

# Army Data Center Consolidation

## What is it?

Data centers are buildings or rooms used to store, manage and/or disseminate data, information and command, control, communications, computers and information technology services. In keeping with Defense Department and Office of Management and Budget directives to reduce physical IT infrastructure, the Army will eliminate approximately three-quarters of its data centers between 2011 and the end of 2015. In their stead, the Army will use a unified cloud-computing operational model to provide enterprise hosting as a managed service. The Army will move applications into the DoD cloud as much as possible; then leverage commercial infrastructure; and, as a last resort, utilize Army-owned data centers.

## Why is it important to the Army?

Data center consolidation will help the Army fulfill presidential and Defense Department mandates to dispose of unneeded real estate in order to cut operating costs and improve energy efficiency. Through consolidation, the Army will reduce expenses associated with data center hardware, software and operations, and, in turn, will be able to shift IT investment to more efficient computing platforms and technologies. In addition, decreasing the number of data centers, and therefore the points of presence on the Network, will improve the security of Army information and simplify data management.

## What has the Army done?

The Army began physical consolidation in 2011 with 16 locations tied to base realignment and closure (BRAC) and 11 non-BRAC sites, all in the continental United States. Also in 2011, the Army instituted an IT Server Moratorium requiring all Army organizations to obtain a waiver for server purchases. This process continues to reveal additional data centers (more than 250 have been identified so far), which improves the Army's data center common operating picture and facilitates consolidation.

## What does the Army have planned for the future?

The Army is coordinating with its commands to finalize the consolidation schedule for FY 12-15. As part of this process, the Army will continue to inventory its data centers and conduct application rationalization efforts across the service. The Army expects to pursue consolidation beyond the initial phase, which is scheduled to finish in 2015.

Data center consolidation activities are being synchronized with other Network efforts, such as Enterprise Email and Enterprise Collaboration Services. ■

ARMY CIO/G-6

# The Network of 2020: Powering America's Army

The individual warfighter and the collective Army rely more heavily than ever before on information technology to execute the mission. The data and capabilities Soldiers need – among them intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, communications and command and control – are all obtained through the Network.

Today's versatile mix of tailorable, linked organizations operates on a rotational cycle and conducts wide-ranging, full-spectrum operations. For the Network to fulfill the requirements of this dynamic force – securely, on demand and as far as the tactical edge reaches – it must become a unified, global system.

The Army is laying the foundation for this global Network by standardizing the underlying architecture; consolidating and centralizing Network operation, defense and services; and reforming development, acquisition and fielding processes. Ultimately, these changes will produce a seamless, technologically modern Network that is always available and always trusted, regardless of location or environment. ■

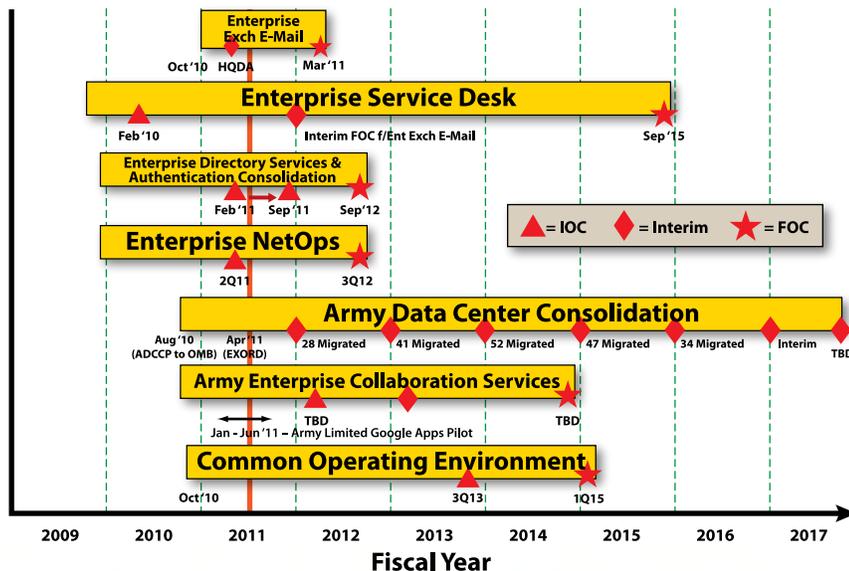
## Why is LandWarNet important to the warfighter?

The ability to fight upon arrival is critical to enabling the predominantly CONUS-based Army to respond effectively to any threat in any environment. The Army's current networks, information systems and resources are not sufficient to support a true fight-upon-arrival capacity. Access to the Network and information technology resources is inconsistent; units must deal with numerous IT-related changes as they move from one physical location to another and one phase of the Army Force Generation cycle to another. However, by providing all warfighters universal access to their applications, data and collaboration and training resources, as well as one email address and telephone number, the Army will achieve this essential fight-upon-arrival capability.

## Where Are We Now?

Over the past year, the Army has adopted standards and protocols, based on those of the commercial sector, for the Network's architecture and transmission means. The goal is to accelerate software development and increase network security. The Army also began to centralize Network management and services through initiatives such as enterprise email, collaboration, directory services and authentication, and data center consolidation. Additionally, the new Army Cyber Command assumed responsibility for operation and defense of the Network. With fiscal reality and the always adapting enemy in mind, the Army will continue to define and refine Network doctrine, tactics, techniques and procedures, and to incorporate technological advances, customer demands, national strategic objectives and process improvements. ■

## Top Strategic Initiatives and Implementation Timeline



Enterprise Exchange Email & Calendar

Enterprise Service Desk

Enterprise Directory Services and Authentication Consolidation

Enterprise Network Operations (NetOps)

Army Data Center Consolidation

Army Enterprise Collaboration Services

Common Operating Environment

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