

Integrating Command, Control and Informational Tools

DoD is pursuing the Joint Information Environment (JIE) to move away from a brittle, network-centric approach towards a flexible, data-centric approach. The effort proceeds from the recognition that mission success more than ever depends on the ability of military commanders and forces to act quickly and effectively based on the most accurate and timely data available. The challenge is to resolve barriers to trusted information sharing and collaboration; the goal is to provide more convenient, assured, and ready access to information on a wider range of devices, under diverse conditions.¹

To improve our C2 and information integration, we must:

- Evolve our approach to information sharing and information availability to ensure units large and small, operating dispersed or concentrated, have the awareness to employ the full range of combined arms at a tempo enabled by the distribution of timely and actionable information.
- Drive innovation by combining a mission perspective with commercial developments that allow information providers to collaborate on a situationally dependent architecture that lets information users opt-in to access or create tailored data streams.
- Integrate all forward-deployed and garrison MAGTF elements into the globally netted ISR architecture to increase awareness, preparedness, responsiveness, and effectiveness.
- Balance the need to move information across and within a more diverse base of users and producers with the need to reduce vulnerabilities induced by electronic signatures.
- Explore ways to preserve data integrity when and as hierarchical constraints on collection, production, and dissemination are loosened.
- Be prepared to make effective decisions in a degraded or denied C2 environment.
- Commit to the efforts under way in the Marine Corps to streamline acquisition processes to improve the consideration of commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) network and data solutions.

¹ *The Department of Defense Strategy for Implementing the Joint Information Environment*, September 18, 2013.