Global Command and Control System – Joint (GCCS-J)

Executive Summary
- JITC conducted operational testing of the Joint Operation Planning and Execution System (JOPES) v4.0.2/3 from July 27 - August 4, 2006, at multiple sites.
- Operational testing was adequate and was conducted in accordance with a DOT&E-approved Test and Evaluation Master Plan and operational test plans.
- The GCCS-J v4.0.2 Global Release and JOPES v4.0.2/3 versions are operationally effective, suitable, and survivable.

System
- GCCS-J is the joint command and control system that provides an integrated near real-time picture of the battlespace necessary to conduct joint and multinational operations.
- The GCCS-J is a command, control, communications, computers, and intelligence system consisting of hardware, software (commercial off-the-shelf and government off-the-shelf), procedures, standards, and interfaces.
- GCCS-J consists of three main components supporting the following mission areas:
  - GCCS-J v4.0.2 Global Release (Force Protection, Situational Awareness, Intelligence applications)
  - JOPES v4.0.2/3 (Force Employment, Projection, Planning and Deployment/Redeployment applications)
  - Status of Resources and Training System (Force Readiness and Sustainment applications)
- GCCS-J consists of a client/server architecture using open systems standards, government-developed military planning software, and an increasing use of World Wide Web technology.

Mission
- Joint Commanders utilize the GCCS-J to accomplish command and control.
- It provides commanders with an integrated, scalable command and control, communications, computers, and intelligence system.
- It links the National Command Authority to the Joint Task Force, component commanders, and Service-unique systems at lower levels of command.
- It processes, correlates, and displays geographic track information on friendly, hostile, and neutral land, sea, and air forces, integrated with available intelligence and environmental information to provide the warfighter a fused battlespace picture.

Activity
- The Defense Intelligence Agency conducted security testing of both GCCS-J Global Release and JOPES.
- JITC conducted interoperability testing of both GCCS-J Global Release and JOPES during all operational test events.

Assessment
- Operational testing of GCCS-J v4.0.2 Global Release was adequate. Common Operational Picture (COP) enhancements performed well with no critical issues. New symbology
relating to low intensity conflict, weather information, and the new joint Blue Force situational awareness capability were all successfully introduced. Operational testing validated all new capabilities and enhancements to the Integrated Imagery and Intelligence applications, targeting support to the COP, tracking of data sources, and video capabilities. Operational users provided positive comments on the improved stability of this version of the COP.

- Operational testing of JOPES v4.0.2/3 was adequate. A crisis action planning scenario was used to successfully generate, source, and validate JOPES movement requirements. A modified permissions (access control) system was successfully tested and allowed the last remaining critical security finding to be closed. All key performance parameter requirements were successfully demonstrated. The system successfully demonstrated the capability to handle loading well beyond the specified requirement using an artificial loading tool.
- JITC adequately tested critical interfaces with GCCS-J v4.0.2 Global Release and JOPES 4.0.2/3. Critical interfaces performed satisfactorily.
- The Defense Intelligence Agency conducted information assurance evaluations of GCCS-J v4.0.2 Global Release and JOPES 4.0.2/3. GCCS-J has no outstanding critical security deficiencies.
- GCCS-J v4.0.2 Global Release system and the JOPES 4.0.2/3 system are operationally effective, suitable, and survivable. The Milestone Decision Authority recommended fielding of both releases. DOT&E concurs.

Recommendations

- Status of Previous Recommendations. The GCCS-J Program Management Office has taken effective action on DOT&E’s FY05 recommendation.
- FY06 Recommendations.
  1. JOPES operational testing should be improved by using a test network that mirrors the operational system that includes four surrogates for the strategic-server-enclaves.
  2. Defense Information Systems Agency, JITC, and the Joint Staff Support Center should revalidate the JOPES user load requirement to ensure that artificial loading efforts during testing closely emulates real users’ requirements.