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Systems Engineering Approach for Assessing a Warfighter's Cognitive Performance

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The Situation



Historically for warfighting systems.... ٠

System and SoS performance = f {warfighter performance}

Future for warfighting systems.... ۲

Complexity

Dependence on Netcentric Environment

Dependence on & Criticality of Warfighter Performance

Future Warfighter's performance = f {situational awareness (SA)} •

- Future Warfighter's SA will be highly dependent on: ٠
 - Sensor Input
 - Information from Other Humans Combat Experience
 - Information Systems Output
 Cognitive Capabilities

– Others.....

- Education and Training



The Problem



- DOD lacks capability to measure human performance
 - In an objective, quantifiable manner
 - In an operational environment near real time
 - With statistical quality
- Significant shortcomings in measuring a warfighter's cognitive SA.
 - Much progress in measuring technical SA
 - Tracking information displayed on screens or available in a network
 - Limited success in measuring cognitive SA
 - In a laboratory environment
- Limited technical means for collecting objective data in support of assessing cognitive SA in an operational environment

As the complexity of systems and level of information flow increases, this assessment deficiency grows proportionately larger



Limited ability to test all aspects of a Warfighter's combat environment



The Program



Joint Warfighter Test and Training Capability (JWTTC)

- A major US Army major instrumentation program
- Focused on measuring
 - Cognitive human performance
 - Cognitive SA
 - Physiological status
 - In an operational environment
- Will address test and evaluation (T&E) shortfalls in terms of
 - Instrumentation
 - Measurement and analysis of Warfighter performance
 - Impact of physiological and neurological stress
 - The collection and analysis of Warfighter performance data in terms of
 - SA of an individual
 - Shared SA (SSA) of teams, crews, or combined teams and crews
 - The total system performance of a single manned system or a combination of Warfighters, manned systems, and unmanned systems.



Systems Engineering (SE)

- DOD 5000.2 requires systems engineering in a program's acquisition life cycle
- The SE describes the overall technical approach to development of an effective JWTTC product that is sustainable at an affordable cost
- Identifies how the program is structured and conducted to effectively achieve program goals and objectives
- It an instance of the technical baseline defining the architecture and design components
 - Decomposes the capabilities into logical and physical components
 - Includes technical performance measures
- Provides the road map for acquiring and integrating technologies to address the JWTTC capabilities
 - Includes a comprehensive program schedule outlining component acquisition activities, integration, test, and delivery
- A tool in managing the technical development of JWTTC System



Engineering Approach for JWTTC



- Consideration in developing the JWTTC program
 - Warfighter is a system in JWTTC
 - JWTTC is a system-of-systems
- Use proven SE approaches to evaluate the systems





The JWTTC SoS







Use Proven SE Approaches



- Support the development of JWTTC
 - Use a systems approach to develop the program
 - Conduct a systems engineering analysis effort
 - To identify system requirements
 - Through Use Cases
 - Through decomposition of evaluation metrics
 - To develop a system architecture
 - Develop a Systems Engineering Plan (SEP)
 - Implementing the SE process
 - Integrate SE effort with the overall program management control efforts







Identifying System Requirements (Approach #1)

- Develop Use Cases
 - Narrative descriptions of a sequence of activities a T&E effort would undertake
 - Use cases do not identify capability needs, but rather imply them in the story it tells
 - An analyst then identifies capability needs
- Derive requirements from the capability needs

- Top Level
 - Actors
 - IT Systems
 - Warfigther
 - Test Control
 - Test Environment
 - Cases
 - Pre test
 - Test
 - Post test data collection (e.g., AAR)
 - Data Transfer
 - Post Test Analysis
 - Failure Warning





Identifying System Requirements (Approach #2)

Decompose evaluation metrics (e.g., measures of effectiveness)







Defining the System Architecture

- Once requirements are identified, design an architecture that satisfies the requirements
- Conduct experiments of the architecture design using functioning systems, prototypes, and surrogates
- Adjust the architecture as needed
- Identify areas of risk and potential mitigation efforts



Defining the Functional Architecture



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System Engineering Plan (SEP)

- The JWTTC SE methodology is tailored from the ISO/ECI 15228 four systems engineering process groups (Technical, Project, Enterprise, Agreement)
- The tailored JWTTC SE methodology includes
 - Technical processes
 - Requirements development, logical analysis, design solution, implementation, and integration
 - Parts of the project processes
 - Decision making
 - Risk, configuration, and information management
 - Enterprise environment management process groups





Implementing SE Processes

 As described in the SEP, the plan is to implement JWTTC SE processes using the Vee systems engineering method







In Closing....



- Much of the JWTTC Systems Engineering effort is being refined
- The approach so far has been beneficial in enhancing the JWTTC program
- The effort should prove to be an effective method for reducing JWTTC program life cycle risks due to
 - Complexity of the technology
 - Unforeseen changes