CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF INSTRUCTION

J-6 CJCSI 6610.01G
DISTRIBUTION: A, B, C 31 October 2024

TACTICAL DATA LINK STANDARDIZATION AND INTEROPERABILITY

References:
See Enclosure D

1. Purpose. In accordance with (IAW) references (a) through (s), this instruction establishes policy to achieve and maintain interoperability among those Department of Defense (DoD) information technology (IT) and national security systems (NSS) that implement tactical data links (TDLs). Policies outlined in this instruction are focused on achieving interoperability through the standardization of message protocols, format, content, implementation, and documentation. IAW reference (a), this instruction establishes procedures for the development, review, and validation of IT and NSS TDL message standards based on compatibility, interoperability, and integration requirements. It also establishes procedures for ensuring compliance through joint interoperability certification and program review. As directed by reference (b), it establishes procedures for the validation of interface standards and compatibility requirements for TDL message protocol format and content. Applicable TDL-related standards are found in Enclosure C.

2. Superseded/Cancellation. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) Instruction (CJCSI) 6610.01F, "Tactical Data Link Standardization Implementation Plan," 8 January 2021 is hereby superseded.

3. Applicability. This instruction applies to the Joint Staff, Combatant Commands (CCMDs), Military Departments, and DoD Agencies and activities. It is also strongly recommended for other Federal Departments implementing TDLs. References (b), (c), and (f) establish detailed TDL configuration management procedures not included in this instruction.

4. Policy. See Enclosure A.

5. Definitions. See Glossary.

6. Responsibilities. See Enclosure B.

7. Summary of Changes

a. Clarifies Joint Staff Directorate for Command, Control, Communications, and Computers, J-6 role with Tactical Data Links Standardization and Interoperability.

b. Adds Combat Net Radio Working Group (CNRWG) responsibilities and relationship.

c. Adds CNRWG Terms of Reference to references.

d. Refines Joint Multi-TDL Configuration Control Board (JMTCCB) roles and responsibilities.

e. Refines Joint Multi-TDL Standards Working Group (JMSWG) roles and responsibilities.

8. Releasability. UNRESTRICTED. This directive is approved for public release; distribution is unlimited on the Non-classified Internet Protocol Router Network. DoD Components (to include the CCMDs), other Federal Agencies, and the public may obtain copies of this directive through the Internet from the CJCS Directives Electronic Library at <http://www.jcs.mil/library>. Joint Staff activities may also obtain access via the SECRET Internet Protocol Router Network directives Electronic Library web sites.

9. Effective Date. This INSTRUCTION is effective upon signature.

For the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

STEPHEN E. LISZEWSKI, MajGen, USMC
Vice Director, Joint Staff

Enclosures:
A – Policy
B – Responsibilities
C – Tactical Data Link Standards Publications
D – References

ENCLOSURE A

POLICY

1. DoD IT and NSS implementing TDLs will comply with applicable TDL message standards and their associated documentation (Enclosure C). Compliance with TDL message standards is fundamental to achieving and maintaining joint and coalition compatibility and interoperability.

2. Documentation. TDL message standards are defined in U.S. Military Standard (MIL-STD) documents and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Allied Tactical Data Link Publications (ATDLPs). Joint Multi-Tactical Data Link Operating Procedures are contained in reference (d). For NATO, the equivalent document is ATDLP 7.33.

3. Certification. DoD IT and NSS implementing TDLs—to include Foreign Military Sales and Direct Commercial Sales systems sold to partner nations—must go through certifications. There are several different types of certifications conducted by different organizations. These are: Joint Interoperability, Implementation Requirement Exceptions, Interim Certificate to Operate (ICTO), National (NDD) and Service Difference Documents (SDD), Message Implementation Plan (MIP), Platform Requirements Specification (PRS), Platform Implementation Difference Document (PIDD), Actual Platform Implementation Specifications (APIS), and Platform Bit-Level Implementation. The following sub-paragraphs explain each certification and its requirements.

a. Joint Interoperability Test Certification. Prior to operating in joint or multinational areas, Joint Interoperability Test Certification is required for all IT and NSS implementing TDLs, to include Partner Nation Platforms. The Interoperability Steering Group (ISG) reviews systems placed in operation without joint certification for consideration and possible inclusion on the Operating at Risk List as defined in reference (r). CCMDs, through Joint Staff J-6 Data Standards Division (DSD), notifies ISG of any operational system (to include partner nations) within their area of responsibility (AOR) not having a joint certification and any interoperability issues associated with data link operations.

