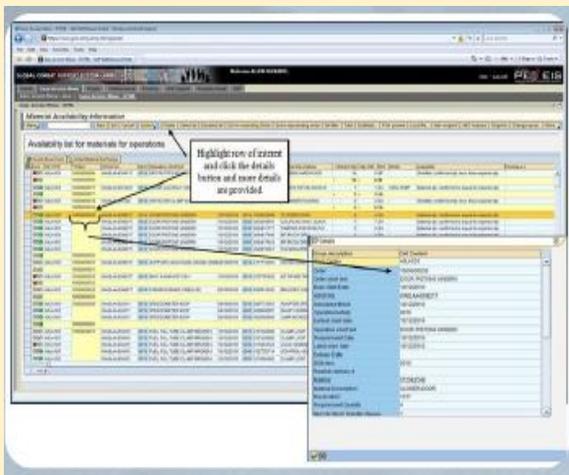


## ZPARK Best Business Practices

As the Army continues our migration to the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) based logistics and financial management environment; the benefits are proving to be nearly endless. The Global Com-bat Support System-Army (GCSS-Army) and General Fund Enterprise Business System (GFEBS) are federated within.

They are the two complimentary components setting conditions to support the heretofore unprecedented means for us to achieve readiness improvements and to understand what readiness actually costs. There is however a shared responsibility between unit leadership and the supporting logistics and financial managers to achieve these benefits. In this particular instance, it's the funds verification process called ZPARK.

ZPARK is the means within GCSS-Army by which commanders verify that funds are available to cover the cost of materials: stock transport order (STO), purchase requisitions (PR), or purchase orders (PO). Once an order clears ZPARK, it proceeds to the release strategy (RS), where the requisition will interrogate the RS to see if it meets any of the conditions established in the release strategy before going to the supply support activity (SSA) to check for availability of stock. A commander's designated materiel and execution manager(s) manages the release strategy. In addition, at the Commander's discretion, a dollar amount threshold is set in the release strategy for proper review of the requisition by the Commander to ensure the unit has funds to cover the requirement.



Successful units have established written procedures and performance standards to assign responsibilities that support both ZPARK and release strategy operations for home station and to support training at combat training centers. The re-view procedures typically require purchase orders or purchase requisitions be released or rejected within one duty day from the purchase order's creation.

Division and Corps readiness reviews include the command's performance for both release/execution and ZPARK reviews. The review is an assessment of the number of requisitions held in ZPARK and Release Strategy by category that took greater than one duty day to release, and the projected release date for those still in ZPARK.

Training deliveries that focus on material management and financial management will reinforce the Army's initiative for financial readiness in supporting equipment readiness. Training and over-sight are the main steps in ensuring proper use of ZPARK.