## Welcome to Define Supportability Objectives

This module introduces the role of the Life Cycle Logistician (LCL) in defining supportability objectives. This is part of the pre-Materiel Solution Analysis phase during which you must begin assessing a system's supportability objectives and capabilities. This is integral to the success of any acquisition program because it begins to frame the boundaries, constraints and parameters of the eventual product support strategy and plan.

You will encounter various acronyms through out this course. Acronyms can be found using the glossary button at any time during the course. You can also click here to print the acronym list.

Select the Play button to listen to a message from the Program Manager.

Select the image to access the interactive wall chart website.

Integrated Defense Acquisition, Technology, & Logistics Life Cycle Management Framework
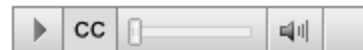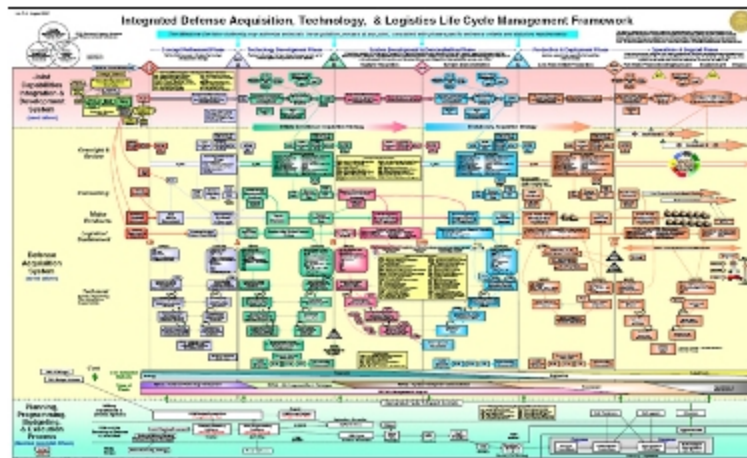
Closed Captioning

Program Manager: Hello. My name is Captain Davidson. Welcome to the Strike Talon Program. It is great to get our Life Cycle Logistician onboard at the beginning of the acquisition process. You were personally selected to be on the Strike Talon Program Office team because of your strong professional reputation and outstanding performance on DAU Life Cycle Logistics certification courses.

As the program manager, I know how important it is to address supportability issues early in the design and development process. The warfighter needs a reliable and sustainable system and you will be my key assistant in ensuring Strike Talon meets all the requirements for availability and supportability.

Let me give you a quick rundown of where we are on Strike Talon and what I need from you.

Strike Talon is just a concept at this point. In fact we are still in the pre-Materiel Solution Analysis phase. Strike Talon was initiated to meet a capability need identified in the Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System – JCIDS - specifically the need to locate and strike mobile targets including mobile missile launchers and troop concentrations.

Experience from conflicts in Gulf War I, Serbia, Iraq and Afghanistan have demonstrated the difficulty in effectively countering mobile ground targets with current systems; especially in anti-access and area-denial environments.
Current ground systems such as the M-1 tank and Multiple Launch Rocket System; and current air systems such as the A-10 and FA-18 have had success in the traditional battlefield defeating mobile targets such as tank columns, supply convoys, trains and the like. However, striking individual mobile force elements, particularly at night has proven to be difficult.

As you know we have received an Initial Capabilities Document – ICD – approved by the Joint Requirements Oversight Council – JROC – describing the need for a materiel approach to taking out those hostile mobile targets that are a continuing threat to our forces. The ICD has defined the current capability gap and why non-materiel changes in Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leadership and Education, Personnel and Facilities – more commonly called DOTMLPF – are insufficient to close that gap.

The ICD has also given some direction on a possible materiel solution. It identified two potential alternatives – an unmanned ground vehicle or an unmanned aerial vehicle. The ICD also provided operational and support parameters that must be considered in the Strike Talon design and development.

What I need you to do in the next few weeks is get up to speed as quickly as possible on the entire JCIDS process. It is important to know where the requirements came from and how they were developed. We will be dealing with those folks over at the Joint Staff throughout the program so better to have an understanding of their processes now, than get blindsided on one of their program reviews or technical assessments.

I also need you to define the supportability requirements for Strike Talon including possible maintenance concepts, service logistics policies and statutory or regulatory guidance. It is not too early to make some ballpark estimates on reliability and maintainability parameters, Operations and Support costs and readiness objectives. This information will be critical in the analysis of alternatives when selecting between an unmanned ground vehicle or an unmanned aerial vehicle.

There is a lot to do and I know you're the right person for the job. Good luck.

What is the Purpose of Defining Supportability Objectives?