b. Implementation Requirement Exceptions. Compliance with implementation requirements specified in TDL message standards is essential for ensuring joint and coalition interoperability. In some instances, however, an IT and NSS may support a mission so narrowly defined it would be inefficient and disadvantageous to comply with all message standard implementation requirements. In these cases, the JMTCCB may approve

requests for exemption (RFEs) to implementation requirements. Platforms requesting an exemption will submit through their Service or Agency representative to the JMTCCB; CCMD may provide their request, or endorsement for a Service request, through Joint Staff J6 DSD. Normally, exceptions are approved in advance of IT and NSS joint interoperability certification. Exceptions granted may be permanent or temporary. A temporary RFE shall not exceed 4 years, with no renewal, and will be included in all Service/Agency and system-level description documentation. Exemptions do not constitute a waiver of the requirement for IT and NSS certification testing IAW references (g) and (s). However, the Defense Information Systems Agency's (DISA's) Joint Interoperability Test Command (JITC) and Joint Analysis Review Panels shall consider the approved requests for exemptions to requirements when deciding whether to recommend certification of a TDL system.

c. Interim Certificate to Operate. An ICTO, as outlined in reference (r), approved by the ISG is temporary (may not exceed 1 year in duration). It is approved only in exceptional cases where an IT and NSS is required to be used operationally prior to completion of joint interoperability certification. An ICTO does not waive the requirement to complete certification testing IAW reference (r).

d. National Difference Document. National Requirements Documentation define a specific nation's requirements in terms of message transmission and reception protocols and message formats, field coding, and data (data field identifiers, data use identifiers, and data items). These requirements can be viewed either in the form of an NDD or National Requirements Specification. An NDD will document the differences between a MIL-STD (e.g., MIL-STD-6016) and another, higher-level standard (in this example, ATDLP-5.16). However, an NDD is not always necessary; for some of the MIL-STDs, there may not be a corresponding, higher-level, multinational standard.

e. Service Difference Document. An SDD, once approved and/or developed, will define the differences between MIL-STD requirements and a specific Service's TDL requirements to fulfill that Service's national data link philosophy and operational needs. Each Service's SDD shall be reviewed and approved by the JMTCCB. Approved SDD requirements shall become part of the current MIL-STD baseline and shall be considered in developing certification requirements and analyzing test results for the platforms of that Service. JITC and Joint Analysis Review Panels shall consider the approved SDD requirements when deciding whether to recommend certification of a TDL system.

f. Message Implementation Plan. The MIP defines a program platform's implementation development plan through a two-part process initially outlining the high-level (Message and Word level) implementation requirements to support identified mission areas and TDL capabilities.

(1) The initial MIP supports high-level analysis of the TDL functions areas, and Mission Area interoperability assessments to develop a recommendation for approval or disapproval by the Service-level authority to proceed with development of the supporting implementation artifacts.

(2) The final MIP is the template to develop and mature the technical solution, which will include the PRS and Platform Requirements Difference Document (PRDD) to satisfy a platform's Information Exchange Requirements.

(3) To support the requirement in reference (g) for TDL participants to provide the final MIP prior to Milestone C, Joint Staff J-6 will review the MIP during the Joint Capabilities Integration Development System (JCIDS) process to conduct initial joint mission area interoperability assessments.

g. Platform Requirements Specification. The PRS defines the baseline of a platform's subset of the requirements from the MIL-STD and does not change. The PRDD format is used to explain the differences between the MIL-STD and the PRS. Deviations from a platform's TDL implementation requirements shall be approved by the JMTCCB.

h. Platform Implementation Difference Document. Programs use the PIDD format to explain the implementation differences from the development baseline standard, which transitions from the PRDD. Each PIDD entry defines the rationale for the deviation and, if applicable, a workaround. All fielded or actual deviations from the baseline standard, after platform implementation testing completes, require documentation.

i. Actual Platform Implementation Specifications. Creation of the APIS follows the development and testing of a platform's implementation. They document the fielded (actual) implementation data of the platform and define the program's actual performance. When identified problems receive correction, APIS can change. The APIS/PIDD support interoperability evaluations to identify capability gaps against functional requirements and interoperability assessments of data exchange between TDL capable platforms.

j. Platform Bit-Level Implementation. The TDL bit-level implementation contained in the APIS identifies the data item details—Data Field Identifiers and Data Use Identifiers—for transmission and reception. The deviations from

the required implementation plan are detailed in the PRS/PRDD and implementation differences are documented in the PIDD. The TDL bit-level implementation should be provided after the platform's program has been developed and tested but before it is submitted for joint certification testing. The procedures governing the development of the required implementation are the same as that of the actual implementations.

