

## **NOTIFICATION on FiXs Certified Credential Usage (May 11, 2010)**

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This notification is being sent to all FiXs certified credential holders because FiXs has been advised that there has been a miscommunication by various personnel at DoD installations on the use and acceptability of the FiXs identity credential. This miscommunication has resulted in the attached message that has been sent out by USNORTHCOM to all DOD domestic installations on the proper use and acceptance of your FiXs identity credentials. In summary, the USNORTHCOM message advises on the legitimacy of the FiXs identity credential and prohibits the credential from being confiscated by personnel. It also lays out processes that can be used by installation commanders in the use and acceptance of the FiXs identity credential.

FiXs has continually worked directly with the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC), the DoD organization that issues Common Access Credentials (CAC's), and with whom FiXs has a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the use and acceptance of FiXs credentials. DMDC, in turn was instrumental in getting the clarifying information out to all DoD installations via USNORTHCOM. (You can access a DMDC web site for more information about the DMDC/FiXs partnership at: <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/dwp/fed.do>.)

The most important usage aspect for you, the FiXs credential holder, is that ***the FiXs credential is a trusted identity credential for use by DoD, HOWEVER, it does not carry any inherent privileges--*** for instance automatic base access-- if you were to present or "flash" the card at an entrance gate. ***All decisions on "privileges", or entrance onto DoD facilities (or logical access to DoD systems), are at the discretion of the local installation commander, whether the credential is issued by DoD, another government agency, or by a commercial entity.*** Some commanders may decide to honor the credentials some may not. Ask the gate official, if FiXs credentials are being accepted at the installation, before presenting one as your identity credential.

Be assured, however, that if the installation has authentication stations that have been equipped to check CAC and FiXs cards, that the FiXs certified credentials can be electronically authenticated on DoD applications like the Defense Cross-credentialing Identification System (DCCIS) and the Defense National Visitors Center (DNVC) system. DCCIS and the FiXs Network are currently interoperable for use with both DoD and FiXs certified authentication stations. However, even though the credentials can be electronically authenticated, they cannot be used via a "flash pass" for visual inspection. Also, you are reminded that the FiXs credential can still be used for logical applications within and across the DoD.

As you are aware, to obtain the FiXs certified credentials, you and your company were thoroughly vetted. This vetting process and the issuance of the FiXs credential, follow the strictest standards and guidelines known as HSPD 12, PIV and FIPS 201, as prescribed by the DoD and the Federal government. The FiXs credentials meet all these criteria and are one of the first electronically verifiable credentials in existence, which can be exchanged with DoD. ***FiXs certified credential issuers are ORC and DSA, Inc. No other issuers have been certified.***

Unfortunately, even though the information above is known at the higher levels in DoD it has not been adequately disseminated down to the installation level, where you are, or could be impacted, in carrying out your daily tasks. We at FiXs apologize for any inconvenience(s) you may have had, or still might have. The USNORTHCOM message should begin to alleviate the problems you have experienced. Please be assured that we will continue working with DoD on getting the processes corrected and modified for FiXs credential usages that meet DoD evolving requirements for both physical and logical access applications.

Thank you.

Michael J. Mestrovich, PhD  
President, FiXs



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USNORTHCOM HQs J34  
Subject: FW: 102100Z May 10 - USNORTHCOM FORCE PROTECTION MESSAGE 10-130  
(ACCESS CONTROL - FIXS ID CARD)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

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Subject: USNORTHCOM FORCE PROTECTION MESSAGE 10-130 (ACCESS CONTROL - FIXS ID CARD)

Originator: N-NC CMD CENTER(UC)

DTG: 102100Z May 10

Precedence: ROUTINE

DAC: General

To: COMUSFLTFORCOM NORFOLK VA, COMMARFORNORTH G3-G5-G7(UC), 5 ARMY NORTH AOC(UC), JFHQ-NCR J3(UC), AFNORTH A7(UC), JTFAK(UC), HQ AAFES DALLAS TX(UC),DCMAHQ(UC), DECA HQ(UC), DFAS ARLINGTON VA(UC), DFAS INDIANAPOLIS IN(UC),USD(PERS AND READINESS)(UC), DIA WASHINGTON DC, DISA WASHINGTON DC(UC), DLA FT BELVOIR VA(UC), DODDS WASHINGTON DC, DSS WASHINGTON DC, MDA WASHINGTON DC, NGA HQ BETHESDA MD, NSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD, SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

Cc: USD(INTEL)(UC), DMDC-DEF MANPOWER DATA CTR(UC), SECURITY LAW ENFORCEMENT AT OPS G3 DAMO ODL(MC), CNO WASHINGTON DC(UC), HQ USAF(UC), CSA(UC), CMC WASHINGTON DC PPO PO(UC), COMLANTAREA COGARD PORTSMOUTH VA, COMPACAREA COGARD ALAMEDA CA, USNORTHCOM J34(UC), NGB WASHINGTON DC

