



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO

OPNAVINST 5450.202B
N62

02 DEC 1994

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5450.202B

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: MISSIONS, FUNCTIONS AND TASKS OF NAVY CENTER FOR
TACTICAL SYSTEMS INTEROPERABILITY (NCTSI)

Ref: (a) OPNAVNOTE 5450 Ser 09B26/32658 of 29 Sep 77
(b) OPNAVINST 9410.5A

Encl: (1) Functions and Tasks of Navy Center for Tactical
Systems Interoperability

1. Purpose. To revise the functions and tasks of the Navy Center for Tactical Systems Interoperability (NCTSI) under the mission established by reference (a).
2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 5450.202A.
3. Mission. The mission of NCTSI is to provide the following technical services to Chief of Naval Operations (CNO): Establish Navy Tactical Data Systems interoperability criteria; develop procedural interface design standards/specifications; certify interoperability of Navy Tactical Data Systems; perform required data link message standards support functions; facilitate fleet support services which assure operational interoperability of tactical data systems; establish and maintain Navy C4I interoperability criteria; develop in coordination with the Fleet and Systems Commands standards and specifications; certify procedural interoperability of Navy C4I systems; perform required MTF/OTG message standards support functions; act as Navy purchasing agent for MTF message preparation software; represent the U.S. Navy position at various Joint and Allied forums, as directed by CNO(N62); perform such other interoperability and/or hardware/software support functions or tasks as may be directed by CNO(N62).

4. Status and Command Relationships. NCTSI is a shore activity in active operational status under a Commanding Officer who reports to the Chief of Naval Operations (N6). NCTSI implements the Navy interoperability policy defined in reference (b). NCTSI is subject to the area coordination authority of the Commander, Naval Base, San Diego.

5. Action. In accomplishing the assigned mission, Commanding Officer, NCTSI will ensure performance of the functions and tasks set forth in enclosure (1). Commanding Officer, NCTSI, and Commander Naval Base, San Diego, as area coordinator, are requested to advise CNO of any modifications to the mission, functions, or tasks of NCTSI which may be required by changing circumstances or are otherwise deemed appropriate. Submit recommended changes via the chain of command to CNO (N6), with a copy to Commander, Naval Base, San Diego.



W. J. Davis, Jr.
Director
Space and Electronic Warfare

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(See page 3)

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FUNCTIONS AND TASKS OF THE
NAVY CENTER FOR TACTICAL SYSTEMS INTEROPERABILITY

1. FUNCTIONS AND TASKS

1.1 Organizational Relationships. The Commanding Officer, NCTSI, reports to CNO. The Director, Space and Electronic Warfare (N6) acts as Command Assist Official for NCTSI. In the execution of its mission, NCTSI coordinates with Fleet Commanders on operational matters, and with Systems Commands (SYSCOMs)/Program Executive Offices (PEOs)/Principal Development Activities (PDAs) on matters concerning the technical aspects of tactical command and control systems and combat direction systems interoperability. Successful execution of the Navy's interoperability policy requires a high degree of cooperation among all concerned.

1.2 Responsibilities. NCTSI's responsibilities for executing the Navy's interoperability policy are:

a. Configuration Control of Navy interoperability documentation, data formats and message standards. Operational standards are developed from Navy Tactical Data Systems and C4I system interoperability requirements. Configuration management of these standards is coordinated through various Navy forums. Configuration management of the operational standards reflected in STANAGs and Joint Chief of Staff publications is conducted by NATO and Joint service configuration management groups which provide for consideration of Navy requirements. Joint configuration management of operational and developmental standards is coordinated by the Joint Interoperability Engineering Organization (JIEO). The Navy is a participant in Joint configuration management working groups which control developmental standards. NCTSI will:

1. Coordinate activities of the Operational Interoperability Requirements Group (OIRG) and the Technical Interoperability Standards Group (TISG) to develop tactical data systems and C4I systems interoperability requirements.

2. Represent the U.S. Navy established interoperability requirements at Joint and Allied forums, as directed.

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3. Maintain a current status of all U.S. and Allied platform/system Tactical Digital Information Links (TADILs), United States Message Text Formats (USMTFs), and Over-The-Horizon Targeting Gold (OTG) implementation.

4. Chair intra-Navy developmental analysis and configuration management boards and committees as directed.

5. Develop data link interface analysis reports in response to fleet requests.

6. Interpret platform-to-platform interface specifications to ensure a common understanding among Navy activities implementing message standards.

b. Specification of procedural data exchange requirements. Interoperability requirements for Navy Tactical Data Systems and C4I systems are developed in Navy, Joint and Allied forums. Technical and procedural standards derived from these requirements will form the basis for Navy Operational Specifications (OPSPECs) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for each TADIL, USMTF, and OTG standards. These OPSPECs and SOPs govern design and operation of the Navy tactical data system and C4I systems. NCTSI will:

1. Develop the Navy Interoperability Configuration Management Program Management Plan (NICMPMP) and supporting documents to support Navy Tactical Command and Control interoperability programs.