4. Configuration Management

a. The DISA Enterprise Integration Innovation, Emerging Technology Directorate (EM), Tactical Data Link Standards Division (EM6) is responsible for configuration management of TDL MIL-STDs (Enclosure C) and other associated documents. EM6 is also the U.S. custodian for applicable U.S. and NATO TDL documents.

b. The DoD Executive Agent for TDL Standards will establish and execute the JMTCCB on an ongoing basis. The JMTCCB is the DoD's principal forum for the configuration management of the TDL-related standards identified in Enclosure B as well as for resolving interoperability issues related to TDL message standards format, structure, and development.

c. The JMTCCB is the forum for resolving interoperability issues related to TDL message standards format, structure, and development.

(1) The JMTCCB is the configuration management authority for TDL MIL-STDs, Multifunction Advanced Data Link (MADL), and Cursor on Target (CoT) MIL-STD, applicable NATO standardization agreement (STANAGs), CJCS Manual (CJCSM) 6120.01, and other associated U.S. and NATO TDL documents.

(2) NATO and other partners nations' interoperability with U.S. TDL systems requires CCMD/Service/Agency (C/S/A) action officer review of/input to MIL-STDs, applicable NATO STANAGs, CJCSM 6120.01, and other associated U.S. and NATO TDL documents. Coordination of approved updates to these documents will be accomplished within the JMTCCB and/or the CNRWG, as appropriate.

(3) The CNRWG is the configuration management authority for the Header and Data Transfer Layer MIL-STDs generally associated with the Variable Message Format (VMF) MIL-STD. The CNRWG is chartered under the Defense Standardization Program and chaired by the U.S. Army.

(4) Recommended changes to the applicable TDL-related standards and operational procedures found in Enclosure B may be submitted to a cognizant JMTCCB or CNRWG principal representative at any time.

(5) Substantive TDL interoperability and standards issues that cannot be resolved at the JMSWG, JMTCCB, or CNRWG will be referred to the Military Command, Control, Communications, and Computers Executive Board (MC4EB) for resolution.

d. The JMSWG is the principal forum for the application of policy and discussion of doctrinal, operational, tactical, and procedural issues concerning the TDLs used in joint and combined operations. Tasked to advance TDL interoperability as it relates to TDL message standards format, structure, and development.

(1) DISA's Emerging Technology Directorate will chair the JMSWG as an IT standards working group tasked to achieve and maintain communication interoperability through the standardization of message protocols, format, content, implementation, and documentation.

(2) The JMSWG principal representatives consists of the Joint Staff J-6; U.S. Army; U.S. Marine Corps; U.S. Navy; U.S. Air Force; the National Security Agency (NSA)/Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Agency; the Integrated Broadcast Service (IBS) Executive Agent; and DISA's JITC. JMSWG associate membership consists of the Navy's joint program office (PMW-101). In addition to its Joint Staff role, Joint Staff J-6 will represent the CCMDs and provide their vote during the JMSWG.

(3) The JMSWG and its subgroups are responsible for the development of joint operational procedures, network design, planning, and network management. The JMSWG develops policy recommendations on joint standards development, testing, classification issues, and U.S. and NATO configuration management.

(4) The JMSWG and its subgroups provide policy guidance to the U.S. Delegate to the NATO TDL Capability Team and its Syndicates.

(5) The JMSWG provides policy recommendations to the MC4EB for adjudication, and guidance to Command and Control Interoperability Boards (CCIB), Interoperability Management (IMB), CSG, etc., and other decision making bodies that impact U.S. TDL standards. In the event a C/S/A's position is substantive and cannot be resolved at the JMSWG or JMTCCB, the issue will be taken to the MC4EB for adjudication.

e. The CNRWG is the configuration management authority for the Header and Data Transfer Layer MIL-STDs generally associated with the VMF MIL-STD. Interoperability issues beyond the scope of the CNRWG will be referred to the JMSWG for resolution.

(1) The U.S. Army will establish and execute the CNRWG on an ongoing basis. The CNRWG is the configuration management authority for MIL-STD-188-220 and MIL-STD-2045-47001, two of the principal header and bearer standards associated with VMF. Combat Net Radio interoperability issues exceeding the scope of the CNRWG charter will be referred to the JMSWG or MC4EB, as required for resolution.