UNCLASSIFIED//  
MSGID/GENADMIN/HQ USNORTHCOM//  
REF/A/MEMORANDUM/DTM 09-012//  
NARR/REF A IS DIRECTIVE TYPE MEMORANDUM PUBLISHED BY THE UNDERSECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR INTELLIGENCE REGARDING INTERIM POLICY GUIDANCE FOR DOD PHYSICALACCESS CONTROL.//

POC/ USNORTHCOM J34/TEL COMM 719-554-8306/DSN 692/ [NCJ34IDENT@NORTHCOM.MIL](mailto:NCJ34IDENT@NORTHCOM.MIL)//  
1. (U) RECENT FORCE PROTECTION MESSAGES AND MILITARY LAW ENFORCEMENT ADVISORIES HAVE LABELED THE FEDERATION FOR IDENTITY AND CROSS-CREDENTIALING SYSTEMS (FIXS) IDENTITY CARDS, WHICH APPEAR SIMILAR TO DOD CAC CARDS, AS FRAUDULENT FORMS OF IDENTIFICATION.

1.A. (U) THE FEDERATION FOR IDENTITY AND CROSS-CREDENTIALING SYSTEMS (FIXS) IS A COALITION OF COMMERCIAL COMPANIES, GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS, AND NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS WHO HAVE ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAIN A WORLDWIDE, INTEROPERABLE IDENTITY AND CROSS-CREDENTIALING NETWORK BUILT ON SECURITY, PRIVACY, TRUST, STANDARD OPERATING RULES, POLICIES, AND TECHNICAL STANDARDS. DOD IS A MEMBER OF FIXS.

1. B. (U) FIXS CREDENTIALS ARE CERTIFIED AND ARE NOT FRAUDULENT ID CARDS. THESE CARDS ARE INDUSTRY CORPORATE IDENTIFICATION CREDENTIALS AND PRIVATE PROPERTY OF THE HOLDER.

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1. B.1. (U) IF A FIXS CARD IS PRESENTED AS A "FLASH PASS", THE HOLDER MAY BE DENIED ACCESS TO THE INSTALLATION OR FACILITY, BASED ON LOCAL INSTALLATION OR FACILITY POLICIES. PERSONS WISHING ENTRY ON A DOD INSTALLATION OR FACILITY WILL BE REQUIRED TO PRESENT AN IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT AS OUTLINED IN DTM 09-12 SUCH AS A DOD ID CARD, US STATE DRIVERS' LICENSE OR OTHER GOVERNMENT ID CARD.

1. B.2. (U) IF A FIXS CARD IS PRESENTED AS IDENTIFICATION, DO NOT CONFISCATE THE CARD.

2. (U) ACCORDING TO DTM 09-12, A NON-FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND NON-DOD IDENTIFICATION CARD HOLDERS REQUIRING ACCESS SHALL PROVIDE A JUSTIFICATION OR PURPOSE FOR WANTING ACCESS TO DOD FACILITIES. INSTALLATION GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES SHALL REVIEW APPROVED IDENTITY DOCUMENTS AND QUERY GOVERNMENT AUTHORITATIVE DATA SOURCES TO VET THE CLAIMED IDENTITY AND DETERMINE FITNESS. MINIMUM BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION, WHICH INCLUDES THE PERSON'S NAME AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER, SHOULD BE CHECKED AGAINST, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE NATIONAL CRIME INFORMATION CENTER (NCIC) DATABASE. SEE DTM FOR OTHER POTENTIAL AUTHORITATIVE DATABASES.

3. (U) DOD'S DEFENSE MANPOWER DATA CENTER (DMDC), WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PRODUCING THE CAC AND THE DEFENSE BIOMETRIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (DBIDS), HAS BEEN WORKING WITH THE FIXS FEDERATION AND HAS RECOGNIZED THE FIXS CARD FOR IDENTITY AUTHENTICATION, BUT NOT FOR PHYSICAL ACCESS CONTROL – UNLESS ACCEPTED BY THE INSTALLATION OR FACILITY COMMANDER.

4. (U) CURRENTLY, EACH INSTALLATION AND FACILITY COMMANDER MUST DETERMINE IF THEY WILL ACCEPT FIXS CARDS FOR ACCESS TO THEIR INSTALLATION IN LIEU OF A LOCALLY PRODUCED BADGE.

5. (U) MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FIXS CAN BE FOUND AT [HTTP://FIXS.ORG/](http://fixs.org/).

AKNLDG/NO//GENTEXT/AUTHENTICATION/USNORTHCOM OFFICIAL: J3//RDML ABEL/  
BT  
NNNN