



In the News

NAVY NEWSSTAND (JULY 13, 2005) NAVY'S 'VIRTUAL SYSCOM' TRANSFORMING BUSINESS PROCESSES

Virtual SYSCOM Public Affairs Team

WASHINGTON—Moving smartly ahead to achieve the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO)'s objectives of Sea Enterprise, the Navy's Systems Commands have recently issued joint guidance that provides a collaborative business framework for improving interoperability and providing enhanced support to the fleet.

As partners in the *Virtual SYSCOM*, the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR), Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR), Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP), and most recently, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC), have set specific challenges and goals that support CNO's aim of *working smarter* by transforming business processes and enhancing the delivery of products and services at reduced costs.

"We can no longer do business as we have in the past," said Vice Adm. Walter Massenburg, commander, NAVAIR. "Sea Enterprise is not about improving the old ways of doing business, but developing new ways of doing business. We must change if we are to afford our future and be able to build the Navy of the 21st century."

Among its significant goals, the Virtual SYSCOM is focused on continuing efforts to increase productivity and accelerate the process of innovation across the Navy SYSCOMs through the application of proven productivity tools such as Lean, Theory of Constraints, and Six Sigma, and to employ opportunities for cross-SYSCOM efficiencies such as best practices, centers of excellence, shared service models, and leveraging core competencies. Another important goal of the Virtual SYSCOM is the implementation of human capital strategies to structure and shape a workforce that is responsive to the demands of the Navy and Marine Corps warfighter.

Since the Virtual SYSCOM was initially adopted in 2002, a number of major accomplishments have been achieved in a short period, including developing the Navy SYSCOM naval systems engineering guide; achieving a 53 percent reduction in the legacy IT application portfolio; and establishing a Human Systems Performance Assessment

Center to deliver optimal manning and enhanced sailor and warfighting performance.

"The Virtual Systems Command continues to support Navy's Sea Power 21 objectives through collaboration in the functional communities to reduce the cost of doing business and improve the effectiveness of the SYSCOMs," said Massenburg. "This collaboration supports the CNO's vision for the Navy to do its work smarter and continue to develop a culture of improved productivity."

For related news, visit the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Navy Newsstand Web site at <http://www.news.navy.mil/local/navfachq/>.

ARMY NEWS SERVICE (JULY 19, 2005) SMALL ARMS WEAPONS PROGRAM REVIEWED FOR JOINT SERVICE POTENTIAL

The Army announced today it temporarily suspended the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the acquisition of a new family of small weapons—Objective Individual Combat Weapon Increment 1 (OICW-1)—in order to incorporate joint requirements. The Army's proposal has received interest from the other military services, and is further supported by several internal reviews reinforcing the increase in the potential for joint use.

Congressional notification has been made, and today's suspension of the program allows joint requirements to be viewed and incorporated through the Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System process, which will occur immediately. Original solicitation started May 11, 2005, and is temporarily suspended effective July 19, 2005, until the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC) convenes, which is currently scheduled for early September.

Upon the JROC's completion, the committee will issue a memorandum, which incorporates any new joint OICW-1 requirements. The RFP will be amended accordingly and issued with a revised effective date for receipt of proposals.

OICW-1 is composed of a family of small arms weapons that consists of a carbine, special compact, designated marksman, and light machine gun weapon systems. These weapons are intended to replace the M4 carbine, the M16 rifle, the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon, and selected M9 pistols. The capabilities development document calls for a family of weapons that possesses a high degree of commonality, enhanced capabilities, and much higher reliability than our current weapons.

For more information on the OICW-1 and other Army weapons systems and technology, go to <http://www>.



MOUNTAIN HOME AIR FORCE BASE, Idaho—From left: Staff Sgts. Erik Roberts and Eric Jones conduct a field test for the stabilized portable optical target receiver as Neil Huber and John Harwick look on. Battlelab technology often requires field testing before implementation. The airmen are assigned to the 422nd Training and Evaluation Squadron at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. Huber and Harwick are battlelab technicians.

U.S. Air Force photo by John Marshall.

army.mil >. Media may direct questions to Army Maj. Desiree Wineland, Office of the Chief, Public Affairs, Media Relations, (703) 697-7592 or desiree.wineland@hqda.army.mil.

AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS (JULY 26, 2005) BATTLELAB TECHNICIANS DEVELOP SOLUTIONS FOR WARFIGHTERS

Staff Sgt. Melissa Koskovich, USAF

MOUNTAIN HOME AIR FORCE BASE, Idaho (AFPN)—With sand whipping across your face and sweat dripping down your forehead, you squint through the scope at the enemy target.

“The third building on the left,” you shout into the radio. A garbled transmission is returned. Closing your eyes, you take a deep breath and hope the pilot heard you. The explosion rings through the desert.

