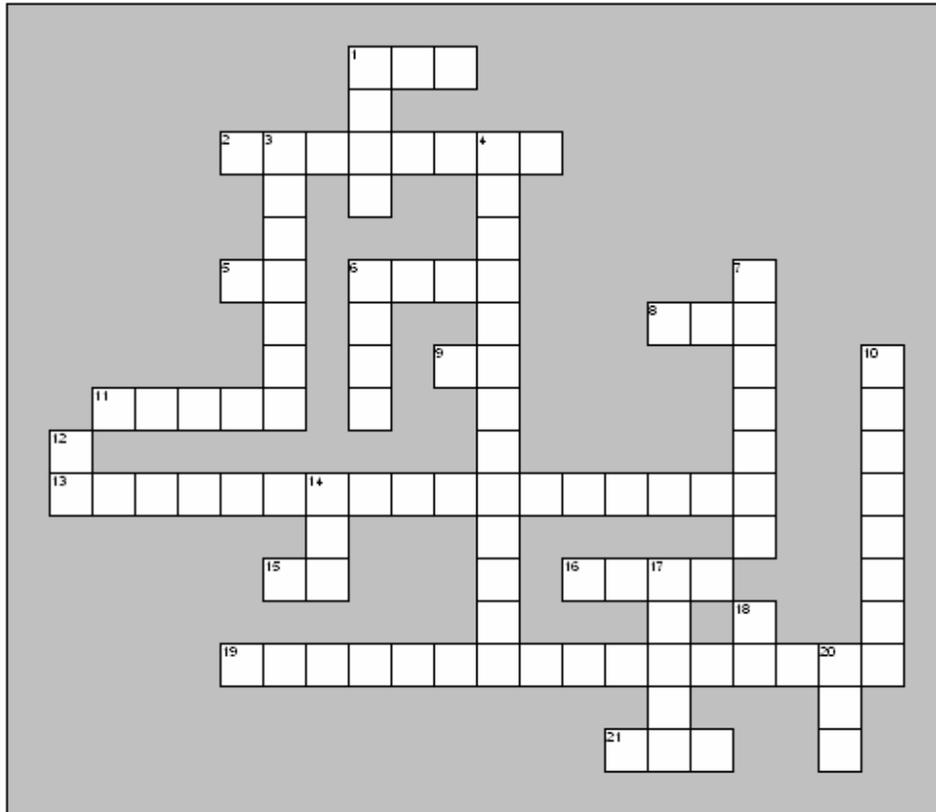
Brian Pfahning, a detective with the Plano Police Department, placed a watch on an individual with an outstanding theft warrant. Within a week, he received a successful watch-hit indicating that his person of interest had been arrested in Harris County. "I can keep track of the warrants to be served and find out when suspects are arrested," Pfahning said. "For those I can't locate, the watch feature allows me to be notified when law enforcement picks them up on another charge. I can then serve the outstanding warrant from my department, or interview them if needed."

Fort Worth Police Detective Brent Johnson posted an aggravated assault warrant for a Nacogdoches man. Upon learning that the man no longer lived at the reported address, Johnson entered the man's name in TDEx and quickly came across a report from the Nacogdoches Police Department, nearly 200 miles away.

"The report gave his new address, so I called the Nacogdoches PD with the new information," Johnson explained. "Less than an hour after I called, the man was arrested and taken to the Tarrant County Jail to await trial."

For more information on TDEx and how to join the growing list of users, contact Justin Lopez, TDEx Program Manager (at justin.lopez@txdps.state.tx.us). (reprinted from TCLEOSE Close-up Newsletter October 2006)

Crossword



Across

1. Transaction code to cancel protective order.
2. The "PPS" field in all Canadian Transaction forms is to indicate if the PERSON/____ is in sight.
5. NLETS ORION agency type code for any criminal justice prosecutor agency.
6. Broadcast mnemonic address for terminals along IH20 between Dallas/Fort Worth and Marshall.
8. Restriction "M" on a Texas DL is ____ intrastate only.
9. NLETS ORION agency type code for any Federal non-law enforcement criminal justice agency.
11. The help file that will assist the user to interpret immigration visas by categories.
13. The abbreviation ROIW.
15. Transaction code for the NLETS Canadian vehicle registration inquiry form.
16. This is a message switching system located in Washington D.C. that provides service to numerous Federal agencies via the NLETS network.
19. The forth reason an ATL message is authorized for on TLETS.
21. Transaction code for the modify H.E.A.T. vehicle form.

Down

1. Transaction code to cancel supplemental protected person.
3. The REM field in the NLETS ORION modify form is for ____.
4. The first item to describe a crime in an administrative message is the ____ using correct legal language.
6. Broadcast mnemonic address for terminals along IH10 between San Antonio and Orange.
7. SOC numbers with prefix 261 were issued from this state.
10. These type messages can only be sent to a maximum of 3 geographical area/regions.
12. This DPS Section provides users with information concerning proof of financial responsibility.
14. Transaction code for the NICB All Files Inquiry form.
17. NLETS help file code for accessing Canadian help for stolen vehicle inquiries.
18. Transaction code for the cancel stolen license form.
20. Transaction code for the Regional Database inquiry form.