

Warfighter Information Network – Tactical

Executive Summary

- DOT&E-approved the Warfighter Information Network – Tactical (WIN-T) Increment 2 Test and Evaluation Master Plan (TEMP) on July 28, 2009.
- The Army completed a combined WIN-T Increment 2 and Increment 1b Limited User Test (LUT) in March 2009.
- DOT&E assessed WIN-T Increment 2 performance during the LUT as supportive of voice, video, and data communications, yet the network needs improvement in reliability, ability to support on-the-move communications, Soldier training, communications speed, and network operations.
- The WIN-T Increment 2 Overarching Integrated Process Team (OIPT) decided to delay the program’s Milestone C until January 2010. The OIPT took this action to allow the program time to resolve program issues and to prepare a strategy to address performance and reliability issues demonstrated during the WIN-T Increment 2 LUT.

System

- WIN-T is a high-speed and high-capacity backbone communications network designed to be the Army’s tactical intranet.
- WIN-T is intended to provide reliable, secure, and seamless communications for theater and below.
- The WIN-T program consists of four Increments:
 - Increment 1: “Networking at the Halt” enables the exchange of voice, video, data, and imagery throughout the tactical battlefield using a Ku and Ka satellite-based network.
 - Increment 2: “Initial Networking on the Move” provides command and control on the move down to the company level for maneuver brigades and implements an improved network security architecture.
 - Increment 3: “Full Networking on the Move” provides full mobility command and control for all Army field commanders, from theater to company level, through enhanced mobility and satellite connectivity. Network reliability and robustness are enhanced with the addition of the air tier transport layer.
 - Increment 4: “Protected Satellite Communications on the Move” includes access to the next generation of protected satellites while retaining all previous on the move capabilities.



Mission

Commanders at theater and below will use WIN-T to:

- Integrate satellite-based communications capabilities into an everything-over-Internet Protocol network to provide connectivity, while stationary, across an extended, non-linear battlefield and at remote locations (Increment 1)
- Provide division and below maneuver commanders with mobile communications capabilities to support initial command and control on the move (Increment 2)
- Provide all maneuver commanders with mobile communications capabilities to support full command and control on the move, including the air tier and protected satellite communications (Increment 3 and 4)

Prime Contractor

- General Dynamics, C4 Systems, Taunton, Massachusetts

Activity

- The Joint Requirements Oversight Council approved the WIN-T Increment 2 Capability Production Document and DOT&E approved the WIN-T Increment 2 TEMP. The Army

continues development of the Increment 1b requirements document to support future operational testing.

ARMY PROGRAMS

- The Army conducted a combined WIN-T Increment 2 and Increment 1b LUT at Fort Stewart, Georgia; Fort Lewis, Washington; and Fort Gordon, Georgia, in March 2009.
- The WIN-T Increment 2 OIPT met on October 28, 2009, and decided to delay the program's Milestone C until January 2010. The OIPT took this action to allow the program time to resolve funding and interoperability issues with future WIN-T radio systems, and to prepare a strategy to address performance and reliability issues demonstrated during the WIN-T Increment 2 LUT.

Assessment

- DOT&E assessed WIN-T Increment 2 performance during the LUT as supportive of voice, video, and data communications, yet the network needs improvement in the following areas:
 - Operational Reliability
 - Ability to support on-the-move communications
 - Soldier training due to complexity of the system
 - Speed of communications due to network routing
 - Network Operations Management
- An approved requirements document for the Increment 1b is needed to support planning for operational tests in 2QFY11.

- An approved requirements document and an Increment 3 TEMP are needed to support planning for operational tests in 1QFY12.

Recommendations

- Status of Previous Recommendations. The Army is addressing all previous recommendations.
- FY09 Recommendations. The Army should:
 1. Prepare a comprehensive strategy to address all issues demonstrated during the WIN-T Increment 2 LUT. This plan should include improvements in material, concept of operations, and a reliability development growth plan.
 2. Continue to ensure that sufficient resources including test units, configuration items, and training areas for full spectrum, on-the-move operations are allocated for future operational test events to satisfy WIN-T's theater and below network requirements.
 3. Complete an approved capabilities document for Increment 1b and Increment 3, and a TEMP for Increment 3.