Chapter 5
Target State for Defense Information Enterprise

CHAPTER CONTENT

As you explore Chapter 5, it will cover the following topics:

- Viewpoint on Managing Tomorrow’s Information
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- Reference Model for DoD Information Enterprise
- Net-Centric Transformation Goals
- Defense Information Enterprise Priorities

DOI: 10.4018/978-1-60566-854-3.ch005
CHAPTER FOCUS

As the first chapter on transformational perspectives, this chapter provides you how the DoD and the military are moving toward a target state for the enterprise. The defense information enterprise has a particular set of goals and mission needs that stem from the overall defense transformation. A guest author perspective provides a unique window to the activity. The vision and mission of the business transformation has been stated, along with providing a proper definition of the defense information enterprise. A pictorial depiction of the reference model for the enterprise is then presented, and each element is further described. We provide a transformation perspective on the DoD information enterprise. We then discuss enterprise as it relates to a set of net-centric goals. These net-centric goals branch into a set of priorities that include data and services deployment, secured availability, communications infrastructure readiness, communications readiness and NetOps agility.

As we discuss Net Centricity and the ongoing net-centric transformation, we plan to provide perspectives as to how this mindset is affecting our military and civilian enterprise. The first section of this book provided an in-depth understanding of the concept of Net Centricity and defined important concepts such as information interoperability.

In this chapter we discuss the Defense Information Enterprise since this provides a tangible product of the DoD transformation activities. The idea is to define the target state of the Defense Enterprise – what are its basic tenets, and how it leads to a greater level of Net Centricity. Based on our earlier discussion on today’s information enterprise and the various information forms and the decision making capabilities, we now branch into how this is configured for our nation’s defense. We also provide a guest author perspective on the transformation and the defense information enterprise.

VIEWPOINT ON MANAGING TOMORROW’S INFORMATION

Let’s start by recognizing the information revolution that has been happening in the past several decades. In developing a perspective on managing tomorrow’s information, we have to recognize the characterizations of today’s information enterprise that we discussed in the previous chapter. Here are a set of actions that we are deriving for the upcoming future that abide by net-centric principles:

- **Harness the Decision Making Pyramid** – Enable the stepwise evaluation from data, to information, to knowledge, to intelligence, so that it leads all of us to more informed decision making
- **Leverage Today’s Information Data Store** – As information is stored in digital format, the written text, and created images are proliferating throughout the globe that are all being kept within computer directories and database repositories. As these information data stores grow by leaps and bounds and become more far-flung, it is more important for us to find new ways to leverage this information.
- **The End of Hierarchical Command & Control** – The past mechanisms for decision making has been primarily hierarchical. This means that information was provided to the top of an organization, so that decisions were made and filtered down to the bottom of the labor force. This led to a command and control structure that kept information at the top and prevented it from flowing downwards. The end of this paradigm means that information would be more free-flowing and information sharing strategies are necessary to properly manage the entire enterprise.