

Item Unique Identification (IUID) – 9 Key Questions

Q. 1. What is Item Unique Identification?

- A. Item Unique Identification (IUID) is a *system of marking items* delivered to the DoD with unique item identifiers, encoded in machine-readable data matrix symbols, which distinguishes the item from all other like and unlike items.

Q. 2. What is a Unique Item Identifier?

- A. A Unique Item Identifier (UII) is a *set of data* marked on an item that is globally unique, unambiguous, and robust enough to ensure data information quality throughout its lifetime and supports multi-faceted business applications. Think of it as a “super serial number”.

Q. 3. What items must be assigned a UII?

- A. Every item that the DoD wants to uniquely and serially manage must be assigned a UII. The Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) contains additional information on IUID requirements.

Q. 4. Will UIIs replace serial numbers?

- A. Items assigned UIIs will continue to have serial numbers. Over time DoD will switch to management of items by UIIs rather than by serial numbers.

Q. 5. How do I recognize a UII?

- A. The UII must be marked on an item encoded in a data matrix symbol that looks like this:



Q. 6. Why is the UII required to be encoded in a data matrix symbol?

- A. The data matrix symbol can only be read with an imager, a piece of Automatic Identification Technology, which enables *error-free data capture*.

Q. 7. What is the role of maintenance personnel in IUID?

- A. Most legacy material requiring IUID will be assigned a UII and marked with the data matrix symbol in a depot maintenance facility. Forthcoming supply and maintenance systems that are part of the Single Army Logistics Enterprise (SALE) will use the UII in various supply and maintenance processes.

Q. 8. When are we going to start using the UII in our processes?

- A. A few systems are using it now, but it will be several years before its use is widespread. There are millions of items to mark and new automated systems to field before we can exploit IUID across the board.

Q. 9. How can the PM J-AIT help me as we move into dealing with IUID?

- A. Thought you would never ask! Check out the other side of this page.

PM J-AIT Provides

- Basic IUID education for Army stakeholders
- An IDIQ contract offering AIT products and technical services supporting DoD implementation of IUID
- Technical assistance to Army and DoD customers

Some of the products and services on the AIT-IV contract that support IUID applications:

Products	Services
<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Motorola's MC9090-K Wireless Imager</p>  </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Motorola MC9090-K Wireless Imager</p>  </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Intermec CK3G Wireless Imager</p>  </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Intermec CN3G Wireless Imager</p>  </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Motorola DS3408 Imager</p>  </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Zebra P4T Label Maker</p>  </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Zebra ZM400 Printer</p>  </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Intermec PD42 Printer</p>  </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Aruba Access Point (AP) 41/60/61/65/70</p>  </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>Motorola AP7131</p>  </div> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AIT-IV equipment integration • Site analysis and site survey • Installation and de-installation • Customer support and problem-solving • Training • Maintenance • Software development • Communications • Interfaces with other government systems • Equipment and systems engineering services • Systems integration • Assistance in obtaining host-nation certification and approval for communications equipment

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