



ID: P4.5-574

Type: e-Poster

International Monitoring System (IMS) Supply Chain Resilience During COVID-19

Friday 2 July 2021 11:45 (15 minutes)

The sustainment of the IMS encompasses a global supply chain from sourcing to delivery of equipment. The supply chain is exposed to disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and measures adopted by countries, resulting in border closures, restrictions in the movement of goods and other logistical constraints. Inevitably the establishment and sustainment of the IMS network is affected.

From the outset the PTS recognized the need for higher redundancy to ensure a functioning supply chain to minimize the loss of station data due to lack of consumables or missing spare parts. Levels of critical spare parts at stations were reviewed combining station operator input, known supply chain disruptions, PTS' own experience and knowledge and analytical results from sparing optimization. Where indicated, additional equipment was sent to depots and stations. The availability of transportation possibilities was explored and monitored continuously developing and applying contingency plans to have more than one shipping alternative available.

Experience showed the importance of cross-functional contingency plans developed, tested and ready to implement before a supply chain disruption occurs as it is too late to develop, test and implement such plans at the same time.

Promotional text

The COVID-19 pandemic has implications on all global supply chains - the IMS network is no exception. The PTS is addressing these disruptions in various ways to ensure continued establishment and sustainment of the verification system.

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Session Classification: T4.5 e-poster session

Track Classification: Theme 4. Performance Evaluation and Optimization: T4.5 - Resilience of the CTBT Monitoring Regime, including Lessons Learned from the COVID-19 Pandemic