

# Organizational Supply and Services for Unit Leaders

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## Preface

This manual is an overview of organizational supply and field service operations for all Army units, not just Quartermaster units. It is written for supply operations personnel, S4 officers, and commanders at battalion level and below. Unless specifically stated otherwise, this manual primarily addresses Army of Excellence organizations, rather than Force XXI type units. The manual is based on doctrine in FMs 8-10, 10-1, 100-5, and 100-10. FM 100-5 is the Army's keystone doctrinal manual. It outlines how the Army will conduct operations. FM 100-10 is the Army's keystone CSS doctrinal manual. It provides an overview of the CSS system for supporting the Army in the field. FM 10-1 is the QM principles manual. It explains the role of QM units and soldiers in the field. FM 8-10 is the keystone manual for the Army Medical Department. It explains the purpose of health service support in a theater of operations. This FM is a guide, not a directive. Refer to the publications identified in references for specifics on operations.

**Planning.** Supervisors must carry out the unit mission with the equipment and personnel available. They must be aware of the kinds of problems they will face. This manual details unit supply procedures and describes methods to organize unit resources. The Appendix is designed to assist unit leaders and supply operations personnel in planning supply operations.

**Operations.** This manual summarizes existing doctrine. It gives suggestions and standards based on field experience. It relates tactics, techniques, procedures, and policies that apply to company, detachment, and battalion supply operations.

### Organization and Coverage:

There are six chapters in this manual. Chapter 1 provides an overview of battlefield logistics. Chapter 2 covers supply procedures for the different classes of supply and laundry. Chapter 3 covers different methods of supply. Chapter 4 covers water and field services. Chapter 5 covers supply in different types of tactical operations and environments. Chapter 6 covers property accountability and responsibility for unit commanders.

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Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns or pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.



## Chapter 1

# OVERVIEW

This chapter provides an overview of how Army supply concepts are integral to the modern battlefield and provides some basic supply terms and concepts required for understanding the rest of the manual. This chapter also includes a short synopsis of the current and near future automated logistics systems, as well as how the changes under Force XXI will affect organizational supply and services.

**1-1. THE MODERN BATTLEFIELD AND SUPPLY.** Providing timely, efficient, and effective logistical support to Army units is more critical than ever before. The Army must have optimal logistical support to maximize its combat power. Combat service support encompasses the full range of health services, finance support, and personnel functions as well as the traditional functions of supply, maintenance, field services, and transportation. Supply is the process of providing all items necessary to equip, maintain, and operate a military command. Supply operations include design, development, acquisition, storage, movement, equipping, distribution, and evacuation. Supplies may not be available when and where they are needed and in the correct quantity. Supply shortages (especially ammunition, fuel, and repair parts) can cause units in the attack to reach their culminating point before accomplishing their mission. Therefore, providing the best possible supply support is vital to the success of our combat forces. Just as tacticians must concentrate combat power to accomplish their mission, so too must logisticians concentrate logistics assets to accomplish their mission. Leaders must know all about resources; type, quantity on hand, location, condition, and availability. They must know the current rate of use and be able to estimate future consumption rates based on the tactical situation. The status of supply operations is a subject of interest to soldiers, the news media, Congress, and the American public.

**1-2. ARMY DOCTRINAL TENETS.** Successful Army operations exhibit five essential characteristics or tenets which are: initiative, agility, depth, versatility, and synchronization. Table 1-1 explains how these characteristics relate to supply operations.