Intel, AIS and ESRI

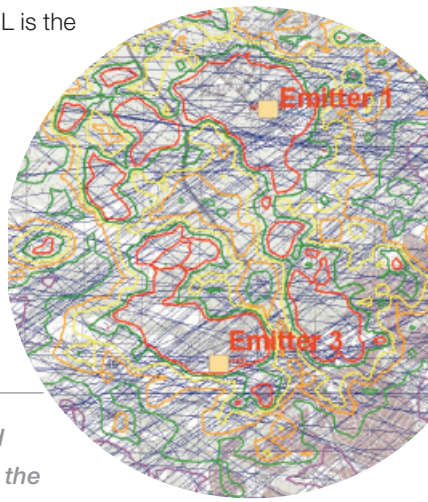
Helping the U.S. Army Put Geospatial Intelligence in the Field

Case Summary

Challenge	The role of technology in military applications has changed dramatically. Recruits are more computer literate on entry to the military, tactical operations depend on light-weight, feature-rich applications, and technology has improved while unit cost has decreased. The dangers of conventional combat give way to equally hazardous Stability and Support Operations (SASO). Bridging commercial technology such as Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) ArcView geospatial information system (GIS) advances the next level in visualizing the multi-faceted, time-sensitive warfighting environment. Reliable, inexpensive Intel processors permit system developers such as Austin Info Systems to rapidly develop and deploy a new infrastructure to meet 21st century military intelligence demands.
Solution	Austin Info Systems (AIS) designed the All Source Analysis System-Light (ASAS-L) for the Army with current deployments of over 2,000 Panasonic ToughBook Model CF-73 Laptops with Intel® Centrino™ mobile technology and 20 Dell 2600 dual Intel® Xeon™ processor-based servers in military operations world-wide.
Benefits	The AIS solution based on Intel technology, reduced the per unit deployment costs so significantly that the Army was able to purchase more units, placing premier geospatial military information in the hands of more personnel in the battalion and higher echelons.

Business Challenge

AIS is a leader in hardware and software C4ISR systems that use industry standards to provide a family of intelligence products that are lightweight, portable, scalable, and interoperable. To meet the growing demand for providing military intelligence analysis to worldwide U.S. military operations, AIS developed ASAS-Light (ASAS-L). ASAS-L is deployed in Kosovo, Iraq, and Afghanistan, with more than 2,000 installations. Today, ASAS-L is the premier Army intelligence workstation supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF).



Originally developed as a battalion workstation, the successful deployment and acceptance of ASAS-L led to replacement of the RISC-based system at higher echelons. Many expressed concerns over replacing the processing power of the RISC platform with an Intel-based processor. The Army turned to AIS to spearhead an Intel solution.

"AIS benchmarks and prototype on ASAS-L rapidly convinced the Army intelligence leaders that an Intel-based system had the performance, reliability and mobility needed to satisfy Army needs."

The Solution

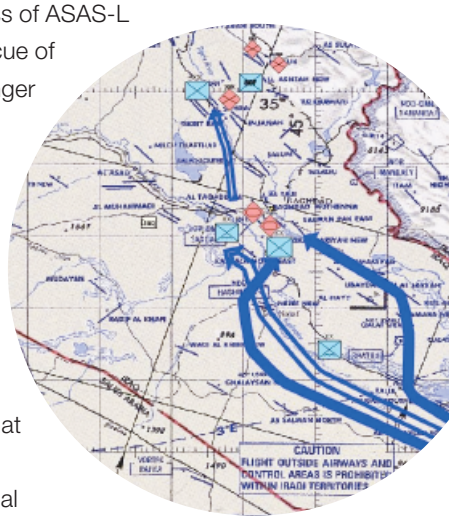
The relationship between Intel and Microsoft provided AIS with a rapid development environment familiar to an ever-growing programmer base. Since the system required mobility with light weight, Intel Centrino mobile technology was the perfect choice. It represents Intel's best technologies for laptops. More than just a processor, it delivers excellent mobile performance while enabling greater battery life in lighter, easier-to-carry laptop PCs.

AIS knew the system needed unparalleled reliability and performance in its server component. They chose 20 Dell 2600 dual Intel Xeon processor-based servers to complete the system. The Intel Xeon processor helps customers gain greater flexibility and lower costs. Dual Intel Xeon processor-based servers support the power, reliability and affordability needs this complex military implementation required.

"The Dell 2600 provided us Intel reliability and that was important to us. Our warfighters depend on this system in highly dangerous situations; we needed a powerful, reliable server to support our military seamlessly."

Benefits

When it comes to life and death situations, the need for reliability is sharply elevated. Intel Centrino mobile technology for the workstation and dual Intel Xeon processors for the server solution provided the platform reliability, performance and affordability AIS needed to build a solid system.



The significance and usefulness of ASAS-L played a pivotal role in the rescue of Jessica Lynch by the 75th Ranger Regiment. The ASAS-L provided the "just-in-time" data that helped formulate the Intelligence Preparations of the Battlefield (IPB) during the compressed and hasty Military Decision-Making Process (MDMP). The ASAS-L system was the only system that could be used in a very short period of time to gain Situational Awareness (SA) on the area. The regiment executed very quickly based on the amount of notice they were given prior to the mission execution.

The affordability of the Windows and Intel industry standard based workstation and server solutions enabled the Army to purchase more units, empowering more battalion level personnel with the premier geospatial technology they need to have superior intelligence in the field. The performance and reliability combined to deliver proven Intel solutions AIS and the Army could trust.

Find out more about a business solution that is right for your company by contacting your Intel representative, or visit the Intel® Business/Enterprise Web site at intel.com/business or its industry solutions specific sites at intel.com/business/bss/industry/government/index.htm.

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