

**Update for CIO**

(VAIQ# N/A)  
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**Weekly update on Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER)**

During the week of October 8-12, 2012, the Department of Defense (DoD) began sending case files electronically to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in support of the Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES). The Electronic Case File Transfer (eCFT) module enables VA and the Military Services to meet the Secretary of VA and the Secretary of Defense's directive to create a paperless, searchable IDES claims file transferred between VA and DoD. Previously, hard-copy case files—including service treatment records (STRs), commanders' letters, narrative summaries, and compensation and pension examination reports—were sent via FedEx or other delivery methods. By using a shared, paperless, and searchable system, the Military Services and VA will increase the accountability, efficiency, and transparency of the IDES process. Eleven of the 139 IDES sites began using eCFT on September 28, 2012. The current plan is to expand eCFT to all 139 IDES sites, servicing 30,000 wounded warriors, beginning January, 2013. A decision to expand this system nationwide is expected before year-end.

APPROVED BY:



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Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record