

Welcome DLTT/SIF Users

Welcome to the first issue of *The DLTT Link*, a semi-annual newsletter for users of Data Link Test Tools (DLTTs) and/or the Systems Integration Facility (SIF) at SPAWAR Systems Center (SSC), San Diego.

The DLTT Link is intended to provide you with the latest information on DLTT product releases, other pertinent news, brief scenarios of testing programs using Data Link Test Tools and the SIF, upcoming

testing events of interest and important contacts at the DLTT Program Center.

We are emailing the initial issue to all POCs on our DLTT users list as well as posting it on the Data Link Test Tools Web site at <http://gateway.nosc.mil>.

If someone else in your organization would benefit from being on the distribution list, please drop us an email.

In this issue, read about the newest versions of the Data Link Gateway and

TADIL J Host Simulator software.

Also, the first Data Link Test Tools Users Conference was held here at SSC San Diego during in August 1999. If you were not in attendance, you may want to request a copy of the presentations. Check out the story on Page 3.

We welcome your input for future story ideas and comments on the newsletter.

Gateway Version 8.3 Available 02/04/00

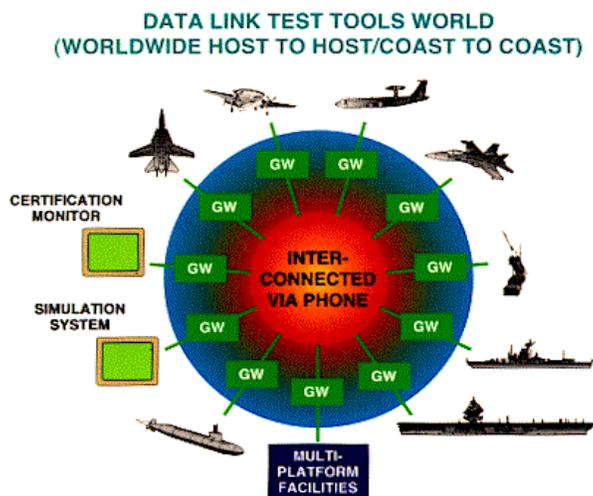
Highlighting new features in the latest release of the Data Link Gateway software, Version 8.3, is a re-design of the time-keeping features of Gateway systems that specifically delineates the parameters of System Time (the perceived Greenwich Mean Time used to tag all DX records, to display to the operator and to synchronize with other Gateway systems) and JTIDS Network Time (the time used to communicate between the terminal and host and used to establish fine sync in a real RF environment).

The changes are intended to provide Gateway users with accurate timing solutions for specific timing demands.

Gateway V. 8.3 also features the addition of an operator dialogue box to control the Network Participation Group and the update rate for the genera-

tion of PPLI messages by the Gateway Terminal Emulator.

Other new functions in V. 8.3 include:



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➤ An addressed message filter assuring that messages addressed in the Gateway Terminal Emulator mode to E-3 hosts go to no other hosts.

➤ Three updates expanding the Gateway system for the MIDS interface.

➤ New upgrades for the Theater Missile Defense System Exerciser Build 3 program.

In addition to these enhancements, Gateway V. 8.3 corrects a number of Problem Reports users have submitted.

For information on obtaining Gateway Version 8.3, contact Jan DuVall, (619) 553-5372, or email: duvall@spawar.navy.mil.

GTE Plays Vital Role in DEP Program

The Gateway Terminal Emulator (GTE) is playing an important role in the Distributed Engineering Plant (DEP) program, designed to improve fleet readiness by identifying and resolving interoperability issues before deployment.

The DEP connects, in real time, land-based combat and battle management systems located in a variety of Navy testing facilities across the U.S. By using cutting-edge technology and innovative application methods, the DEP shifts battle group testing ashore in an environment that can simulate actual battle group operating conditions anywhere in the world.

Development of the DEP began following the formation of the Na-

val Sea Systems Command's (NAVSEA) Task Force on Combat Systems Interoperability in 1998. An alliance of NAVSEA,

neer (SEA 05) and was headed by the Naval Surface Warfare Center,

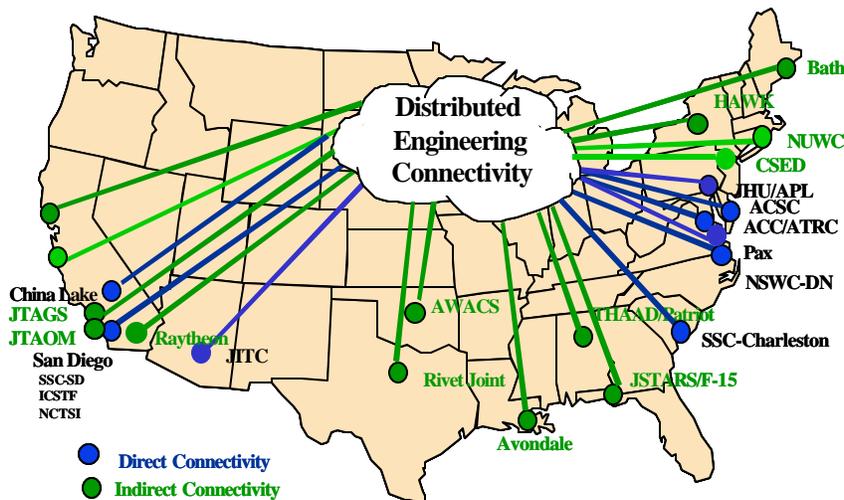
Dahlgren Division (NSWCDD).

