

Warfighter Information Network – Tactical

Executive Summary

- The Army used supplemental funding to procure and is fielding the Joint Network Node (JNN, now part of Warfighter Information Network - Tactical (WIN-T) Increment 1) to all deploying Army units. This action occurred outside of normal DoD acquisition processes and congressional reporting requirements.
- On June 5, 2007, the Defense Acquisition Executive directed restructuring of the WIN-T program into four increments with Increment 1 absorbing the JNN effort. The program restructuring included consolidating management responsibilities, combining funding lines, and developing new acquisition documentation that reflect the phased capability approach of the four increments.
- The proposed WIN-T Increment 1 IOT&E in 1QFY09 is high risk due to the system delivery schedule and unit availability to support the test.

System

- WIN-T is a high-speed and high-capacity backbone communications network designed to be the Army's tactical intranet.
- WIN-T should provide reliable, secure, and seamless voice, video, data, and imagery services and support communications from the fixed-station sustaining base to Future Combat Systems (FCS) Brigade Combat Teams and Modular Brigade Combat Teams.
- The WIN-T program consists of four Increments:
 - Increment 1 (former JNN), Networking at the Halt, enables the exchange of voice, video, and data throughout the tactical battlefield using a satellite-based network that includes Ku and Ka satellite trailers, Joint Network Nodes, Satellite Transport Terminals, and Unit Hub Nodes.
 - Increment 2, Initial Networking on the Move, provides command and control on the move for maneuver brigades.
 - Increment 3, Full Networking on the Move, provides command and control on the move for all echelons and full support for FCS.

Activity

- The Defense Acquisition Executive restructured the WIN-T program into four increments (absorbing JNN as WIN-T Increment 1) and directed the development of Acquisition Strategy Reports and Test and Evaluation Master Plans (TEMPs) for Increments 1 and 2 by November 2, 2007.
- The Army is developing an overarching Acquisition Strategy with separate Acquisition Strategy Annexes for each increment. The program is developing a TEMP for each increment, starting with Increments 1 and 2.



- Increment 4, Protected Satellite Communications on the Move, provides protected satellite communications on the move.

Mission

Units at theater and below intend to use WIN-T to:

- Integrate terrestrial, Ku satellite, and Ka military satellite-based communications capabilities into an everything-over-Internet Protocol network to support commanders with voice, data, and video connectivity across an extended, non-linear battlefield and at remote locations (Increment 1)
- Provide maneuver brigade commanders with communications capabilities, resident in maneuver platforms, needed to support command and control on the move (Increment 2)
- Provide commanders at all echelons with communications capabilities needed to support command and control on the move (Increment 3)

- The Army is identifying resources required to conduct the WIN-T Increment 1 IOT&E in 1QFY09 with newly produced configuration items from the pending competitive Fixed Price Production contract.
- The Army is coordinating test activities across WIN-T Increment 1 IOT&E/Limited User Test (LUT) and the WIN-T Increment 2 LUT to gain improved test scope and resource efficiency.

ARMY PROGRAMS

Assessment

- Conducting the WIN-T Increment 1 IOT&E in 1QFY09 is high risk. The program does not yet have assigned test units, a production contract, mature requirements documents, and required test documentation, including the overarching Acquisition Strategy Report, Acquisition Strategy Increment Annexes, and approved TEMPs.
- The 1QFY09 IOT&E for this theater and below communications system will require elements of a corps, division, and brigade communications network. The proposed hardware delivery schedule associated with the pending competitive Fixed Price Production contract indicates that Increment 1 configuration items will be fielded to only one active duty Army brigade by the IOT&E in 1QFY09. The

Army is examining equipping other test unit echelons with functionally and technically similar WIN-T Increment 1 capabilities, procured from JNN Lots 1 through 9.

Recommendations

- Status of Previous Recommendations. The Army is making progress in the development of an acquisition strategy, concept of operations, and test strategy to support the transition of JNN into the WIN-T program (FY06).
- FY07 Recommendation.
 1. The Army should identify appropriate test units and resources to support Increment 1 IOT&E to ensure an adequate operational test.