

Deliberate and Crisis Action Planning and Execution System (DCAPES) Inc. 2B



The Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center (AFOTEC) conducted an IOT&E of the Deliberate and Crisis Action Planning and Execution Segments (DCAPES) Increment 2B from February to September 2024 to assess its operational effectiveness, suitability, and cyber survivability. Due to AFOTEC deviating from the approved test plan for the IOT&E, additional data may need to be collected to support an adequate evaluation of DCAPES.

SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

DCAPES is used to create, manage, and project weapon systems, logistics, and personnel documentation, enabling the Air Force to deliver air, space,

and cyberspace capabilities to combatant commanders worldwide. DCAPES stores planning and execution information for Air Force functional users in the four main operations planning disciplines: operations, logistics, manpower, and personnel.

MISSION

Air Force mission support personnel use DCAPES for deliberate and crisis action planning by providing users the capability to: (1) receive and analyze operational requirements;

(2) develop, compare, and prioritize alternative courses of action; and (3) prepare documents that support guidance for employment of the force.

DCAPES helps planners:

- Access and transact with joint planning and execution data
- Produce and maintain Air Force inputs to combatant commander's time-phased force and deployment data
- Create and maintain pre-defined packages of manpower and equipment for use in planning and execution
- Create and maintain postured force elements for joint planners
- Exchange data with other command and control systems
- Manage sourcing, scheduling, and deployment of Air Force military and civilian personnel
- Maintain strength accountability of deployed forces
- Perform feasibility and capability analysis in support of logistics, manpower, and personnel needs
- Develop planning and execution documents

PROGRAM

DCAPES Increment 2B is an ACAT IAC program with a full deployment decision (FDD) planned for 1QFY25. Upon completion of the FDD, the program management office plans to transition to the software acquisition pathway.

DCAPES is in the process of developing a new TEMP to support the new acquisition approach.

» MAJOR CONTRACTORS

- CGI Federal, Inc. – Fairfax, Virginia
- Obsidian Global, LLC – Washington, District of Columbia

TEST ADEQUACY

AFOTEC conducted the DCAPES IOT&E from February to September 2024 to assess operational effectiveness, suitability, and cyber survivability. This IOT&E is intended to inform the FDD. As AFOTEC did not conduct the IOT&E in accordance with the test plan as approved by DOT&E, DOT&E is working with AFOTEC to determine whether AFOTEC collected adequate data.

PERFORMANCE

» EFFECTIVENESS, SUITABILITY, AND SURVIVABILITY

As discussed above, DOT&E is working with AFOTEC to determine whether AFOTEC collected adequate data.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Air Force should:

1. Work with DOT&E to ensure adequate data were obtained to permit a full evaluation of DCAPES' operational effectiveness, suitability, and cyber survivability.
2. Submit an updated TEMP to DOT&E for approval to support the planned transition to the software acquisition pathway.