

Maneuver Control System (MCS)

Distributes technical information on the battlefield, allowing commanders to readily access and display current situation reports, intelligence, and contact reports that assess enemy strength and movement, as well as the status of friendly forces.

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance



DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Maneuver Control System (MCS) is the commander and staff's primary tactical planning tool from battalion through corps. MCS provides automated support for planning, coordinating, controlling, and using maneuver functional area assets and tasks.

MCS uses a suite of products to provide a Common Operational Picture (COP) to aid commanders and staffs in their decision making. These products include digital maps, aerial and satellite photos, 3-D flyover views of the battlespace, mobility analysis of the terrain, and map overlays with intelligence and battle resources by unit. Commanders can quickly analyze different courses of action and make decisions based on up-to-date situational assessments, maneuver schemes, doctrine, and changes encountered during battle.

When a plan is determined, MCS prepares and sends warnings,

operations orders, and related annexes. During the mission, MCS provides automatic updates of friendly/enemy unit movement locations. Because all information is maintained on the system's database, re-tasking of units is rapid and flexible. As an integrated part of the battle command systems, MCS receives information from external sources and updates them within predetermined operational plans. Such sources include intelligence, fire support, supply status, and air operations requests. To simplify its operation, the system uses commercial office applications to generate reports and display images, charts, and graphics.

Advanced configuration MCS (Block III and IV) supports Command Post of the Future (CPOF), which allows users to share their workspace map displays and data between all units equipped with this capability. It includes interactive whiteboard planning and war games simulation.

PROGRAM STATUS

- **3QFY06:** CPOF transitioned from DARPA to Project Manager Battle Command
- **4QFY06:** MCS capability production document updated to include full suite of tactical battle command requirements and completes Army staffing
- **1QFY07:** CPOF begins program transition to Tactical Battle Command (TBC) as a technical insertion to MCS
- **1QFY07:** CPOF obtains favorable Milestone B decision for development of a full spectrum collaboration capability and receives favorable Milestone C decision to begin Army-wide fielding of the current product
- **1QFY07:** JROC approves MCS 6.4 CPD

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **2QFY07:** CPOF begins Army-wide fielding

ACQUISITION PHASE

Concept & Technology Development

System Development & Demonstration

Production & Deployment

Operations & Support

Maneuver Control System (MCS)

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

None

CONTRACTORS

Software development:

Lockheed Martin (Tinton Falls, NJ)
 General Dynamics
 CECOM Software Engineering Center
 (Fort Monmouth, NJ)
 Viecore (Tinton Falls, NJ)
 Northrop Grumman (San Diego, CA)

