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ARMY CIO/G-6

Army Data Strategy

What is it?

Data, when managed properly as a strategic asset, create a decisive operational advantage. In today's diverse and rapidly changing threat environment, the networked force requires the right data, at the right time, at the right place. The Army Data Strategy takes an evolutionary approach to fulfilling this need, focusing on the data, rather than individual systems or communications networks.

The Army Data Strategy is aligned with Department of Defense (DoD) guidance and supports the Army Network Campaign Plan. It provides the framework for how data are stored, moved across network architectures and shared between the Army and unified action partners across all echelons and environments.

The strategy contains five objectives for data: to make them visible, accessible, understandable, trusted and interoperable (VAUTI). Data will become *visible* by posting them to shared spaces and registering metadata related to structure and definition. Once visible, data then become *accessible* to authorized users through those shared spaces and data services; access will be controlled in accordance with the asset's security-related metadata. The Army will make data *understandable* by creating data models, integrating data and identifying requirements for information traceability. By identifying authoritative sources and making data storage and access secure, data will become *trusted*. The ultimate goal is to make data *interoperable*; by complying with information exchange specifications and establishing master data management and unique identifiers, the same data can be used across multiple systems and applications.

What has the Army done?

The Army is in the process of addressing the physical challenges to achieving VAUTI by: increasing the capacity (bandwidth) of both the network backbone and individual installations; improving transmission speed and traffic management; and building a global cloud computing infrastructure. The Chief Information Officer/G-6 (CIO/G-6) has published the Army Information Architecture, which provides the enterprise-level design and development guidance for implementing the Army Data Strategy. Concurrently, Army organizations are identifying data needs and authoritative data sources to support the goals of making data visible, accessible and trusted.

What does the Army have planned for the future?

The Army Data Management Program (ADMP) will serve as the foundation for implementation of the Army Data Strategy. To achieve the VAUTI goals, the ADMP will provide critical details and standards for components such as data quality, master data, data analytics and data management specifications. The CIO/G-6 also will develop the Common Operating Environment Data Foundation (COE DF). By defining the common information that is pervasively used throughout Army IT systems in all mission areas, as well as the procedures for sharing these data among different formats, the COE DF will help developers achieve interoperability across computing environments.

Why is this important to the Army?

Information drives all decision making, on the battlefield and in every other mission environment. Only when data are visible, accessible, understandable, trusted and interoperable can Soldiers, commanders and national leaders develop and execute the most effective courses of action. When implemented, the Army Data Strategy will ensure secure, relevant information exchange across the network between authorized users anytime and anywhere. Further, the data management practices and technologies put in place today will lead to future capabilities, such as data integration, protection and auditing, real-time analytics, enterprise discovery and rapid solution development.



Resources:

- [Army CIO/G-6 Website](#)
- [Army Network Campaign Plan](#)
- [Implementing the Sharing of Data, Info, and IT in DoD](#)

The chart below shows a snapshot of the various initiatives within the ADMP and how they relate to the VAUTI goals.

V A U T I				
VISIBLE	ACCESSIBLE	UNDERSTANDABLE	TRUSTED	INTEROPERABLE
Content Discovery & Retrieval	Content Discovery & Retrieval			
				Mediation
Authoritative Data Sources			Authoritative Data Sources	
Discovery Metadata			Discovery Metadata	
		Master Data Management		Master Data Management
	Information Exchange Specifications	Information Exchange Specifications		Information Exchange Specifications
	Security Metadata		Security Metadata	
	Mobile Strategy			
			Data Quality Management	
	Tactical Data Link Standards			Tactical Data Link Standards
DATA STRATEGY METRICS				
REFERENCE ARCHITECTURE				

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