

NIE process speeding new technology delivery

Fellow Signaleers,

American Soldiers are known worldwide for their ability to overcome any challenge that threatens to impede mission accomplishment. During this last decade of persistent combat, we have quickly placed some of the most advanced systems into the hands of our combat Soldiers through rapid equipment fielding programs. In our desire to get these devices into the hands of our Soldiers as quickly as possible, we've asked them to also integrate emergent capabilities to the network while conducting combat operations. While our Soldiers did splendidly, we have found that this increased burden needs to be moved back to the institution where we can focus on the integration process and ensure supportability and sustainability.

Concurrently, the Signal Regiment is transforming to meet future technological requirements at the speed in which technology becomes available. The SIGCoE will not only participate in bringing the complexity of integrating new capabilities back to the institution, but we will also ensure we field a complete solution; one that has considered implications across the entire Doctrine, Organization, Training, Material, Leadership, Education, Personnel, and Facilities spectrum.

The new Agile Acquisitions Process will focus on a specific Capability Sets to ensure integration of capabilities into the Network. Its goal is to biannually assess capability gaps, rapidly form requirements, solicit mature industry solutions, and performs laboratory and field evaluations in order to inform acquisition decisions that respond to the rapid changes in Soldier requirements associated with current operations. This new approach will be agile but provide more predictability for our acquisition community and industry. In addition we have worked with the G8 to ensure that funding is put into place to buy the Capability Sets when needed so that more industry partners will compete. It is a win-win.

The Network Integration Evaluation is a series of semi-annual evaluations utilized to integrate Network capabilities using a full Brigade Combat Team. The NIE ensures the Network satisfies functional requirement of the force while relieving

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the end user of the burden of integration; especially important in combat operations. The importance of this streamlined acquisition and testing process is placing new and emerging technologies into the hands of Soldiers early and often ensuring they maintain an overwhelming advantage over our adversaries.

This edition of the *Army Communicator* looks at the NIE concept. Keep reading and stay informed!

Pro Patria Vigilans!



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan R. Lynn".

