



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
2 NAVY ANNEX  
WASHINGTON, DC 20380-1775

IN REPLY REFER TO  
CMC-L  
16 Jan 97

WHITE LETTER NO. 01-97

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps  
To: All Commanding Generals  
All Commanding Officers  
All Officers in Charge

Subj: PRECISION LOGISTICS

1. We have always been proud of our ability to provide world class expeditionary logistics support. Through the professional dedication and hard work of Marines, civilian Marines, and sailors in our logistics community, our operational units always receive what they need. Nevertheless, as successful as our logistics support has been, it can be better. We need to be lighter, more agile, with less footprint to win battles against increasingly well-armed adversaries. Better logistics is possible. We have seen commercial firms achieve dramatic improvements in logistics while reducing costs. They routinely provide rapid repair and fast, reliable delivery. Our Marines deserve this level of high quality and cost-effective service.

2. Precision Logistics will be the vehicle by which we will sustain the Marine Corps of the 21st Century. By adapting the best commercial practices and leveraging proven technological advances, Precision Logistics will provide responsive and reliable support to the FMF at home and across the full spectrum of expeditionary operations. Precision Logistics provides the decisive support our Marine forces need by substituting process improvements, asset visibility, and a customer-oriented distribution system for the current costly, inflexible and cumbersome one. More than a set of procedures, Precision Logistics will lead to a cultural and paradigm change in the way we think and operate.

3. Precision Logistics will enhance our readiness and capability to deploy and redeploy as well as our ability to operate in remote locations with minimal footprint. The resources freed through faster, better, and less costly logistics will help ensure that funding is available for other investments that are critical to our Corps.

Subj: PRECISION LOGISTICS

4. Our first priority will be to improve logistics response times. We will focus on improving the performance of our order and ship and repair processes to generate quick and positive improvements for our MEFs, posts, and stations.

5. Changing long standing logistics practices, policies, and processes will be hard work. It requires moving beyond "status quo" logistics performance. It requires a new level of honesty about problems in the way we do logistics. It requires innovation and imagination to develop and adopt new ways of doing business, whether the source is a world-class manufacturer or a lance corporal.

6. Marines are already developing tools and ideas to make Precision Logistics a reality. ATLASS design improvements, the Direct Ordering System at our FSSGs, cross-docking materiel at our Traffic Management Offices, and CSS Enterprise concepts and development, to mention a few, are all geared toward reducing cycle times and improving our logistical processes.

7. The Deputy Chief of Staff, Installations and Logistics, is the Precision Logistics process sponsor. He will use the Precision Group composed of our logistics general officers to measure performance, monitor process improvements, and institutionalize the required cultural change through reforms in policies, procedures and practices. I fully support Precision Logistics and firmly believe that we have a profound obligation to provide the Nation's finest warriors with the Nation's finest logistics system.



C. C. [unclear]