

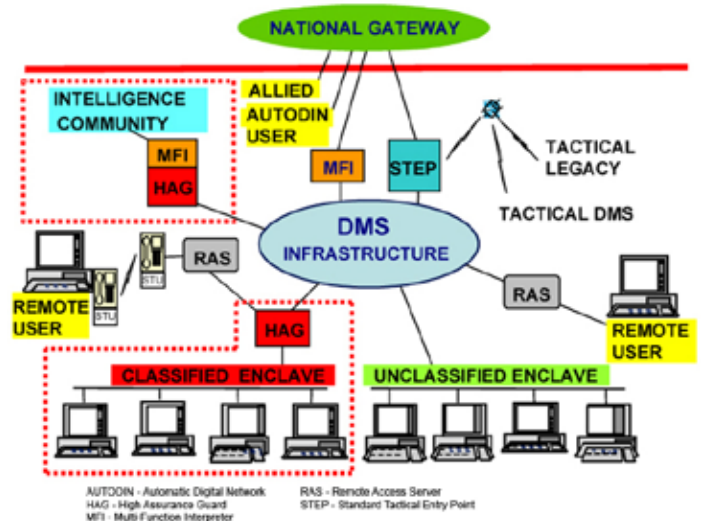
Defense Message System (DMS)

Executive Summary

- The Joint Interoperability Test Command (JITC) conducted a limited user field test October 25 - November 4, 2005, to verify the corrections to the deficiencies previously identified during the Defense Message System (DMS) 3.1 Operational Assessment.
- The limited user field test results showed that the DMS Global Service Manager rectified all previously identified major deficiencies.

System

- DMS is the messaging component of the DoD Global Information Grid. DMS consists of all hardware, software, procedures, standards, facilities, and personnel used to exchange messages electronically between organizations and individuals in the DoD. DMS also includes the interfaces to the messaging systems of other government agencies, allies, defense contractors, and other approved organizations.
- DMS is a secure and accountable writer-to-reader messaging system.
- DMS is to replace the legacy Automatic Digital Network organizational messaging system. During the transition, DMS uses the Multi-Function Interpreter as the primary means of providing interoperability with the Automatic Digital Network.
- Some communities (e.g., small deck Navy ships, non-DoD federal departments, allies, and defense contractors) will continue to operate their legacy messaging systems using the



National Gateway Center to communicate with each other and to interface with DMS.

Mission

- DoD users, including deployed tactical forces, use DMS to exchange both classified and unclassified messages.
- DMS also enables DoD users to interface with allies, other government agencies, and defense contractors, as well as other approved activities outside of DoD.

Activity

In accordance with the DOT&E-approved Test and Evaluation Master Plan and detailed test plan, JITC conducted a limited user field test October 25 - November 4, 2005, to verify the corrections to the deficiencies previously identified during the DMS 3.1 Operational Assessment. Test sites included the Network Operations Center in Columbus, Ohio; an Air National Guard Base in Knoxville, Tennessee; the Marine Corps Base in Quantico, Virginia; the National Gateway Center at Fort Detrick, Maryland; and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency in Bethesda, Maryland.

Assessment

- The limited user field test results showed that the DMS Global Service Manager had rectified all previously identified major deficiencies. On February 15, 2006, the Designated Accreditation Authority granted security accreditation to DMS 3.1.
- DMS 3.1 is considered operationally effective and suitable for the general service messaging user community.

Recommendations

- Status of Previous Recommendations. The DMS Global Service Manager satisfactorily addressed the FY05 recommendations. As recommended, JITC conducted the follow-on test to verify the corrections to the deficiencies previously identified during the DMS 3.1 Operational Assessment. Furthermore, the DMS Global Service Manager worked with the users to resolve previously identified site-related security deficiencies.
- FY06 Recommendations.
 - The DMS Global Service Manager should implement the recommendations provided in its security accreditation.
 - The DMS Manager needs to actively monitor the implementation of network scans and vulnerability reporting by the operational sites as directed by the Joint Task Force-Global Network Operations Directive 05-19. This is to make sure that site-related vulnerabilities do not render the DMS infrastructure vulnerable. Aggressive actions are required to protect the DMS infrastructure, including severing any offending sites.

DOD PROGRAMS