Developing smarter technology for warfighters on the front lines is the focus of the Air Warfare Battlelab. The 25-person think tank tackles problems by combining off-the-shelf technology with innovative ideas, in hopes of finding a lighter, leaner, and more lethal way of accomplishing the mission.

The battlelab here is one of seven Air Force-wide. Since their creation in 1997, they have pushed to move ideas into the field quicker than traditional research and development programs allow.

“Our main focus is to improve how we fight and win wars,” said Col. Ernest Parrott, AWB commander. “We aim to help individuals who find themselves at the pointy end of the spear—keeping them safe and making their jobs easier.”

Battlelab technicians from different Air Force specialties tackle problems, both large and small, with the goal of developing ideas or solutions within 18 months. Their diverse career backgrounds afford a creative environment giving them the ability to envision projects such as the stabilized portable optical target receiver.

“[The receiver], developed in an attempt to ensure weapons were truly hitting their mark, combines existing technology into a pair of binocular-like goggles. They allow ground forces to see laser signatures and ensure the correct targets are being painted by aircrews,” Parrott said. “After calling in air support to a target location, troops on scene can look through [the target receiver] and ensure the correct target is being engaged.”



In the News

Inventions like this are invaluable in preventing friendly fire incidents and ensuring the highest degree of accuracy in military strike operations, he said.

Other battlelab technology is also earning some lime-light.

“Vein Viewer is another idea recently developed by our [team],” said John Marshall, battlelab team member. “This invention combines night-vision goggle technology with needs of medical patients in the field. It allows medics to literally see the vascular system thru the skin.”

This technology proves useful in both civilian and military applications, solving problems ranging from starting intravenous lines more easily to assisting medics during bumpy medical evacuation operations. Vein Viewer is currently being tested at Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

With such a rapid turnaround, suggestions and new information on technology are always welcomed. People interested in submitting ideas or technology for consideration can go online to <http://www.mountainhome.af.mil/AWB>.

“The problems brought to us are like puzzles,” Parrott said. “We have most of it put together, but sometimes we’re missing a piece. That piece is out there somewhere.”

As the ring of the explosion fades, you rise to your feet and wipe the gritty sweat from your brow. In front of you lie the ruins of the building, exactly as planned. The pilot heard you. You saw it; the laser signature dancing across the target. You breathe a sigh of relief, pack up your equipment, and move on to the next location. Your mind is at ease. Thanks to battlelab technology, you are on the cutting edge.

Koskovich is with the 366th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office, Mountain AFB, Idaho.

MARINE CORPS NEWS (JULY 28, 2005) ‘TECHIES’ HOPPING TO MEET OIF DIGITAL DEMAND

Lance Cpl. Ray Lewis, USMC

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. (July 28, 2005)—Local “techies” are engineering a brave, new, and highly mobile world of command and control—one that’s stretching combat

communication horizons even further from the old Corps’ string-and-styrofoam-cup traditions.

It’s a modular world of laptops and digital links—the backbone of a command center that can be erected or torn down in seven minutes, say technical experts with the Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity here.

They demonstrated the system, dubbed a Unit Operations Center, recently here. They’re fielding the systems at a faster rate than planned in response to urgent requests from commanders in Iraq, where nine of the systems already have been employed, said Bryan D. Nguyen, UOC system engineer.

“It maximizes the decision-making process—[which ultimately] brings Marines home,” said Capt. Jason A. Hamilton, UOC logistician for Marine Corps Systems Command.

Behind a barbed-wired, chain-link fence, guarded by devil dogs posted like a pair of Rottweilers, the communications system is shrouded in secrecy.

It’s also still being developed. One fielded model may be slightly modified from the last one.

“Although there is a need, the UOC is constantly going through prototype [phases],” Nguyen said.

Anyway, it’s been a long time coming: “The concept has always been here since the early ‘90s,” Nguyen added.

Under its self-contained tent is an air-conditioned space holding the system’s heart—laptops and projection screens depicting the battlespace for commanders to direct firefights.

“The commander-to-commander communication is vital in accomplishing the mission and saving lives,” Hamilton said.

“In the past, friendly fires happened because of lack of communication,” he added, alluding to the map-and-thumbtack days.

MCTSSA is educating Marines on the technology to guard against such tragedies.

“We have civilians teaching Marines so they can teach fellow devil dogs to troubleshoot. And if they can’t find



the answer, they're referred back to their initial instructors," Nguyen said.

MCTSSA has already fielded nine systems for use in Iraq. But MCTSSA technicians and engineers are continually configuring and refining systems to meet increasing demand, Nguyen said.

"We have been producing UOC systems every three months to meet the requests coming from [overseas]," Hamilton said.

The system figures to become a mainstay on the battlefield in years to come—because its "open systems" design is adaptable to changing technology, Hamilton said.

