In today’s digital age, anyone with a smartphone or tablet can make a phone call from anywhere in the world. We can stream music and movies on the go, share stories, and ideas with family and friends hundreds of miles apart in an instant with a simple tap on a touch screen.

All of these features are ripe for modernizing how our military does business. The next generation of service members are already using these devices and embedding the devices’ technology into our existing military processes will better enable our military to be mission ready.

We all traveled to San Diego either by car, plane, and some by rail. Most of us booked a hotel or ticket simply using our mobile device. It was fast, easy, and most importantly allowed us the flexibility to make or change the arrangement at any place and at any time.

Military logistics should be no different.

As the military becomes increasingly more digital, modernizing how we approach the challenges of logistics is the way forward to support Marines anywhere in the world. The Marine Corps operates across six continents and sending people and goods to the far corners of the world is no small task.

This level of coordination within military logistics world requires a modern solution to allow those in logistics to readily adapt to any situation. A mobile logistics application for our Marines is the solution.

The application would serve as a “dropbox” or cloud storage for all forms and documentation commonly used by Marines in the logistics field. All files and forms could be shared and edited with others using the same mobile application and automatically sync with a web-based companion app. Marines with the planning and technical expertise in the logistics field would no longer be tethered to their computer.

This app allows Marines to maintain their work tempo even as changes occur last minute. Most importantly, the app would serve as a modern solution to enable Marines the ability to support one another while on the move. The mobility of the app enables Marines the flexibility to access, create, edit, and send or receive forms regularly used by peers.

With this mobile app, a Marine could send updated information on the readiness of vehicles, generators, and various other equipment directly from their mobile device from a parking lot instead of waiting to do so from a computer. If there’s damage to equipment or an accident simply using the mobile device’s camera to document the situation and embedding the data into a document allows action to be taken immediately.

This on-the-spot initiative would allow Marines the ability to send up a report or status update in real time and receive immediate feedback. This app would streamline the flow of information across various platforms, reduce paper waste, raise transparency on our equipment readiness, and be able to keep our Marines in the fight!