(2) The CNRWG will conduct action officer review of the Header and Data Transfer Layer MIL-STDs generally associated with the VMF MIL-STD.

5. Migration Strategy. IAW reference (h), one method for achieving TDL interoperability is through migration of non-interoperable legacy TDL message standards to the joint family of TDL message standards described in that document. Adherence to Joint TDL Migration Plan policy will be a factor in consideration of ICTO requests, interoperability certification, and joint message standard development.

6. Joint Interoperability of Tactical Command and Control Systems Transformation. The C/S/As will continue building on DoD, Joint Staff, and Service/Agency initiatives to transform the Joint Interoperability of Tactical Command and Control Systems (JINTACCS) program.

a. These initiatives include, but are not limited to, improving interoperability planning; interoperability systems management, and documentation; and requirements identification and prioritization. C/S/As will also continue to develop standardized procedures and processes for analyzing and documenting information exchange requirements and defining, managing, and assessing system-specific bit-level information processing and display functions.

b. DoD adoption of the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) will serve as the basis for a significant portion of its data exchange strategy and may facilitate the ability to share information among multinational, interagency, and Service entities. DoD programs will consider and apply NIEM for XML-based message exchanges where its application is determined to be useful and practical. DoD's strategy includes the Military Operations (MilOps) domain. The MilOps domain provides shared data definitions, methods, and tools that may be used in multiple formats and standards.

c. Tactical Data Link Modernization Strategy and Roadmap. The C/S/As will continue building on DoD, Joint Staff, and Service/Agency initiatives to transform the JINTACCS program. This strategy postures the United States and allied and partner nations to accelerate and synchronize fielding of modernized TDL systems in 2023–2030+ timeframe. Three lines of effort are supported by near-, mid-, and long-term objectives focused on securing existing TDLs against known threats and encompasses only those Joint TDLs and networking waveforms that are identified by DoD as affected by threat-driven initiatives.

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ENCLOSURE B

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The CJCS will establish procedures during the JCIDS process for the development, coordination, and review of joint TDL message standards, NATO STANAGs, and other associated documentation for DoD IT and NSS.

a. Joint Staff J-6 will provide guidance and direction as necessary ensure JMSWG, JMTCCB, and the CNRWG development, coordination, and review of joint TDL message standards, NATO STANAGs, and other associated documentation support DoD and CJCS priorities.

b. Joint Staff Directorate for Operations, J-3 will provide validation of Theater operational requirements to ensure Information Exchange Requirements are considered by the JMSWG, JMTCCB, and CNRWG when setting TDL messaging priorities.

c. IAW references (c) and (d), Joint Staff J-6 will represent the CCMDs at the JMSWG, JMTCCB, and CNRWG. In addition to its oversight role to these meetings, Joint Staff J-6 will provide the CCMDs' vote and will staff critical issues with the CCMDs to establish a coordinated position.

d. Joint Staff will validate CC interoperability requirements to release TDL communications security (COMSEC) products or associated COMSEC information to any foreign government IAW references (aa) and (bb).

2. Military Command, Control, Communications, and Computers Executive Board

a. IAW reference (w), provide resolution on substantive issues forwarded from the JMSWG, JMTCCB, or the CNRWG that have an adverse effect on TDL interoperability and other information exchange standards if unresolved.

b. When requested, provide clarification guidance and direction on joint and allied policies affecting TDL standards, and interoperability.

c. Provide to the JMSWG, JMTCCB, and CNRWG, as necessary, results of technical and operational risk assessments, and recommendations to support changes/updates to joint and allied TDL standards.

3. CCMD, Service, or DoD Agency

a. Each C/S/A will identify and provide representatives to participate in the JMSWG, JMTCCB, and CNRWG in support of the IT standards process.

(1) Representatives are responsible for providing their respective organization's position on all issues.