"When computer parts in the UOC get outdated, we can just go to Radio Shack and replace an old part with a new one," Hamilton said.

Hamilton says commanders "are very excited" about the system's command-and-control profile. Instead of using radios, they "can actually use e-mail to text each other in chat rooms," he said.

The system is portable, he noted. It can easily be transported in humvees.

MCTSSA is working steadily to get more of these state-of-the-art systems to the battlefield, Hamilton said.

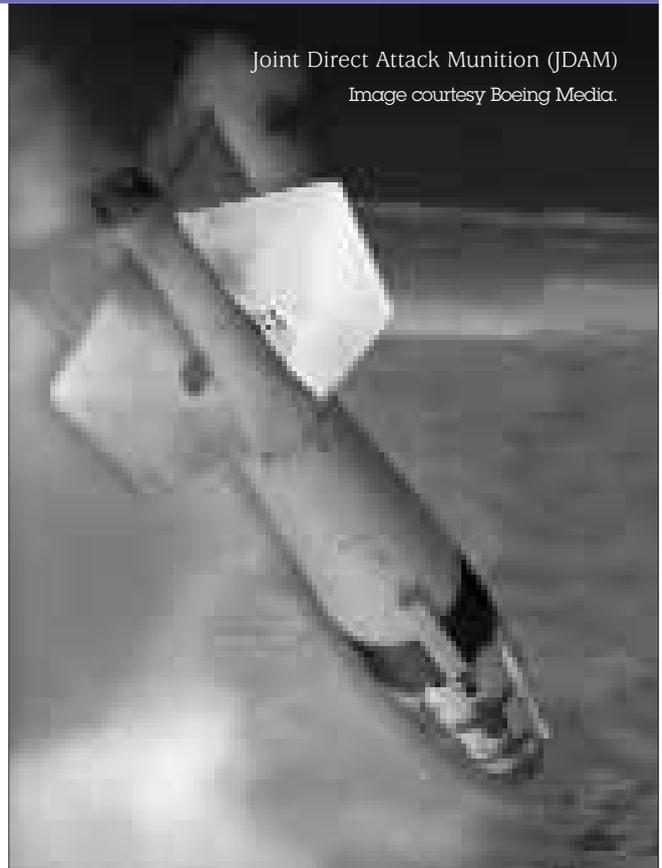
"As long as they're satisfied, we'll keep hard-charging to provide [commanders] with support," Hamilton said.

MCTSSA hopes to have fielded as many as 33 such systems by next spring, Nguyen added.

AIR ARMAMENT CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS (JULY 29, 2005) JDAM ONE OF FIRST AIR FORCE EFFORTS WITH UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION

Staff Sgt. Ryan Hansen, USAF

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla.—Through the years, the Joint Direct Attack Munition has made headlines as the warfighter's weapon of choice for its accuracy, reliability, and low cost. Now JDAM is making headlines for a different reason. In March it became one of the first weapons in the Air Force inventory to comply with the Department of Defense's mandate for all of its acquisition items to be marked by a tracking system



Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM)

Image courtesy Boeing Media.

called Unique Identification, or UID. The system is a new program that will make it easier for the DoD to access information about its possessions as well as make acquisition, repair, and deployment faster and more efficient.

The Air-to-Ground Munitions Systems Wing manages the JDAM program.

"It makes the team very proud to be the forerunner of this new policy and the first Air-to-Ground Munitions Systems Wing weapon to comply," said Mike Luna, JDAM Squadron. "As we move further into the 21st century, we realize that our processes have to be more precise and accurate than ever before. The world continues to shrink with regard to information as it becomes increasingly accessible. We must be part of that process if we want to stay on the front line."

Not only does each JDAM tail kit include UID when it rolls off the assembly line at Boeing's Weapons Enterprise Capability Center in St. Charles, Mo., but its shipping container does, as well. The company is almost a year ahead of the scheduled DoD mandate.

"We constantly strive to be customer-focused on the JDAM program," said Karl Bloomberg, JDAM production



Washington, D.C. (Sept. 29, 2004)—Program Manager, Tomahawk All-Up-Round Programs, and Master of Ceremonies, Navy Capt. Robert E. Novak, speaks to the audience as the U.S. Navy formally welcomes Raytheon Company's Tomahawk Block IV cruise missile into the Navy's arsenal at a fleet introduction ceremony at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. The missile can be redirected to a new target and is capable of executing Global Positioning System (GPS) missions.

U.S. Navy photograph by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Daniel J. McLain.

manager for Boeing. "UID is an enhanced capability which we felt we had the opportunity to implement relatively easily and offer to the customer as soon as possible."

Ideally, the identification system will lower the cost of item management, improve item availability, increase asset visibility and traceability, help achieve clean audit opinions, and improve long-term inventory management and strategic purchasing for the DoD.

