

JOINT TEST AND EVALUATION (JT&E)

INTRODUCTION

The Joint Test and Evaluation (JT&E) Program has been in existence for 28 years and is designed to provide quantitative information for analysis of joint military capabilities and potential options for increasing military effectiveness. The program is complimentary to, but not a part of, the weapons acquisition process. A JT&E project brings together two or more Military Departments or other Components to:

- Assess the interoperability of Service systems in joint operations.
- Evaluate improvements in joint technical and operational concepts.
- Evaluate and validate multi-Service testing methodologies.
- Assess performance of interacting systems under realistic joint operational conditions.
- Provide data from joint field tests and exercises to validate models, simulations and test beds.

The JT&E Program is managed by the Director, Strategic and Tactical Systems (D,S&TS). Both D,OT&E and D,S&TS approve JT&E charters as well as test plans. A Senior Advisory Council prioritizes specific JT&E projects after a Defense-wide nomination process and subsequent feasibility studies. The Senior Advisory Council is co-chaired by D,OT&E and D,S&TS and includes representatives from the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence and the Military Departments.

The JT&E program provides validated answers to warfighter issues by “doing better with what we have”. Its focus remains on identifying realistic, cost-effective, Service-implementable solutions for the programs facing today’s warfighter. This year there are nine joint tests. They are:

- Joint Battlefield Damage Assessment (JBDA)
- Joint Close Air Support (JCAS)
- Joint Command and Control, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (JC2ISR)
- Joint Cruise Missile Defense (JCMD)
- Joint Global Positioning System Combat Effectiveness (JGPSCE)
- Joint Shipboard Helicopter Integration Process (JSHIP)
- Joint Suppression of Enemy Air Defenses (JSEAD)
- Joint Theater Distribution (JTD)
- Joint Warfighters (JWF)

Two programs were finalized this past year: Joint Electronic Combat Testing Using Simulation (JECSIM) and Joint Advanced Distributed Simulation (JADS).

In addition to the ongoing joint tests, this year there are four new feasibility studies. Upon completion of a one-year study period, the Senior Advisory Council will review these studies as potential

projects; and some or all will be selected as full joint test projects. The current feasibility studies are listed below:

- Joint Antiterrorism (JAT)
- Joint Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in Battlespace Dominance Operations (JUAV-BDO)
- Joint Aircraft Survivability to MANPADS (JASMAN)
- Joint C4ISR Outcome-Based Integrated Architecture Assessment (JCOBIAA).