

Services in an Expeditionary Environment



U.S. Marine Corps

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Unless otherwise stated, whenever the masculine gender is used, both men and women are included.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
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Washington, D.C. 20380-1775

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FOREWORD

PURPOSE

Marine Corps Warfighting Publication (MCWP) 4-11.8, *Services in an Expeditionary Environment*, provides the doctrinal basis for the planning and execution of services at the operational and tactical levels of war. It establishes terms of reference for combat service support services and provides guidance to Marine Forces in the development of local standing operating procedures in an expeditionary environment.

SCOPE

MCWP 4-11.8 identifies the command support services inherent in every command and the services specifically provided by the Marine air-ground task force (MAGTF) combat service support element. Specifically, this publication focuses on the functions, organization, and staff cognizance of services in an expeditionary environment. It provides guidance and serves as a reference tool for all commanders, logisticians, and staff planners.

SUPERSESSION

None.

CERTIFICATION

Reviewed and approved this date.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMANDANT OF THE
MARINE CORPS

/s/

EDWARD HANLON, JR.

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Chapter 1

Services Overview

Services are those activities that are necessary for the effective administration, management, and employment of military organizations. The subfunctions of services are essentially administrative or nonmateriel in nature and are implemented with uniform systems and procedures. Services are either a function of command support or combat service support. Services that are command support include activities that are inherent in every command (e.g., personnel administration, billeting). Services that are combat service support include services not normally available in or organic to all elements of the Marine air-ground task force (MAGTF) and are provided by the combat service support element (CSSE) (e.g., mortuary affairs, exchange services). Many services are performed by specialists (special staff officers) who report directly to the MAGTF commander or other principal staff officers, not to the G-4/S-4 (logistic officer).

Services that are a function of command support normally reside within the headquarters and service (H&S) battalions of the MAGTF ground combat element (GCE), aviation combat element (ACE), and CSSE companies. These services include personnel administration; religious ministry; billeting; financial management; morale, welfare, and recreation; and messing. Messing, currently a command support function, may become the responsibility of the CSSE. See Marine Corps Reference Publication (MCRP) 4-11.8A, *Food Services Reference*, for more information.

Services that are a function of combat service support and the responsibility of the CSSE include postal, legal, mortuary affairs