"The DoD goal is not only to have the capability at the maintainer's level and every bomb dump, but to track all assets within the DoD supply system. The Air Force and Navy ammunition tracking systems are different; therefore, the unique identifier was modified so both agencies would be able to track without making modifications to existing databases." Luna said.

Upon delivery, each JDAM's UID is submitted to a registry maintained by the Defense Logistics Information Service.

The DLIS stores detailed information regarding the custody, location, condition, and value of an item. The information is then processed through Wide Area Work

Flow, a DoD-wide application designed to eliminate paper from the invoice, receipt, and acceptance phases in the contracting process.

It is estimated that over the life of the program more than 125,000 JDAMs will be given a UID.

Hansen is with the Air Armament Center Public Affairs Office at Eglin AFB, Fla.

NAVAIR PUBLIC AFFAIRS NEWS RELEASE (JULY 29, 2005) **TOMAHAWK PROGRAM OFFICE MERGER ANNOUNCED**

The U.S. Navy's Tomahawk missile program has recently consolidated its management areas to provide the most efficient support to the Fleet. The consolidation follows a recommendation resulting from an assessment conducted by an independent consultant, in conjunction with the related Navy staffs.

The change involves the merger of PMA-282, the Tomahawk Weapon Control System program management office, with PMA-280, the Tomahawk All-Up-Round program management office. Additionally, the Cruise Test Directorate of PEO (W) has become part of PMA-280.



In the News

The name of the new organization will be PMA-280, the Tomahawk Weapons System program office.

“I support your efforts to gain efficiencies and improve resource allocation,” said John Young, assistant secretary of the Navy, for research, development and acquisition, in a memo approving the merger.

According to a newly defined program mission statement, the office will be “the Navy’s premier acquisition command and life cycle manager for the Tomahawk Weapons System providing the warfighter with a safe, effective, reliable, and maintainable weapons system.”

The Tomahawk program is part of the Program Executive Office, Strike Weapons and Unmanned Aviation (PEO(W)) co-located at the NAVAIR complex, on the Patuxent River Naval Air Station, in Maryland. Tomahawk is a registered trademark of the United States Navy.

ARMY NEWS SERVICE (AUG. 8, 2005) HUMVEES NOW ROLLING FROM NEW REFURB SITE

Chuck Sprague

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait—An Aug. 1 ceremony officially started operations for a new Humvee refurbishment and up-armor facility near Kuwait.

The facility has Army orders to roll out 300 ready-for-combat vehicles per month to support operations in Iraq.

The large, 87,000 sq. ft. air-conditioned warehouse was leased in early June by Eagle Support Services Corporation, Huntsville, Ala., and falls under the Army Field Support Brigade, Southwest Asia.

Humvees are transported here by convoy from Iraq and receive whatever maintenance is required, along with added armor, prior to their return to combat. To date, more than 20,600 combat vehicles have been up-armored in the Southwest Asia Theater.

“Look around you today and you see vehicles. Not just any vehicles, you see up-armored Humvees. ... All of



Humvees staged inside of a new refurbishment/up-armor site near Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, in different stages of repair. The site started operations on July 29 with an Army mandate to repair, up-armor, and send 300 vehicles per month back to Iraq for combat.

Photograph by Chuck Sprague.

those vehicles tell a story, and in some cases it’s the story of men and women that were kept alive by the very fact that they were in an armored vehicle,” said Brig. Gen. Kevin Leonard, commander of the Army Materiel Command, (Theater) Southwest Asia.

The refurbishment site operates 12 hours per day, seven days per week, and requires a workforce of more than 350 workers. Most are mechanics specialized in engine work, air conditioning, transmissions, wheel assemblies, and electric motors.

This is the first facility in-theater designed specifically to repair and up-armor Humvees. Other smaller facilities within Southwest Asia have the ability to up-armor and repair a combination of the Army’s tactical combat vehicle inventory.

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE (AUG. 12, 2005) RAPID EQUIPPING FORCE SPEEDS NEW TECHNOLOGY TO FRONT LINES

Donna Miles

WASHINGTON—The Army’s Rapid Equipping Force is revolutionizing the way the Service gets new technology into the hands of warfighters, its director told Pentagon reporters. That high-tech equipment ranges from miniature robots that



In the News

can seek out roadside bombs to handheld airplanes that can peek over hills and around corners and report back their findings.

The Rapid Equipping Force concept is the traditional military acquisition system on steroids. It identifies an immediate warfighting need, seeks out the best way to meet it, and quickly gets the technical solution into the hands of the people who need it, explained Army Col. Gregory Tubbs. In their most impressive responses, staff members have been able to fill several specific requests within just 48 hours.

