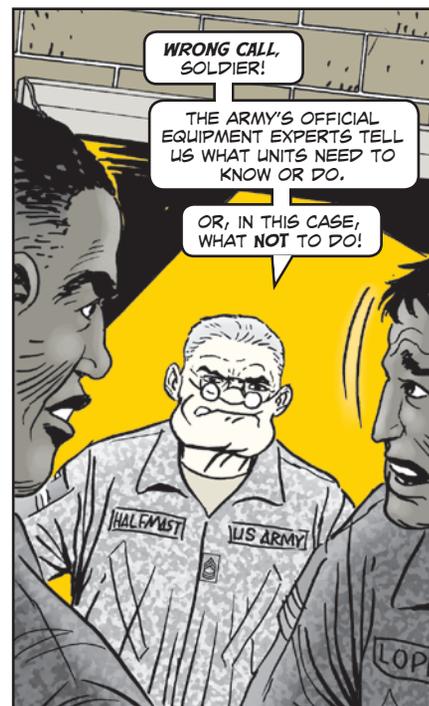


Why Is PS Info Optional?



Dear Half-Mast,

In the fine print at the top of *PS Magazine's* table of contents, there is a sentence that says "Application of the information is optional with the user." What does that mean? It takes the wind out of the sails of standards when senior NCOs tell commanders that Army standards and published guidance are optional. I'm trying to get our unit in line with the information in *PS*, because I know it's the right course of action. Can you help?

SFC M.C.

Dear SFC M.C.,

You bet. I'll do my best to clear things up.

The reason for the optional statement is because we know commanders must work within limited maintenance budgets. And sometimes we offer instructions for making tools or suggest equipment improvements that are great ideas, but expensive to do.

Because we can't tell commanders how to spend their maintenance dollars, they must decide whether or not to implement the info in *PS*. But they're wise to do what we suggest, since we have the most up-to-date info. That's because we're able to get the word out much faster than most TMs can be updated and published.

The information in *PS* is official because every article is reviewed and approved by the command overseeing that procedure or piece of equipment. So what you read in *PS* is what HQDA G4, AMC, the life cycle management commands, and other authorities want operators, mechanics and supply personnel to know and do in relation to their equipment or tasks.

Sure, there are skeptics who doubt our validity, usually because of our comic-style art. In that case, you may want to hand 'em a copy of AR 700-138, Army Logistics Readiness and Sustainability (Feb 04). Highlight Section 5-13 on Page 69. It says that *PS* is an official technical bulletin and reading it should be a regular part of maintaining unit readiness.

AMC Regulation 750-21, Maintenance of Supplies and Equipment: *PS*, The Preventive Maintenance Monthly (TB 43-*PS*-Series) also explains our mission.

Thanks for your efforts to uphold the Army's highest safety and equipment condition standards. Hooah!

Half-Mast