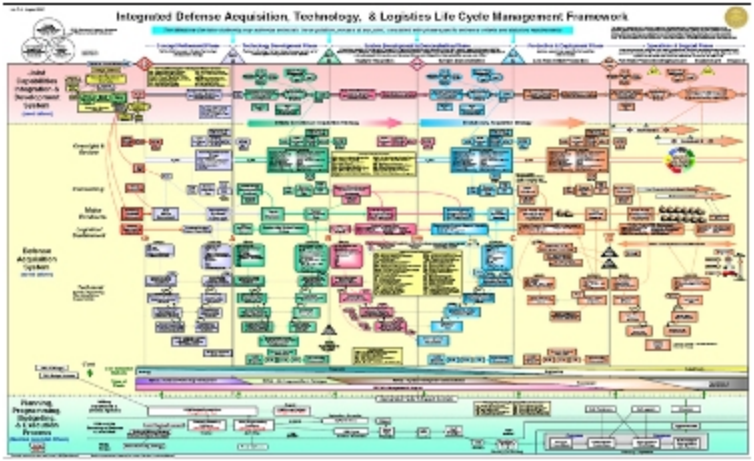
Welcome to Develop Initial Product Support Strategy

This module introduces the role of the Life Cycle Logistician (LCL) in developing the initial product support strategy as part of the Technology Development phase

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

Select the image to access the interactive wall chart website.



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Closed Captioning

Program Manager: Congratulations Strike Talon Program Team! We have successfully passed our Milestone A review. The Milestone Decision Authority has approved the Technology Development Strategy and authorized our entry into the Technology Development phase. Your outstanding support of the analysis of alternatives and inputs into the draft Capability Development Document was instrumental in selection of the unmanned aerial version of Strike Talon as the preferred system concept.

As you know the purpose of Technology Development is to reduce technology risk and to determine the appropriate set of technologies to be integrated into a full system. Technology Development is a continuous technology discovery and development process reflecting close collaboration between the Science and Technology community, the user, and the system development.

For you folks over in logistics, you will be busy refining supportability objectives and developing the initial product support strategy. By identifying support considerations, the logistics team will be able to influence selection of the final system design. Careful use of tradeoff studies will guide the entire program office in finding the optimal design – one which balances design objectives with supportability objectives.

We all have a lot of work to do during Technology Development to ensure we have an affordable increment of militarily-useful capability. We must also ensure technology for that increment has been demonstrated in a relevant environment and the system can be developed for production within a short period of time.

There are a number of key processes and documents the Strike Talon program team will either complete or support during Technology Development. These include:

- the final CDD
- the Acquisition Program Baseline
- the Acquisition Strategy
- the Systems Engineering Plan and the
- Test and Evaluation Master Plan

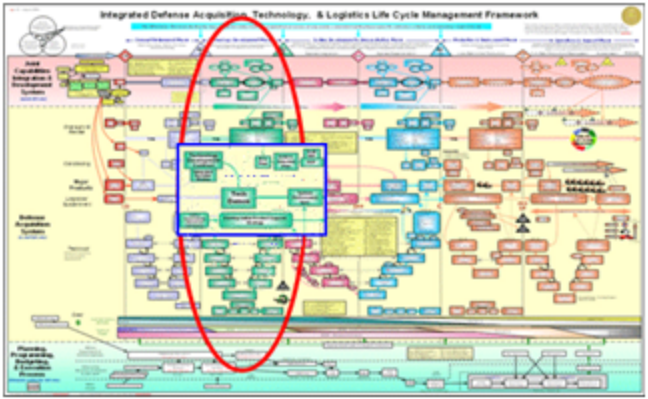
The completion of this Technology Development phase will be at the all important Milestone B decision review – if approved, this will be where Strike Talon is officially initiated as an acquisition program. If there are no questions, let's get to work!

Why Develop an Initial Product Strategy?

An initial product support strategy is developed as part of the third step in the life cycle management framework, the Technology Development phase. The main goals of this phase are to reduce technology risk and determine the appropriate set of technologies to incorporate into the complete weapons system.

During this phase, the LCL participates in the following activities:

- Preparing and assessing logistics requirements for inclusion in the Capability Development Document (CDD).
- Defining logistics test points in the Test and Evaluation Master Plan (TEMP).
- Integrating the initial product support strategy with the acquisition strategy. Using modeling and simulation to reduce technology risk and increase reliability and maintainability. The initial product support strategy (and subsequent refinements) will be documented in the Life Cycle Sustainment Plan (LCSP).
- Monitor the conduct and results of various systems engineering studies and analyses that will drive product support planning.



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Long Description

This image is an animation of the wall chart. The animation enlarges the portion of the chart that involves the process of Develop Initial Product Support Strategy.

Objectives

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- Identify the key policies, regulations, and guidance that influence the development of product support strategy, and how they apply to the LCL.
- Differentiate between the roles of the Program Manager (PM), LCL and other individuals and/or organizations in developing the initial product support strategy.
- Identify the LCL's role in the management processes associated with developing the initial product support strategy, to include: preparing or assessing logistics requirements for inclusion in the Capability Development Document (CDD); defining logistics test points in the Test and Evaluation Master Plan (TEMP); and integrating the initial product support strategy with the acquisition strategy and documenting the strategy in the Life Cycle Sustainment Plan (LCSP).
- Identify the LCL's role in the technical activities associated with developing initial product support strategies, to include using modeling and simulation (M&S) to reduce technology risk and to increase reliability and maintainability.
- Identify life cycle sustainment metrics and how they are used during the Technology Development phase.

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 learning objectives.

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

Popup Text

Regulatory Environment

This lesson explains various statutory, regulatory and policy elements, such as legal documents and DoD policies, with which the LCL may need to be familiar when developing the initial product support strategy. Knowing and applying these boundaries and constraints helps the LCL avoid legal problems during the very important Technology Development phase.

Oversight and Review

This lesson addresses the various external influences and their input that are likely to affect the product support strategy. It provides insight into the various roles the LCL plays in this phase of the product life cycle.

Management Processes

This lesson addresses the various roles of the LCL when developing a support strategy for a product. For example, the LCL must play an active role in defining logistics test points as part of test and evaluation (T&E) of a product.

Technical Activities

This lesson addresses various technical activities accomplished during the Technology Development phase. During this phase, there are many tools the LCL can use to the increase reliability and maintainability, which translates into improved supportability, of a product. Modeling and simulation (M&S) as a tool, combined with test and evaluation, can support this effort.

Metrics

This lesson addresses how life cycle sustainment metrics are used in the Technology Development phase. This lesson will help you understand that and provide some insight into your role in the process.

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.