

The RTID Report

Issue 3, September 2006

...the status of improvements to the efficiency of Canada's national fingerprint and criminal record repository

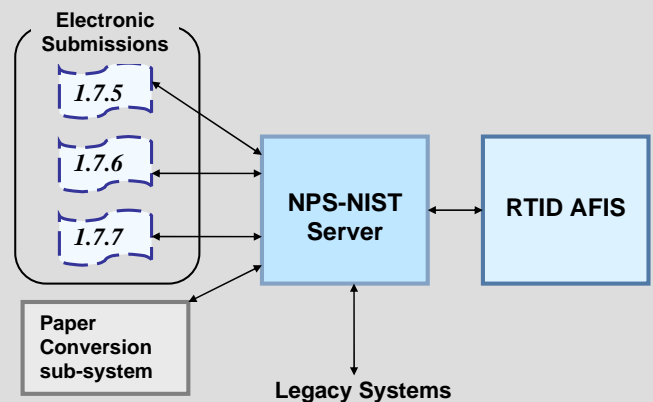
THE NATIONAL POLICE SERVICES, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY (NPS-NIST) SERVER

The hub of Real Time Identification (RTID) technology, enabling efficiency and agency support

The efficiencies that RTID will bring are directly related to reducing the number of paper-based fingerprint submissions and, in turn, increasing the number of electronic fingerprint submissions. Canadian Criminal Real Time Identification Services (CCRTIS) will support agencies in the implementation of the new system, starting with providing a NPS-NIST Server that meets the needs of existing and future technology. The NPS-NIST Server is capable of exchanging electronic fingerprints compatible with the standards outlined in the NPS-NIST Interface Control Document (ICD) for both previous versions (1.7.5 and 1.7.6) and the current RTID version (1.7.7).

The NPS-NIST Server:

- Receives electronic transactions from external agencies, legacy systems and the Paper Conversion sub-system
- Validates electronic transactions
- Transforms external transactions into a format that can be managed by the new RTID AFIS
- Supports interfaces to legacy applications
- Manages, monitors and records workflow activities
- Provides reporting and administrative capabilities



The RTID AFIS and NPS-NIST Server will be operational at the completion of RTID Phase I. Those agencies submitting electronic civil Miscellaneous Applicant (MAP) transactions will benefit from the 72 hour response time that CCRTIS will be able to provide for 85% of electronically submitted civil fingerprints that do not hit a criminal file.

RTID PROJECT STATUS

Second Site Acceptance Test of the RTID AFIS Complete

In September 2006, the second Site Acceptance Test (SAT2) of the RTID AFIS was completed. The second (Factory Acceptance Test) and third benchmark tests (SAT1) administered to evaluate AFIS performance during the procurement process were repeated in SAT2 using fingerprint data converted from the master card collection of approximately 3.5M files. The SAT2 benchmark results confirmed the reliability and accuracy achieved in the previous tests and also demonstrated the scalability of the AFIS performance using the larger background database.

Three of the testing processes are now complete and preparations are underway for the System Test of the RTID AFIS and NPS-NIST Server.

New implementation date for the early release of the NPS-NIST Server

The implementation of RTID Release 0.5 was delayed due to a technical issue incurred when receiving electronic transactions. This issue has been resolved and Release 0.5 will be operational in early November. The two civil agencies involved in the early release have satisfied the certification requirement and are ready to participate. The RCMP Central Help Desk has received Release 0.5 training to enable their support to the participants. Release 0.5 will provide limited functionality by permitting only the submission of electronic fingerprints for civil purposes. The implementation of the early release has permitted the resolution of technical issues to facilitate the rollout of the full version, Release 1.0. Development of Release 1.0 is complete and an extensive testing process has begun.

Phase 2 Update

The development of new system requirements to enhance the efficiency of the criminal records process will be finalized in December. Consultation with police and federal government agencies has been initiated and will continue to add value to the development of the new system.

Agency Engagement

CCRTIS and the RTID Project have participated in several activities to prepare agencies for the improvements and changes affecting the national fingerprint and criminal record repository following the implementation of RTID.

Making Space for the new RTID AFIS

The RTID AFIS and the AFIS 2000 will operate in parallel until the efficiency of the new AFIS is confirmed. This will ensure that agency access to the national fingerprint and criminal record repository is unaffected by the implementation of RTID. Appropriate office space for the RTID AFIS and for all the workstations accessing it had to be found without using any space currently being occupied by the AFIS 2000. This proved to be a challenge beyond any technical issues faced by the Project. Fortunately, with collaboration and creative thinking, renovations are underway to make space for the new RTID AFIS at CCRTIS. Following the implementation of Phase 1, the new address for CCRTIS will be:

The Director
Canadian Criminal Real Time
Identification Services
RCMP HQ, NPS Bldg.
1200 Vanier Parkway
Ottawa ON
K1A 0R2

Representatives from CCRTIS and the RTID Project presented updates at the Ontario Police Services meeting on September 13. The Ontario Police Services senior management in attendance benefited from the information provided including the RTID Project plan and status, fingerprint business processes changes following the implementation of RTID Phase 1 and an introduction to the RTID Phase 2 requirements.

The status of the RTID Project was also presented at the Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) Information Technology Sub-committee (ITSC) meeting on September 19. ITSC is a sub-committee of the CPIC Advisory Committee responsible for making recommendations on technology and security-related issues that support interoperability. The status of the RTID Project is a regular topic at the semi-annual meetings, to ensure that ITSC members, who have information technology roles at various Canadian police services, are kept informed.

An AFIS Working Group meeting will take place on October 23-24, in Ottawa. Working Group members are Canadian police agencies that have an operational AFIS or AFIS workstation that provides access to the national fingerprint database for ten print and latent fingerprint searching and federal agencies using LiveScan fingerprint capture technologies. This meeting will focus on preparing AFIS Working Group Members for Phase 1. Topics will include RTID Project status, business and policy updates from CCRTIS, plans for agency migration to Phase 1, Transcoder review and an introduction to RTID Phase 2 requirements.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Agencies: RTID Project Client Commitment Team
Tel: (613) 993-3908 or (613) 949-2181, Email: RTID_ITR_Certification@rcmp-grc.gc.ca
General inquiries: Email: RTID_ITR@rcmp-grc.gc.ca or visit http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/rtid/index_e.htm.