



ARMY M&S DEDICATED DATA PROGRAM INITIATIVE



As a part of the overarching M&S Strategy, the Army M&S enterprise requires a comprehensive data strategy that facilitates reuse, interoperability, and collaboration of M&S data in support of its tools and services.

The data program development is in line with the guidance provided by the Chief Information Officer (CIO) G6's Net-centric Data Strategy Guidance produced December 2005 and updated in 2007 which states goals of making data: Accessible, Understandable, Trusted, Interoperable, Responsive to User Needs and Institutionalized.

The M&S dedicated data program encompasses 3 critical elements: An accessible data repository, an effective data mining process and a robust and clearly defined data collection process. Each of these elements has multiple sub-components that in order to be effective must be well understood, agreed upon and nested with the larger Army data requirements.

Four efforts are currently underway initializing the development of the under-pinning that will support this data program.

First the Army Material Systems Analysis Activity (AMSAA) is conducting a study to provide an initial assessment of the data needed to support the Army's multiple M&S. The information/insight developed through this effort is intended to support follow on efforts addressing the Army's need for M&S data. This is being accomplished leveraging the following essential elements of analysis:

- EEA 1: What are the different data needed by the Army M&S community?
- EEA 2: What is the nature of these data (i.e., simple or complex)?
- EEA 3: Who are the authoritative/credible sources for this data/information?
- EEA 4: What are the fidelity requirements for these data?
- EEA 5: How often is new data/information needed?
- EEA 6: Are there any special requirements (e.g., unclassified versus classified)?
- EEA 7: What level of resources (i.e., cost and time) are needed to develop/create new data/information?

Secondly, the DA G6/CIO has commissioned an effort being conducted by CECOM to address the development of a data architecture that will support the findings of the other agencies by placing data elements into the right context and format for reuse and interoperability and context.

Third, the TRADOC Intelligence Support Activity (TRISA) is conducting work to investigate the ever increasing need for data to support the domain of Irregular Warfare. TRISA is:

1. Conducting inventory of available cultural data repositories in government, academia, and industry; identify standard file formatting and nonstandard data, data structures, and databases.
2. Building a prototype repository based upon identified cultural data-structures.
3. Socializing/coordinating potential constructs with Stakeholders (RDECOM, AMSAA, TRAC, etc.) to better define and scope requirements; use Human terrain System Map HT Data construct as initial use case.
4. Create an integration plan to ingest multiple data streams into standard data format determining which models and simulations require cultural data.
5. Develop a plan to transform data into simulation consumable formats (e.g., AMSAA Standard File Format)

Lastly, work continues by the Army Data Harmonization and Integration Working group to develop and articulate the required governance structure that all Army activities and offices need in order to develop and harness structured and unstructured interoperable data.