(2) Representatives will be empowered to commit their organization's assistance in matters requiring coordination. C/S/As that fail to participate will automatically abstain from any decision or vote that occurs.

b. Ensure TDL systems conform to joint TDL message standards.

c. Ensure that JCIDS documents identifying TDL systems (e.g., Information Support Plans) contain directives to implement joint TDL standards and/or STANAGs, as appropriate.

d. Identify and provide required corrections and improvements to TDL message standards and/or STANAGs and interface operating procedures, and fully participate in the configuration management of these documents IAW references (b), (c), and (e).

e. Participate in NATO Digital Policy Committee sub-structure forums, such as the NATO TDL CaT, in support of Service-specific initiatives to achieve and maintain interoperability with NATO/coalition partners.

f. Ensure fielding plans conform to approved joint TDL migration plans and the modernization strategy (reference (z)).

g. Ensure all system- and platform-specific TDL implementations comply with the approved requirements, certifications, documents, and operational and system views of approved integrated architectures. If the user community becomes aware of a significant IT and NSS compliance deficiency, report this deficiency, as appropriate, to the Joint Staff, Service Chief Information Officer (CIO), or DoD CIO for corrective action.

h. The C/S/As will continue building on DoD, Joint Staff, and Service/ Agency initiatives to transform the JINTACCS program.

(1) These initiatives include, but are not limited to, improving interoperability planning, interoperability systems management and documentation, and requirements identification and prioritization. C/S/As will

also continue to develop standardized procedures and processes for analyzing and documenting information exchange requirements and defining, managing, and assessing system-specific bit-level processing and display functions.

(2) Capability developers who are implementing tactical data standards within their IT and NSS solutions will leverage the Interoperability Enhancement Process (IEP). IEP is an effort—co-chaired by Joint Staff J-6 and DISA—that pursues bit-level interoperability and defines implementation documentation requirements. IEP consists of the Interoperable Systems Management and Requirements Transformation processes, the Enhanced Systems Management and Requirements Transformation tool set, and the Joint Capabilities and Limitations interoperability tool. The development process for platform-level TDL requirements implementation, including formats, is addressed in reference (q). IEP improves tactical data and sensor interoperability and provides joint planners and operational users information on how systems interact in joint networks. Standards management will consider the requirements of references (x) and (y).

4. CCMDs will:

a. Identify and provide required corrections and improvements to joint TDL message standards and interface operating procedures. In coordination with Joint Staff J-6, fully participate in the configuration management of these documents IAW references (b), (c), and (e).

b. Identify, through Integrated Priority List submissions, the highest priority TDL issues within their AOR, to include data link management, fielded systems that are either not interoperable or not supported, and warfighting capability shortfalls related to TDLs.

c. Advocate TDL standardization through appropriate CCIB or IMB with coalition countries.

d. CCMDs, through Joint Staff J-6 DSD, notify ISG of any operational system (to include partner nations) within their AOR not having joint certifications and any interoperability issues associated with data link operations.

5. Director, NSA will:

a. Ensure TDL systems implement joint TDL message standards as defined by and IAW the procedures found in references (a)–(s), as appropriate.

b. Identify and provide required corrections and improvements to joint TDL message standards and interface operating procedures, and fully participate in the configuration management of these documents IAW references (b), (c), and (e).

c. IAW reference (e), assist in developing policies, guidance, criteria, and associated threat and risk assessments for authorizing integration, installation, and use of NSA/Central Security Service-certified COMSEC products and information by foreign integrators, installers, or vendors.

d. Assess the overall security posture of, and disseminate information on, threats to and vulnerabilities of TDL.

6. DISA is the executive agent for the JINTACCS program. Standards within the scope of JINTACCS include Link-11, Link-11B, Link-16, Link-22, VMF, Header and Transfer Layer Protocols, MADL, CoT, Joint Range Extension Applications Protocol (JREAP), IBS Common Message Format (CMF), and the applicable corresponding NATO TDL Standards. In this capacity, DISA will:

a. Serve as DoD single point of contact for development and configuration management of joint TDL message standards. DISA will execute the responsibilities of the Lead Standardization Activity and Preparing Activity for designated TDL message standards.

b. In collaboration with other DoD Components, identify information exchange requirements and develop standardized procedures and formats for information flow and implementation documentation within TDLs, between IT and NSS systems and common data sources.

c. Maintain a list of approved TDL interface standards against which IT and NSS must be certified.

d. Convene and chair the JMSWG. Under the authority of the Joint Staff J-6, the JMSWG is responsible for development of U.S. TDL message standards and the focal point for resolving standards, implementation, and testing issues related to U.S. and coalition TDL interoperability IAW reference (b).

e. Convene and chair the JMTCCB. Under the authority of the Joint Staff J-6, the JMTCCB approves all changes to U.S. TDL message standards and associated documentation IAW reference (c), and establishes U.S. positions regarding allied or NATO TDL interoperability, including all changes to TDL STANAGs and associated documentation.