2. Develop and maintain OPSPECs for Link-4A, Link-11, Link-14, Link-16, Link-22, USMTF, OTG and other Navy-unique MTFs used by Navy Tactical Data Systems and C4I systems.

3. Develop and maintain Navy TADIL SOPs.

4. Develop and maintain USMTF SOPs.

5. Develop in coordination with the Systems Commands, Program Development Activities and Fleet Commanders, implementation schedules to implement new requirements.

6. Participate in the development of all data link message standards and system operating procedures at Navy, Joint,

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and Allied forums likely to have an interface or impact on U.S. Navy systems.

7. Participate in the development and configuration management of USMTF and OTG message standards at Navy, Joint, and Allied forums as directed.

8. Participate in the development and configuration management of the Naval Warfare Tactical Data Base (NWTDB) as appropriate in accordance with reference (c).

9. Ensure Navy operational requirements are reflected in TADIL and MTF standards.

c. Certification of Tactical Data Systems and C4I Systems Procedural Interoperability. Navy Tactical Data Systems and C4I systems must comply with Navy and Joint message standards in order to be compatible and interoperable. Software programs for new systems or program updates for operational systems which incorporate changes to the tactical command and control systems interface, whether developed by Navy activities or through contracted efforts, are required to attain certification prior to their introduction into service. Systems with Joint connectivity requirements are subject to testing and certification by the Joint Interoperability Test Center (JITC). NCTSI will:

1. Develop interoperability criteria for TADIL, USMTF, and OTG standards.

2. Advise the appropriate software development activity when a model, phase, version, or update of a program requires certification or recertification.

3. Coordinate and schedule the employment of the Navy's operational test and tactical training system for system certification. NCTSI fleet support detachments are operated, funded, maintained, and controlled by NCTSI.

4. Function as Intermediate Maintenance Activity for the Navy's operational test and tactical training system. Manage the engineering, maintenance, and material support. Coordinate logistical and supply support for fielded operational test and tactical training systems.

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5. Integrate, when practicable, Navy certification efforts with those required by Joint and/or Allied test facilities.

6. Certify procedural interoperability of Navy Tactical Data Systems and C4I systems.

7. Function as Navy Participating Unit Test Coordinator (PTUC), responsible for coordination and support of test activities of the Navy Participating Test Units (PTUs) for Joint procedural interoperability testing of TADILs. Conduct Joint interoperability testing on behalf of JITC when directed.

8. Function as Navy USMTF PTUC, responsible for coordination and support of test activities of the Navy PTUs for Joint procedural interoperability testing of USMTFs.

9. Coordinate with test system development activities to ensure Navy certification testing requirements are supported in the test system design.

d. Fleet Support and Operational Validation Testing of Fielded Tactical Data Systems. Once fielded, Navy tactical data systems must continue to comply with approved Navy and Joint message standards through minor program software changes, hardware configuration changes, and changes in maintenance procedures. In support of full system interoperability of Navy systems, NCTSI will:

1. Provide software validation and hardware integration services to fleet units.

2. Provide procedural interoperability testing of fleet units as required during inport or restricted availability periods, during independent steaming or exercise operations.

3. Act as CNO Executive Agent for link diagnostic systems. This tasking includes development of diagnostic system specifications, acceptance testing, hardware and software configuration management, and other related functions.

4. Act as In-Service Engineering Activity (ISEA) for the Navy's test and tactical training system, Link diagnostic systems, and Mobile Universal Link Translator System (MULTS).

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5. Operate, maintain, and manage the employment of the MULTS as directed by CNO or Operational Commanders.

6. Operate, maintain and manage the Tactical Data Link Network Design Facility (TDLNDF) to assist both development agencies and operational commanders in the design and construction of Link 16 networks. Provide verification and validation of network design requirements and testing of proposed networks. Provide design support and data to the Joint network Design Library.

1.3 Personnel. The control of military and civil service personnel is coordinated with the major claimant, Field Support Activity (N09BF), through the establishment of billet requirements and the allocation of ceiling points by fiscal year and strength, respectively. Commanding Officer, NCTSI, is authorized to fill non-high grade civil service vacancies as they occur provided required classification action is completed and an approved position description exists for each billet. Filling high grade civilian positions is done with approval of the Field Support Activity.

1.4 Funding.

a. Direct Funding. Execution of NCTSI's primary mission is supported by funds designated by CNO. Expenditure of these funds will be in accordance with CNO approved budget and appropriate Program Management Plans for systems and capabilities under NCTSI's purview.

b. Reimbursable Funding. Tasking of other commands, executed by the Commanding Officer, NCTSI, will be via Project Directive (PD) or similar tasking documents. Tasking of NCTSI by another command will be via the appropriate funding documents. NCTSI will provide all funding required to support MULTOTS employment in tactical data system interoperability certification.