Rather than going to the drawing board to come up with a solution to a problem, the Rapid Equipping Force jump-starts the process by evaluating what's already available commercially or in the production pipeline, Tubbs said. The effort puts the office in close association with all the military services, military and commercial laboratories, and private companies. "I look for any partner who can help me do it faster and better," he said.

By using off-the-shelf technology, even if it needs modifications to military requirements, Tubbs and his staff are able to short-circuit the traditional acquisition process that can take years rather than weeks or months or even years to get equipment to the troops.

Some items, like a hand-held device that translates English to Arabic, are issued through "spiral development," in which they're sent to the field for immediate use while the next, improved version is being developed. The translator is designed to help troops communicate with Iraqis when they don't have an interpreter with them.

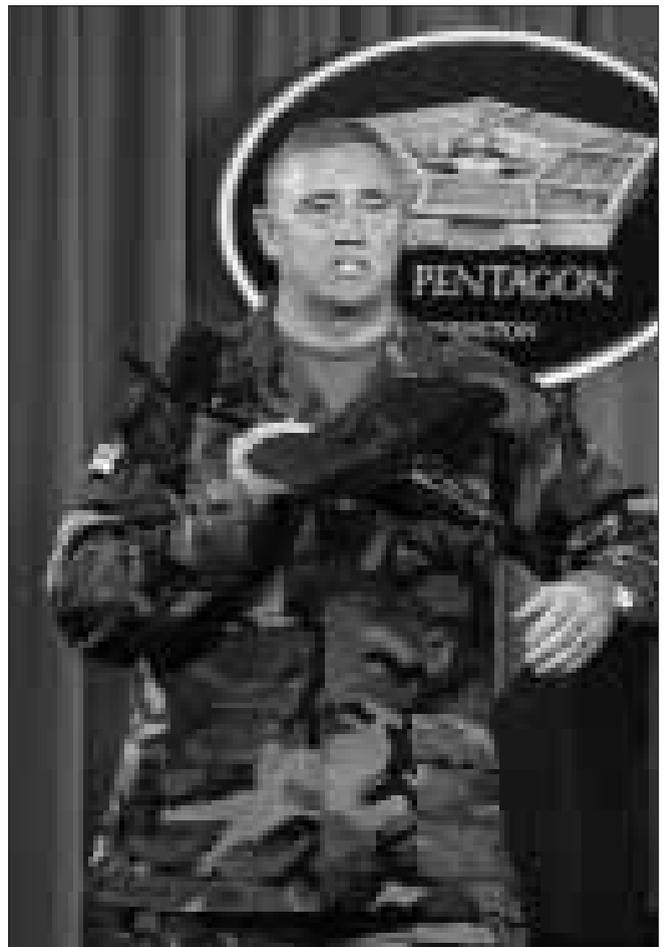
"I want to be able to fill immediate warfighter needs," Tubbs said. "I don't want to have to wait two to three years."

Tubbs' sense of urgency comes across particularly strongly when he talks about improvised explosive devices that continue to claim American military lives and limbs. Among the more promising devices his office sent to the Middle East is MARCBOT, or multifunction agile remote-controlled robot, a small, wheeled robot with a video camera able to check for IEDs while keeping troops at a safe distance.

Thirty of the MARCBOTS are already in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the Rapid Equipping Force plans to ship more than 100 more to the theater soon, Tubbs said. "Soldiers like them and they save lives," he said.

Another device being developed, the camera-equipped TACMAV, or tactical mini air vehicle, enables lower-echelon units to "see" short distances ahead and at far less cost than a unmanned aerial vehicle. Tubbs' staff purchased it commercially, modified its software, and are working to reduce the training required to operate it to two weeks.

JLENS (joint land attack cruise missile defense elevated netted sensor system) provides a persistent surveillance capability. NS Microwave is a microwave surveillance system adapted from an off-the-shelf product that's proving popular with federal, state, and local law enforcement authorities. An overhead cover protection product under development shows promise in helping protect deployed troops from mortar blasts and other threats.



Army Col. Gregory Tubbs, director of the Army's Rapid Equipping Force, demonstrates the camera-equipped TACMAV, or tactical mini air vehicle, at a Pentagon press briefing Aug. 12.

Photograph by R.D. Ward.



CVN-21—The 21st Century Aircraft Carrier. In September 2003, Northrop Grumman was awarded a \$108 million contract to begin design of the CVN-21 class nuclear powered aircraft carrier. Construction should begin in 2007 and commissioning is expected to be in 2014. She will replace the Enterprise (CVN-65), which will at that time be 53 years old. Image courtesy Naval War College.

Tubbs said feedback is key to improving on devices sent to the field through the Rapid Equipping Force. He and his staff actively seek input, traveling to Iraq and Afghanistan to talk with troops using the equipment, chatting with servicemembers when they redeploy, even visiting military hospitals to meet with wounded troops.