f. Identify, program, and provide resources to accomplish DISA responsibilities for TDL message standard management.

g. IAW reference (i), act as classification authority for TDL message standards.

h. Provide a representative during applicable CCMD command and control CCIBs or IMBs to advocate TDL standardization with coalition countries.

i. Distribute the TDL MIL-STDS and NATO STANAGS/ATDLPs using ASSIST official source for DoD specifications and standards distribution within the United States. Distribution to coalition partners will be conducted in coordination with the CCMDs to access releasability and meet theater requirements.

j. Maintain Link 11 standards in caretaker status until the established sunset date, at which time Link 11 Standards will be removed from ASSIST and retired from the DoD Information Technology Standards Registry.

7. DoD Responsibilities. The DoD CIO (responsibilities outlined in references (j)–(m)) will review Service compliance with TDL interoperability policies established by this instruction and references (a)–(s) (including reference (n)). Based on this review and evaluation, the DoD CIO will make recommendations to the Defense Acquisition Executive (DAE) (reference (o)) regarding program funding.

a. The DAE will take appropriate action, either independently or based on recommendations from the DoD CIO and Military Department CIOs, to enforce program compliance with interoperability policy.

b. The DAE may direct the DoD Chief Financial Officer (reference (p)) and the heads of Military Departments to withhold acquisition program funds based on failure to comply with TDL interoperability policies, migration plans, or interoperability shortfalls.

c. The Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Production and Logistics, Economic Security Division, will manage and produce MIL-STDs and military bulletins for the TDL program.

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ENCLOSURE C

TACTICAL DATA LINK STANDARDS PUBLICATIONS

TDL	Associated Publications
Link-11/11B	MIL-STD-6011 and STANAG 5511/ATDLP5.11
Link-16	MIL-STD-6016 & STANAG 5516 / ATDLP5.16
Link-16 terminal (MIDS)	STANAG 4175 (no U.S. MIL-STD equivalent) / ATDLP1.75
VMF	MIL-STD-6017
IBS CMF	MIL-STD-6018
JREAP	MIL-STD-3011 & STANAG 5518 / ATDLP5.18
Link-22	US MIL-STD 6022 / STANAG 5522 / ATDLP5.22
TDL Data Forwarding	MIL-STD-6020 / ATDLP6.16
MADL	TIDP/TE In development
CoT	MIL-STD 6090
NATO QUALIFICATION LEVELS FOR TDL PERSONNEL	STANAG 5555 (no U.S. MIL-STD equivalent)
CNR	
VMF Header	MIL STD 2045-47001
VMF Transfer Layer	MIL STD 188-220

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ENCLOSURE D

REFERENCES

a. DoDI 8330.01, 11 December 2019, “Interoperability of Information Technology (IT), Including National Security Systems (NSS)”

b. DISA EM6, 29 April 2024, “Terms of Reference Joint Multi-Tactical Data Link Standards Working Group (JMSWG)”

c. DISA EM6, 29 April 2024, “Terms of Reference for the Joint Multi-TDL Configuration Control Board (JMTCCB)”

d. CJCSM 6120.01H, 25 June 2021, “Joint Multi-Tactical Data Link (TDL) Operating Procedures (JMTOP)”

e. DoDD 5105.19, 25 July 2016, “DoD Executive Agent for Information Technology Standards

f. Combat Net Radio Working Group Terms of Reference, 30 September 2020

g. CJCSI 5123.01I, 30 October 2021, “Charter of the Joint Requirements Oversight Council and Implementation of the Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System”

h. DoD CIO, 7 February 2014, “Joint TDL Migration Plan (JTMP)”

i. DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, 28 July 2020, “DoD Information Security Program: Overview, Classification, and Declassification”

j. Title 10, U.S. Code, chapter 131, “Planning and Coordination”

k. Title 40, U.S. Code, subtitle III, “Information Technology Management”

l. Title 44, U.S. Code, chapter 35, “Coordination of Federal Information Policy”

m. DoDD 5144.02, 19 September 2017, “Department of Defense Chief Information Officer (DoD CIO)”

n. Joint Assessments and Standards Management (JASM) <https://jasm.apps.mil> accessed 17 October 2024

o. DoDD 5134.01, 25 September 2007, "Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (USD (AT&L))"

p. DoDD 5118.03, 20 April 2012 incorporating Change 1, 29 May 2020, "Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) (USD(C)/Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Department of Defense"

