TRAiDE: MooD at heart of BAE Systems' approach to TLCM

Salamander is partnering with BAE Systems to create a leading edge TLCM environment for the defence sector, based on MooD.

In the MOD, Through Life Capability Management (TLCM) is an approach which looks at the through life provision of Military Capability where whole-life costs are understood right at the beginning and decisions made on that basis.

In order to make decisions on a through life basis, and consider the essential 'trades' which balance all elements of capability, there is a need to structure the right information. This information needs to be analyzed in a coherent way and the outputs need to be visualized in suitable formats to enable decisions to be made.

BAE Systems and Salamander have jointly conceived and developed TRAiDE™ (TLCM Robust Acquisition inclusive Decision Environment) to provide a means to support trades and decision making, both within and between capabilities.

'TRAiDE combines BAE Systems' broad defence industry knowledge and Salamander's proven MooD software'

Bob Barton, managing director of Niteworks, explains: "At the heart of TRAiDE is the principle of information management as a key enabler to TLCM. TRAiDE combines BAE Systems' broad defence industry knowledge and Salamander's proven MooD software to deliver solutions convergent with the MODAF principles and structures."

Bob Barton

TRAiDE enables information to be drawn from disparate sources and given clear context, removing inconsistencies and thus providing a structured data set for analysis and visualization. Change impacts can be viewed quickly at different levels, but - most importantly - coherently at each level of the governance structure, as well as across the timeframes being considered. The results are then visualized in a consistent and intuitive way.

David Simpson, capability development chief systems engineer, BAE Systems, adds: "TRAiDE supports innovative thinking by providing a connected and continuous trade-off process, focused across the air, land, sea and joint domains. Importantly, TRAiDE delivers reliable information which is consistent at source, consistent at point of change, easily manipulated and intuitively presented to support decision making in achievement of a balanced portfolio of military capability."

TRAiDE is being used internally in BAE Systems and is being tested in conjunction with the MOD on a number of Salamander / BAE Systems joint projects, which include a project for complex modelling of Fleet Management options in the Air domain.

What is TRAiDE?

TRAiDE is an 'environment' - it is not a tool. TRAiDE is a combination of processes, people and techniques. The purpose of TRAiDE is to support better, coherent decision making, by providing structured, evidenced information from a core data set that is captured and utilized through a central information manager. TRAiDE has four key components:

- Data Capture - TRAiDE is MODAF convergent and data can be entered manually or imported and linked to / from a variety of media, and is accessed through a central Information Manager.
- Information Management - TRAiDE is based on a core set of information, captured in MooD from a variety of sources (as above). This supports a 'capture once, use many times' philosophy.
- Data Modelling & Manipulation - TRAiDE is capable of carrying out data modelling and manipulation using the inherent strengths of MooD and can be linked to a variety of extant and emerging modelling and manipulation tools. Examples include activity and cost models. Once data has been modified, if necessary, updated data can be returned to the Information Manager.
- Data Visualization - A key facet of TRAiDE is the ability to create intuitive visualizations. While it can support exporting to external tools for visualizations, MooD has a number of customer vizualisations that have been developed specifically to support decision making.

Infopoint

BAE Systems is a global company engaged in the development, delivery and support of advanced defence and aerospace systems in the air, on land and at sea.

www.baesystems.com