UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
Logistics Operations School
Marine Corps Service Support Schools
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INTRODUCTION TO LOGISTICS AND COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT (CSS)

STUDENT OUTLINE

TERMINAL LEARNING OBJECTIVE: Given appropriate documentation, with the aid of and per the references, compile Logistics/CSS requirements that support a concept of Operations. (0431.01.13) (0431.06.03)

ENABLING LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Given a multiple-choice examination, without the aid of and per the references, select the:

1. Definition of logistics. (0431.01.13.05)

2. Six Functions of CSS. (0431.01.13.05)

3. Seven Principles of CSS (RASSSEF). (0431.01.13.05)

4. Considerations of CSS planning . (0431.06.03.03)

STUDENT REFERENCES:

1. FMFM 4, Combat Service Support
2. FMFM 4-1, Combat Service Support Operations
3. JCS Pub 1-02, Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms.

REQUIRED RESOURCE: Student Outline C104-1 (01-99)

OUTLINE:

1. **LOGISTICS DEFINED AND EXPLAINED**

> "The objective of logistics is maximum sustained combat effectiveness."
>
> RADM Henry E. Eccles
>
> (1954)

a. Logistics. "The science of planning and carrying out the movement and maintenance of forces. In its most comprehensive sense, those aspects of military operations which deal with:

(1) The design and development, acquisition, storage, movement, distribution, maintenance, evacuation, and disposition of materiel.

(2) The movement, evacuation, and hospitalization of personnel.

(3) The acquisition or construction, maintenance, operation, and disposition of facilities.

(4) The acquisition or furnishing of services." (JCS Pub 1-02)

b. Three Levels of Logistics Support

(1) Strategic level of war (National).

(2) Operational level of war (Theater).

(3) Tactical level of war (CSS).

c. Operational Logistics. Operational logistics encompasses the total scope of activity to form, equip, sustain, disengage, and disestablish military forces.

(1) Combat Service Support (CSS) is a special case of military operational logistics.

(2) The overall logistic system is the foundation for CSS to the operating forces.

2. **CSS DEFINED**

a. CSS. In JCS Pub 1-02, the following definition is given for CSS: "The essential logistic functions, activities, and tasks

necessary to sustain all elements of an operating force in an area of operations. Combat Service Support includes but is not limited to administrative service, chaplain services, civil affairs, finance, legal service, health services, military police, supply, maintenance, transportation, construction, troop construction, acquisition and disposal of real property, facilities engineering, topographic and geodetic engineering functions, food services, graves registration, laundry, dry cleaning, bath, property disposal, and other logistic services."

b. CSS is Defined in FMFM 4. "At the operational level much more than at the tactical, logistics may determine what is possible and what is not; for "a campaign plan that cannot be logistically supported is not a plan at all, but simply an expression of fanciful wishes"." John F. Meehan III, *The Operational Trilogy*

FUNCTIONS AND UNITS

a. Units. In the Marine Corps, some tables of organization have unit names which correspond to certain CSS functions. This is true for supply, maintenance, and engineer support battalions of the force service support group (FSSG).

what a unit can do and what a unit **is** called can create confusion

b. Units often have the capability to provide more than one function/subfunction of CSS. A unit may be called by the name of one function, but in carrying out that function, it will also be able to accomplish other functions and subfunctions as well. The following is an example:

UNIT	TASKS	FUNCTION
Engineer Bn	Bulk fuel	Supply
	Utilities	Services
	Material handling	Transportation

4. FUNCTIONAL AREAS OF CSS. The six functional areas of CSS are: **supply, maintenance, transportation, general engineering, health**

services, and services. Figure 1 depicts the functions and subfunctions of CSS. Refer to page 3-2, of FMFM 4.