q. MIL-HDBK-524, "Interoperable Systems Management and Requirements Transformation (iSMART) Military Handbook," 26 June 2012

r. DoD Interoperability Process Guide, Version 3.0, July 2023

s. DoD CIO and JS J-6 memo, 1 April 2019, "Primary Sponsorship of the National Information Exchange Model"

t. DoDD 8500.01, 14 March 2014 incorporating Change 1, 7 October 2019, "Information Assurance (IA), ASD (NII) DoD CIO, Department of Defense"

u. DoDD 8510.01, 28 July 2017, "Risk Management Framework (RMF) for DoD Information Technology (IT), DoD CIO, Department of Defense"

v. JCIDS Manual, 12 February 2015, "Manual for the Operation of the Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System"

w. CJCSI 5116.05A, 11 January 2024, "Military Command, Control, Communications, and Computers Executive Board (MC4EB)

x. DoDI 4120.24, 31 March 2022, "Defense Standardization Program (DSP)"

y. DoDM 4120.24, 24 September 2014 incorporating Change 2, 15 October 2018, "DSP Policies and Procedures"

z. "Department of Defense Tactical Data Link Modernization Strategy and Roadmap," August 2023

aa. CJCSI 6510.06D, 31 July 2024, "Department of Defense Cyber Red Teams"

bb. CNSSP No. 8, August 2012, "Policy Governing the Release and Transfer of U.S. Government Cryptologic National Security Systems Technical Security Material, Information, and Techniques to Foreign Governments and International Organizations"

GLOSSARY

PART I – ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

APIS	Actual Platform Implementation Specification
ATDLP	Allied Tactical Data Link Publication
C/S/A	Combatant Command/Service/Agency
CCIB	Command and Control Interoperability Board
CCMD	Combatant Command
CI*	Configuration item
CIO	Chief Information Officer
CJCSI	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff instruction
CJCSM	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff manual
CMF	Common Message Format
CNR	Combat Net Radio
CNRWG	Combat Net Radio Working Group
CoT	Cursor on Target
CSG	Communication Steering Group
DAE	Defense Acquisition Executive
DISA*	Defense Information Systems Agency
DoD	Department of Defense
IAW	in accordance with
IBS	Integrated Broadcast Service
ICTO*	Interim Certificate to Operate
IEP	Interoperability Enhancement Process
IMB	Interoperability Management Board
IOP*	Interface Operating Procedure
ISG	Interoperability Steering Group
IT	information technology
ITS*	information technology system
JCIDS	Joint Capabilities Integration Development System
JINTACCS*	Joint Interoperability of Tactical Command and Control Systems
JITC*	Joint Interoperability Test Command
JMSWG*	Joint Multi-Tactical Data Link Standards Working Group
JMTCCB*	Joint Multi-Tactical Data Link Configuration Control Board
JREAP	Joint Range Extension Application Protocol
JTMP	Joint Tactical Data Link Migration Plan

MADL	Multifunction Advanced Data Link
MCEB	Military Communications-Electronics Board
MC4EB	Military Command, Control, Communications, and Computers Executive Board
MIDS	Multifunction Information Distribution System
MilOps	Military Operations
MIL-STD	military standard
MIP	Message Implementation Plan
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NDD	National Difference Document
NIEM	National Information Exchange Model
NSS*	National Security Systems
PIDD	Platform Implementation Difference Document
PRDD	Platform Requirements Difference Document
PRS	Platform Requirements Specification
SDD	Service Difference Document
STANAG	Standardization Agreement
TDES	Tactical Data Enterprise Services
TDL*	Tactical Data Link
TIDP-TE*	Technical Interface Design Plan Test Edition
VMF*	Variable Message Format

GLOSSARY

PART II – DEFINITIONS

Configuration Item – An aggregation of hardware and software that satisfies an end use function and is designated by the government for separate configuration management. Also called CI.

Configuration Management – As applied to configuration items, a discipline applying technical and administrative direction and surveillance over the life cycle of items. The Joint Multi-Tactical Data Link Configuration Control Board uses this management process to develop and maintain joint tactical data link standards, interface operating procedures and associated documents and to establish U.S. positions regarding allied or NATO interoperability. Also called CM.