Test facilities are equipped with actual host combat and battle management hardware-in-the-loop and software systems. Information is exchanged among battle groups via tactical data link networks (Link 16 and Link 11).

GTEs using software version 8.2 are located at each Link 16 host site. The GTE is the only test tool authorized in

DEP's current architecture to connect platform hosts to the ATM network. ATM technology interconnects the sites and aggregates tactical data link, common environment and voice/video teleconferencing communications into a single network.

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Distributed Engineering Plant Sites

SPAWAR, and Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) field activities began working on a prototype DEP in September 1998. This effort was under the leadership of the Navy's Battle Force Systems Engi-

DLTT Training Available

The DLTT Program Center offers a full range of training on the operation and use of Data Link Test Tools.

The programs combine formal classroom training and hands-on laboratory exercises in small groups, usually no more than five students per instructor. Training can be conducted at your site, and classes also are conducted periodically at SSC San Diego.

Training is available on:

- Data Link Gateway (typically 3 days)
- TADIL J Host Simulator (typically 1-1/2 days)

- Link-16 Engine (typically 1 day)

Informal on-the-job training for other DLTTs, such as the Script Controller and Data Analysis and Reduction Tool, is also available (typically half-days on each tool). Interactive training compact discs on the Data Link Gateway, TADIL J Host Simulator and Link-16 Engine

also are available at no cost to users. The CDs, available in Windows, OS/2, and Macintosh formats, can be used as instructional aids subsequent to formal training.

For information on scheduling or attending training classes, contact Joyce Hameloth, DLTT Training Coordinator, (619)553-9766 / Hameloth@spawar.navy.mil

TADIL J Host Simulator News

Version 5.1 of the TADIL J Host Simulator (TJHS) includes enhancements to the MIDS Terminal Control Process (TCP), as well as other improvements.

Watch for further TJHS news in

2000 as work is in progress to move this test tool to the Windows NT platform.

For further information, contact Ron Huffman, (619) 466-6603. Email: rhuffman@spawar.navy.mil.

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<http://gateway.spawar.navy.mil>
<http://www-c4516.spawar.navy.mil>

DLTTs Connect Joint Interoperability Test Sites

The Joint Interoperability Test Command (JITC), Ft. Huachuca, Ariz., conducts an ongoing program to certify Joint and Combined Interoperability of U.S. military services' C4I systems.

Data Link Test Tools are an integral part of the JIT test bed, which replicates a network of TADIL J systems. Data link testing is performed in a distributed laboratory environment. The Data Link Gateway system is used in place of real JTIDS terminals.

The JITC is Test Director and hub of the test bed. Participants include: Army (Huntsville, Ala., and Ft. Monmouth, N.J.), Air Force (Langley AFB, Va.,

and Tinker AFB, Oklahoma City, Okla.), Marine Corps (Camp Pendleton, Calif.), Navy (Naval Center for Tactical Systems Interoperability, San Diego, Calif.) and Security Information Systems, Greenville, Tex.

JITC conducts many tests each year. The DLTT Program Center participates by reviewing test procedures before tests, monitoring testing in the Systems Integration Facility, San Diego, verifying transmission of Link-16 data in accordance with MIL-STD-6016, assisting DLTT users during testing, and handling any DLTT trouble reports following testing.

Frequently Asked

Q. How can our command obtain information on updating the Data Link Test Tools we acquired several years ago?

A. Information on updating your DLTTs is available by telephoning, toll free, 1-888-GWLinks (1-888-495-4657) or by sending an email to GWLINKS@spawar.navy.mil.

Q. May we provide our own hardware for installation of Data Link Test Tools software?

A. To ensure that DLTT systems will suit the users' specific site, equipment and hardware/software requirements, all systems are specially configured at the Data Link Test Tool Program Center.

Q. Will any of the Data Link Test Tools run on a laptop computer?

Yes. Currently, the TADIL J Host Simulator is available in a laptop configuration.

Do you have a question you would like to appear in this column? Email it to GWLINKS@spawar.navy.mil.

Upcoming Meetings & Test Certifications

March 13-24. JIT TADIL J Test. SUT: Joint Stars RT, Patriot CT, F-15E CT, MCE P3I TADIL J CT (Participants: JTAOM, SIS, F-15C/D, JTD).

April 10-14, NATO SIMPLE test.

May 1-5, Constellation/Enterprise BGIT, utilizing DEP testbed.

GTE Vital in DEP Program

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The DEP network includes the Systems Integration Facility, the E2C Laboratory, the NSWC, Port Hueneme Division's Integrated Combat Systems Test Facility, and the Navy Center for Tactical Systems Interoperability at SSC San Diego; SSC Charleston, S.C.; NSWC PHD, Dam Neck, Va.; Aegis Combat Systems Center, Wallops Island, Va.; Aegis Training and

Readiness Center and Aegis Computer Center, Dahlgren, Va.; and the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division, Patuxent River, Md.

As DEP management considers expanding the fidelity of the test bed, the GTE will play a key role in affecting these enhancements. Satellite TADIL-J and Time Slot Allocation (TSA) are only two improvements to the GTE under development or consideration.

Since the program began, three Battle Group Interoperability Tests (BGITs) have been successfully conducted, the latest being the George Washington BG, completed last Oct. 14. The GTEs provided reliable connectivity among all sites throughout each of the 8-hour test windows. BGITs for the Dwight D. Eisenhower and the John F. Kennedy BGs were successfully completed in July (?) and February, respectively.