

INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: Fujitsu Notebook Computer

1. Purpose. To provide the United States Army South (ARSOUTH) commander/civilian senior leadership an update on notebook systems.

2. Facts.

a. The Army has completed the pilot program of the Fujitsu Q550 notebook computer for evaluating feasibility of operating on its networks. It is a mobile computing device that can be used with the Common Access Card (CAC) in providing the ability to authenticate onto the network and sign / encrypt data. Being "iPad-like" should not be mistaken with an Apple, Android, or BlackBerry tablet product. The Fujitsu Q550 "tablet" is essentially a notebook.

b. The Army's evaluation of the Fujitsu tablet determined that it fully meets all security requirements. It has a touch-enabled screen and runs on the approved "Army Gold Master" Windows 7 baseline operating system (OS); can reuse many of the same security protocols already implemented for desktop computers; and has a Trusted Platform Module that enables adherence to Data at Rest (DAR) guidelines. The CAC reader is built into the device and there is no need for an external CAC reader.

c. Under Department of Defense (DoD) guidance, any device that cannot use a CAC card to digitally sign and encrypt email is a non-starter with regards to DoD or Army network connectivity. To date, iPads and other like devices are not currently approved for network integration.

3. Way Ahead.

a. The Fujitsu notebook is currently not on the Army's approved products list (APL) and requires a waiver for procurement via the Army's Computer Hardware, Enterprise Software and Solutions (CHESS) catalogue (chess.army.mil). The iPad can be used for Outlook Web Access connection with a DISA approved CAC reader for \$150.

b. Unit information technology professionals will submit an Information Technology Request (ITR) with associated waiver prior to procurement. NEC will validate / approve computer system procurement standards to ensure appropriate acquisition language is used and Windows 7 OS is installed on all devices being requested.

Jesus RosaVelez/NETC-SFB-DT/5281
APPROVED BY JMRV