Initial supportability objectives are established early in the pre-Materiel Solution Analysis phase. The LCL ensures that supportability is considered from an overarching perspective (i.e., high reliability and maintainability; minimal logistics footprint; affordable life cycle cost.)

This phase has several broad goals:

- Define the required capability

- Describe the gap between the current capability and the required capability

- Summarize the results of the Doctrine, Organization, Training, Material, Leadership and Education, Personnel and Facilities (DOTMLPF) analysis for the required capability

- Assess potential materiel approaches, including performance and supportability objectives

Integrated Defense Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics Life Cycle Management System
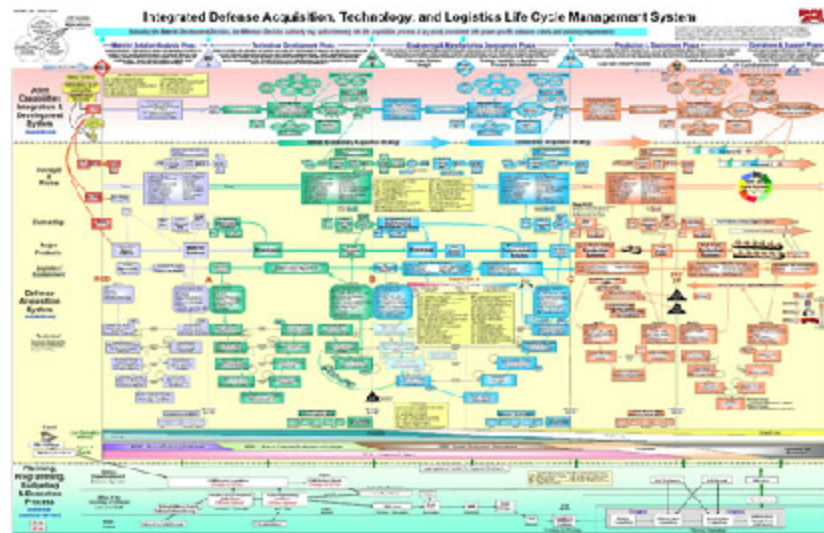
Output at this point of the life cycle, particularly the Initial Capabilities Document (ICD) is high-level and broad; there is no attempt to detail a specific solution.

D

Long Description

This image is an animation of the wall chart. The animation enlarges the portion of the chart that involves the process of Defining Supportability Objectives.

Objectives

Upon completion of this module you should be able to:

- Identify the key policies, regulations, and guidance that influence the definition of supportability objectives and how they apply to the Life Cycle Logisticians (LCL).

- Differentiate between the roles of the program manager, LCL and other individuals and/or organizations involved in the process of defining supportability objectives.

- Identify the LCL's role in the Joint Capabilities Integration & Development System (JCIDS) process in developing support strategy goals and documentation.

- Identify the technical activities the Life Cycle Logistician will have to perform to define the supportability objectives.

- Identify the various metrics that affect the definition of supportability objectives and how they are used.

Module Contents

This module consists of five lessons. Each emphasizes the LCL's perspective and role in the practical application of the concepts presented. Select each to review the main purpose of each topic.

- Regulatory Environment
- Oversight and Review
- Management Processes
- Technical Activities
- Metrics

Popup Text

Regulatory Environment

This lesson addresses the various regulations and guidance relevant to the pre-Materiel Solution Analysis phase. It presents information on the three DoD decision support systems and how the Life Cycle Logistician (LCL) will use them on the job.

Oversight and Review

This lesson addresses the various oversight organizations that the Life Cycle Logistician (LCL) will need to consider during the pre-Materiel Solution Analysis phase. You will learn what your responsibilities are during this phase with regards to collaboration and communication with outside stakeholders.

Management Processes

This lesson addresses three areas the Life Cycle Logistician (LCL) should be familiar with when managing a project. The LCL must:

- Understand the Joint Capabilities Integration & Development System (JCIDS) process,
- Translate capability needs into materiel solutions, and
- Identify the various support elements needed before and during the Materiel Solution Analysis phase.

Technical Activities

This lesson will help you understand the role of the LCL with regards to various technical activities used to define supportability objectives.

Metrics

This lesson addresses why the reliability, maintainability, and supportability (RMS) components of system

availability are considered at an early stage in the acquisition process. During the definition of supportability objectives, the goal is to ensure the inclusion of RMS-related thinking and language, with consideration to balance across all three categories.

RESOURCES | PRINT | HELP

Lesson Completion

You have completed the content for this lesson.

To continue, select another lesson from the Table of Contents on the left.

If you have closed or hidden the Table of Contents, click the Show TOC button at the top in the Atlas navigation bar.