“You really don’t want to discount any input because you don’t know where your next good idea is going to come from,” he said.

NAVY NEWSSTAND (AUG. 12, 2005) ADVANCE CONSTRUCTION BEGINS FOR CVN 21

Journalist 1st Class Donald P. Rule, USN

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. (NNS)—The beveling of a 15-ton metal plate kicked off advance construction of the newest class of aircraft carrier, the CVN 21 project, Aug. 11 at Northrop Grumman Newport News shipyards in Virginia. The new carrier is designed to modernize the “flat tops” for the 21st century.

Advance construction will take an estimated two years before construction can begin on the ship itself. This gives technicians and engineers the time needed to test and design the ship and all the new technologies that will be put into the vessel.

“We’re going to kind of mark [the occasion of] the first cutting of steel,” said Matt Mulherin, vice president of programs at Northrop Grumman Newport News. “We’re starting advance construction today, and it’s the construction needed to kind of learn your lessons, validate your capacity assumptions ... see how things are working out in your new facility.”

“Remember, this is the lead ship,” Mulherin added. “Historically, they take a little bit longer. There’s a little bit of a learning curve that needs to be learned and implemented.”

Besides being larger than today’s Nimitz-class carriers, the new generation will switch the steam-powered catapults to electromagnetic catapults; redesign the island structure, which merges the separate island and mast of the old carriers into a single, smaller compact unit; and a newly designed nuclear power plant. These and other systems will be designed to maximize efficiency and reduce costs, manning, and weight while enhancing the ship’s operational capabilities.

“[The ship] will have improved capabilities over the Nimitz class, a class of ships that has proven very capable,” said Mike Petters, president of Northrop Grumman Newport News. “CVN 21 is designed for efficiency over the 50-year life cycle while providing America with the kind of



In the News

forward presence unique to aircraft carriers and so critical in today's uncertain world."

The metal plate cut during Thursday's ceremony will eventually be used in the construction of CVN 78, the first aircraft carrier to be built under the CVN 21 project. Along with the first-cut ceremony, the shipyard held its grand opening for several new facilities to be used in the construction of the new warships.

New facilities include a heavy-plate bay facility, a covered modular-assembly facility and others to protect employees and components from the weather, and additional cranes to allow modular pieces to be built more completely prior to attaching them to the rest of the ship.

Rule is with the Naval Media Center Mobile Det. 3, Norfolk, Va.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (AUG. 15, 2005) DOD RELEASES SELECTED ACQUISITION REPORTS

The Department of Defense has released details on major defense acquisition program cost and schedule changes since the December 2004 reporting period. This information is based on the Selected Acquisition Reports (SARs) submitted to the Congress for the June 30, 2005, reporting period.

SARs summarize the latest estimates of cost, schedule, and technical status. These reports are prepared annually in conjunction with the president's budget. Subsequent quarterly exception reports are required for only those programs experiencing unit cost increases of at least 15 percent or schedule delays of at least six months. Quarterly SARs are also submitted for initial reports, final reports, and for programs that are rebaselined at major milestone decisions.

The total program cost estimates provided in the SARs encompass research and development, procurement, military construction, and acquisition-related operation and maintenance (except for pre-Milestone B programs, which are limited to development costs pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2432). Total program costs reflect actual costs to date as well as future anticipated costs. All estimates include anticipated inflation allowances.

The current estimate of program acquisition costs [shown in the sidebar] for programs covered by SARs for the prior reporting period (December 2004) was

CURRENT ESTIMATE (\$ IN MILLIONS)	
December 2004 (88 programs)	.....\$1,472,184.3
Less final SAR submissions for six programs:	
JCM, Longbow Hellfire, MCS, NESP, SM-2, and B-1B (CMUP)	.....-7,136.2
Plus three new programs:	
MPS, MUOS, and SSDS	.....+9,074.1
December 2004 Adjusted (85 programs)	.....+1,474,122.2
Changes Since Last Report:	
Economic	.....\$ 0.0
Quantity	.....-5.8
Schedule	.....+1.7
Engineering	.....0.0
Estimating	.....-55.0
Other	.....-0.0
Support	.....-13.7
Net Cost Change	.....-\$72.8
June 2005 (85 programs)	.....\$1,474,049.4

\$1,472,184.3 million. After subtracting the costs for six final reports (Joint Common Missile (JCM), Longbow Hellfire, Maneuver Control System (MCS), Navy Extremely High Frequency Satellite Communications System (NESP), Standard Missile-2 (SM-2), and B-1B Conventional Mission Upgrade Program (CMUP)), and adding the costs for three new programs (Mission Planning System (MPS), Mobile User Objective System (MUOS), and Ship Self Defense System (SSDS)) from the December 2004 reporting period, the adjusted current estimate of program acquisition costs was \$1,474,122.2 million. There was a net cost decrease of \$72.8 million (-0.005 percent) during the current reporting period (June 2005), which was the result primarily of revised program estimates for the Air Force's National Airspace System (NAS) program.