Defense Information Systems Agency – Functions as lead standardization activity and preparing activity for Tactical Data Link standards comprising of Enterprise Engineering Directorate, Systems Engineering Division, Tactical Standards Branch, Tactical Data Link Standards Section. Also called DISA.

exception – An exception is a permanent or temporary (shall not exceed 4 years, with no renewal) deviation of a system's tactical data link (TDL) implementation from the required TDL standard implementation. Exceptions are approved by the Joint Multi-Tactical Data Link Configuration Control Board. Systems granted an exception are subject to joint certification testing.

Interim Certificate To Operate – Interim Certificate To Operate (ICTO) represents the authority to field a new system or capability for a limited time, with a limited number of platforms to support developmental efforts, demonstrations, exercises, or operational use. The decision to grant an ICTO will be made by the Interoperability Steering Group based on the sponsoring component's initial laboratory test results and assessed impact, if any, on the operational network to be employed. Also called ICTO.

Interface Operating Procedures – Tactical data link (TDL) Interface Operating Procedures are published in CJCSM 6120.01 and provide doctrine, tactics, techniques, and procedures designed for Combatant Commands, joint task force commanders, Services, and agencies in planning, designing, and operating TDL networks. Also called IOP.

interoperability
1. (DoD, NATO) The ability to operate in synergy in the execution of assigned tasks.
2. (DoD only) The condition achieved among communications-electronics systems or items of communications-electronics equipment when information services can be exchanged directly and satisfactorily between them and/or their users. The degree of interoperability should be defined when referring to specific cases. (JP 3-32).

information technology system – An information technology system includes any equipment or interconnected system or subsystem of equipment, that is used in the automatic acquisition, storage, manipulation, management, movement, control, display, switching, interchange, transmission, or reception of data or information. Information technology (IT) includes computers, ancillary equipment, software, firmware, and similar procedures, services (including support services), and related resources. IT does not include any equipment that is acquired by a federal contractor incidental to a federal contract. Also called ITS.

Joint Interoperability of Tactical Command and Control Systems – The Joint Interoperability of Tactical Command and Control Systems program is managed in accordance with this and other referenced instructions and includes Tactical Data Links and U.S. message text formats. Also called JINTACCS.

Joint Interoperability Test Command – The Defense Information Systems Agency Joint Interoperability Test Command is responsible for information technology and national security systems interoperability certification. Also called JITC.

Joint Multi-TDL Standards Working Group – The Joint Multi-Tactical Data Links (TDL) Standards Working Group is the joint body chaired by the Defense Information Systems Agency tasked with resolving joint and coalition interoperability issues affecting the Joint Interoperability of Tactical Command and Control Systems TDL program. Also called JSMSWG.

Joint Multi-TDL Configuration Control Board – The Joint Multi-Tactical Data Link (TDL) Configuration Control Board is a joint board chaired, funded, and coordinated by the Defense Information Systems Agency and is responsible for configuration management of the Joint Interoperability of Tactical Command and Control Systems TDL message standards. Also called JMTCCB.

National Security Systems – National security systems include telecommunications and information systems operated by the Department of Defense the functions, operation, or use of which (1) involves intelligence activities; (2) involves cryptologic activities related to national security; (3) involves the command and control of military forces; (4) involves equipment that is an integral part of a weapon or weapons systems; or (5) is critical to the direct fulfillment of military or intelligence missions. Subsection (5) in the preceding sentence does not include procurement of automatic data processing equipment or services to be used for routine administrative and business applications (including payroll, finance, logistics, and personnel management applications). Also called NSS.

Tactical Data Link – A means of connecting one platform to another for the purpose of transporting and receiving data with a Department of Defense approved standardized communications link suitable for transmission of digital information. A tactical data link (TDL) is characterized by its standardized message format, protocols, and transmission characteristics. A TDL supports near-real-time tactical data exchange between participants using a variety of formatted messages. Also called TDL.

Tactical Data Link Message Standards – Tactical data link message standards are a set of technical and procedural parameters with which systems/ equipment must comply to achieve compatibility and interoperability with other systems/equipment. This includes the data communications protocol and data item implementation specification.

Technical Interface Design Plan Test Edition – Under the joint publication configuration management process, interim tactical data link standards are developed as Technical Interface Design Plan Test Editions to conduct developmental certification testing. Also called TIDP-TE.

Variable Message Format – Variable Message Format (VMF) is a message format designed to support the exchange of digital data between combat units with diverse needs for volume and detail of information using various communications media. VMF is a bit-oriented message standard with limited character-oriented fields. Message length can vary with each use based on the information content of the message. VMF is intended to be the basis of the U.S. Army's digitization transformation. Also called VMF.

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