5. PRINCIPLES OF CSS. There are seven principles of CSS. Like the principles of war, they are guides for planning, organizing, managing, and executing. These principles are not rigid rules to apply in every situation. Seldom will all of them exert equal influence. Usually, one or two will dominate in a situation.

a. **R**esponsiveness. Keystone. Must support the concept of operations of the supported unit. Right support at the right time and in the right area. Decentralization of CSS assets increases responsiveness.

b. **A**ttainability. Ability to provide the minimum essential supplies and service required to begin combat operations.

c. **S**implicity. Should be conceptually, structurally, and procedurally simple. Use organizations that provide "one stop shopping" for supplies and services.

d. **S**ustainability. Ability to maintain support throughout the operation. Requirements planning must be thorough and include all available sources of support.

e. **S**urvivability. Inherent capacity of the organization and its capabilities to prevail in the face of potential destruction. May dictate decentralization. Active and passive measures must be planned for and implemented.

f. **E**conomy. Centralized control and decentralized execution offers a balance between responsiveness and economy. The provision of support at the least cost in terms of resources available.

g. **F**lexibility. CSSE control will usually be through centralization of CSS assets. Flexibility is the ability to adapt CSS structure and procedures to changing situations.

6. CSS PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS. In order to support the commanders concept of operations and assist the CSSE commander in formulating the concept of CSS, the following are considered informal guidelines involved in CSS planning and operations:

a. Standardization. Commonality of equipment and uniformity of procedures.

b. Anticipation. Ability to forecast requirements.

c. Situational Factors. Conditions prevailing in the area of operations that create requirements for specialized materiel and services.

d. Centralization. Retention of functional capabilities at a central location where close supervision will ensure standardization, better training. and optimal use of assigned assets.

e. Expenditure and Consumption. Planners must distinguish between expenditure and consumption rate when determining operational requirements. Expenditure is always greater than consumption.

f. Alternative Planning. Using more than one means to provide support for the concept of operations. (i.e., unit or supply point distribution)

g. Echelonment. Preplanned provision or positioning of personnel. supplies. and equipment to ensure uninterrupted CSS. Changing capabilities and requirements are envisioned as tactical scenario evolves.

h. Logistic Reserve Assets. Allocating certain supplies, equipment, or other resources as a reserve.

i. Redundancy. Duplication of systems, units, or functions to provide alternate means of support if there is an interruption, failure, or loss of capability.

j. Conservation. The avoidance of waste. One component of economy (i.e., recycling of material, proper use of salvage, local rebuilding, of spaces when authorized).

k. Austerity. Avoidance of excess. A provision of just enough material or services to accomplish the mission.

l. Throughput. A function of the distribution system. A measure of the amount of material passing through a processing point within a specified period of time. Single most demanding task of CSS.

7. SUPPORTING THE FIGHTERS. There is a basic relationship between what the supported unit needs and what the supporting unit will have available to satisfy those needs. Examine the following:

Requirements ------>	Capability --------->	Task (s)
(Needs)	(Resource)	(Action)

SUPPLY	MAINTENANCE	TRANSPORTATION
Determination of Requirements	Inspection and Classification	Motor Transport Classification
Procurement	Servicing, Adjustment, and Tuning	Materiel Handling
Storage (to include care in storage	Test and Calibration	Landing Support
Distribution	Repair	Embarkation
Salvage	Modification	Freight/Passenger Transportation
Disposal	Rebuild and Overhaul	Aerial Delivery
	Reclamation	Port and Terminal Operations
	Recovery and Evacuation	
GENERAL ENGINEERING	HEALTH SERVICES	SERVICES
Engineer Reconnaissance	Health Maintenance	Postal
Construction (Horizontal and Vertical)	Casualty Collection	Disbursing
Facilities Maintenance	Casualty Treatment	Security Support
Demolition and Obstacle Removal	Temporary Hospitalization and Evacuation	Automated Information Systems
Explosive Ordnance Disposal		Exchange Services
		Legal Services
		Civil Affairs
		Graves Registration

Figure 1.
Functional/Subfunctional Areas of CSS