For the June 2005 reporting period, there were quarterly exception SARs submitted for six programs. The reasons for the submissions are provided below.

Navy

LPD 17 (Amphibious Transport Dock Ship)—The SAR was submitted to report a schedule slip of seven months (from July 2006 to February 2007) for Lead Ship Initial Operational Capability resulting from challenges associated with completing lead ship production and testing. There were no cost changes reported since the December 2004 SAR.



MH-60S Utility Helicopter—The SAR was submitted to report a schedule slip of six months in the Initial Operational Capability of the Airborne Mine Countermine mission capability (from September 2006 to March 2007). This delay was caused by problems with the Carriage Stream Tow and Recovery System (CSTRS). Resolution of the issue requires redesign and manufacture of some CSTRS components. There were no significant cost changes reported since the December 2004 SAR.

Air Force

EELV (Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle)—The SAR was submitted to report a schedule slip of seven months (from May 2005 to December 2005) in approval of Full Rate Production (Milestone III) approval. The delay was due to an anomaly during the Delta IV heavy lift demonstration that delayed completion of the exit criteria required to proceed to Milestone III. There were no cost changes reported since the December 2004 SAR.

GBS (Global Broadcast Service)—The SAR was submitted to report that the current estimate for Initial Operational Capability (IOC) 2/3 has slipped nine months (from March 2006 to December 2006), and the current estimate for the Beyond Low Rate Initial Production review has slipped five months (from November 2005 to April 2006). Both changes were caused by the need to integrate Operational Requirements Document (ORD) III changes into the Test and Evaluation Master Plan (TEMP) and other test planning documentation. Program costs decreased \$12.0 million (-1.6%) from \$756.0 million to \$744.0 million, as the result of a revised cost estimate and a quantity reduction of 12 units from 1,049 to 1,037 units.

NAS (National Airspace System)—The SAR was submitted to rebaseline from a Development to a Production Estimate following the June 2005 approval of Full Rate Production (Milestone III). The dates for award of the Digital Airport Surveillance Radar (DASR) full rate production contract and the DoD Advanced Automation System production award exercise were both changed from March 2005 to June 2005. The changes were due to a later-than-expected Beyond Low Rate Initial Production report and the effects of a changing management structure following the departure of the previous Milestone Decision Authority. The new baseline also includes the addition of Follow-on Operational Test and Evaluation as recommended by the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center and the Director of Operational Test and Evaluation. Program costs decreased \$59.5 million (-4.0%) from \$1,480.6 million to \$1,421.1

million, because primarily of a refinement in the Navy's cost estimate.

SDB (Small Diameter Bomb)—The SAR was submitted to rebaseline the program from a Development to a Production Estimate following the April 2005 approval of Low Rate Initial Production (Milestone C). There were no cost changes reported since the December 2004 SAR.

A summary table of the SARs can be found at <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Aug2005/d20050815sars.pdf>.

U.S. JOINT FORCES COMMAND NEWS RELEASE (AUG. 23, 2005) COMMANDS WORKING TO IMPROVE JOINT PLANNING IN MILITARY DEPLOYMENT AND DISTRIBUTION

Jennifer Colaizzi

SUFFOLK, Va.—U.S. Joint Forces Command (USJFCOM) and U.S. Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM) have partnered to deliver joint deployment and global distribution process improvement.

The two commands implemented Unified View (UV), a joint deployment and global distribution developmental pathway, which applies the Pentagon's Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System (JCIDS) to rapidly achieve needed deployment and distribution changes.

According to Navy Cmdr. Dave Kindley, who oversees USJFCOM's UV team, any command could propose and execute a deployment and distribution process change, but it might only solve a one-time situational problem.

"To really improve end-to-end situational awareness and better control the flow of assets into theater, everybody needs to be in the loop earlier," said Kindley, who explained why joint planning and execution community (JPEC) subject matter experts (SME) were assembled at USJFCOM's Suffolk complex for a 5-day workshop, held from Aug. 15 to Aug. 19.

"This group is smart," said Kindley. "They are the recognized and vocal experts in the field, and they're here to discuss and suggest joint solutions to the most pressing problems facing the deployment and distribution world."

To illustrate how important regulating and sharing information about the flow of assets into theater is, Kindley told a short story about how two units were sending



In the News

trucks into theater, but unfortunately, they were going to the same location on the same date, when they were needed in different locations on different dates.

“How do we correct that?” asked Kindley. “That’s what these workshops are for—to determine what doctrine, organization, training, material, leadership, education, personnel, and facilities [DOTMLPF] change recommendations are needed to prevent those situations from happening.”

By reviewing DOTMLPF, Kindley said that the SMEs are more likely to develop full joint warfighting capabilities enhancements rather than partial fixes.

Dr. Steve Daniels, a contractor supporting the US-TRANSCOM Readiness, Exercises and Training Branch, said that the group was reviewing capability shortfalls in three specific focus areas: requirements and movement control, asset visibility, and capability closure.

Ultimately, the solutions will be presented to the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC), according to both Kindley and Daniels.

“We don’t want recommendations and solutions which will be put into a book and then put onto a bookshelf waiting for problems,” said Daniels. “The purpose of this work is to provide near-term solutions for joint warfighters to use immediately.”

“When the commander asks, ‘When can I expect my capabilities to arrive and when can I count on using them,’ we want the supporting commands to be able to respond, ‘We have situational awareness on the status of your requested capabilities and they will arrive on time today, tomorrow, in five days,’” said Kindley.

Kindley said that this year’s change recommendations are just a starting point. The long-term developmental pathway is a continuing effort.

Colaizzi is with USJFCOM Public Affairs, Norfolk, Va. For more information on USJFCOM, visit the command’s Web site at <<http://www.usjfc.com>>.

An F/A-22 Raptor takes off from Nellis AFB, Nev., for a mission. During a two-ship sortie, airmen from the 422nd Test and Evaluation Squadron flew the first follow-on operational test and evaluation mission on the F/A-22 Raptor on Aug. 29, releasing Joint Direct Attack Munitions on the Utah Test and Training Range.

U.S. Air Force photograph by Tech. Sgt. Kevin J. Gruenwald, USAF.



AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS (SEPT. 3, 2005) RAPTOR RELEASES JDAM DURING FIRST ‘FOLLOW-ON’ EVALUATION MISSION

1st Lt. Brooke Davis, USAF

NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, Nev.—Members of the 422nd Test and Evaluation Squadron here flew the first F/A-22 Raptor Follow-on Operational Test and Evaluation mission Aug. 29, releasing Joint Direct Attack Munitions on the Utah Test and Training Range.

In one of the largest Raptor test phases to date, Air Force organizations are dedicating a large portion of the missions to validate air-to-ground capabilities of the aircraft.

“This test is the culmination of a tremendous effort by numerous organizations and will serve to provide Air Combat Command the best information possible on the air-to-ground capabilities of this aircraft,” said Col. Matt Black, Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Detachment 6 commander.

As the overall agency charged with performing the evaluation, Det. 6 has divided testing on seven Raptors into three areas, Colonel Black said.

In one area, the Raptor will release JDAMs on the Utah range. Another evaluation will include firing live AIM-120 advanced medium range air-to-air missiles at the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. The third will be a mission-level evaluation flown on the Nevada Test and Training Range.

Testing is scheduled to last through late fall.

“Transitioning what is the premier air dominance fighter in the world to Follow-on Operational Test and Evalua-



Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Richard B. Myers, U.S. Air Force, salute after laying a wreath at the Pentagon Group Burial Marker during the Patriot Day Observance at Arlington National Cemetery on Sept. 11, 2005. The observance honors the victims and families of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on the Pentagon, the Twin Towers in New York, and Flight 93 over Pennsylvania.

DoD photograph by Tech. Sgt. Kevin J. Gruenwald, USAF.

tion is an extremely important milestone for the F/A-22," said Maj. Gen. Stephen M. Goldfein, Air Warfare Center commander. "Organizations involved in evaluating the latest capabilities offered by the Raptor have worked extremely hard, and we wouldn't be where we are today in the final stages of operational test and evaluation without that dedication."

During the evaluation, testers are planning to shoot five missiles and release 16 JDAMs, said Lt. Col. Jeff Weed, 422nd TES commander.

"For this part ... the 422nd flies one mission per day; however, each mission may actually be four sorties that also include adversaries, tankers, ground control intercept, and the maintenance support required to produce those sorties," he explained. "With this kind of support, the missions are flown using tactics that future Raptor squadrons will take to war. The scenarios are operationally realistic."

The 57th Maintenance Group is supporting the high-paced Raptor missions by making certain the aircraft are ready to fly multiple sorties.

"Maintenance is as much a part of the test as the flying portion," Colonel Black said. "Without the huge maintenance effort by the 57th Maintenance Group to maintain the aircraft and get them airborne, progressing [this evaluation] would have been much more difficult."

The 422nd TES is a tenant unit here of the 53rd Wing at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., and the squadron also is responsible for validating software upgrades on the Raptor's advanced avionics system and training future pilots.

Upon completion of the evaluation, Air Combat Command will decide if the Raptor will progress to Initial Operational Capability at the first operational Raptor squadron located at Langley AFB, Va.