

CDR KAD



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
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IN REPLY REFER TO
15 December 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

Subj: OPNAV TASK FORCE WHISKEY (W)

Encl: (1) OPNAV Task Force W Charter

1. CINCLANTFLT N6 will lead a small group effort entitled TASK FORCE W to develop the strategy and proposed technical framework to transition the Navy to a web-based organization. The Task Force will chart a transformational way ahead for Navy operational and business systems via the application of web technology and develop a plan of action and milestones for key actions to accomplish this vision. The Task Force will have the support of the OPNAV Staff and other commands Navy-wide in this effort. Enclosure (1) outlines the scope of TASK FORCE W responsibilities and objectives.

2. TASK FORCE W will provide a report of recommendations to the VCNO by 31 January 2001.

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Vice Chief of Naval Operations

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TASK FORCE WHISKEY-CHARTER

The recent rapid advances in information technology offer the potential to dramatically streamline the flow of information and decision processes in the Navy. The application of Internet and web technology processes in the commercial sector have been demonstrated to provide vastly improved data storage, data handling and data access which facilitate information exchange and decision making.

Current Navy IT systems are being significantly enhanced with the introduction of IT-21 and NMCI infrastructure backbone and network installations. However, there is currently no overarching policy guidance or standards in place regarding the merging of existing operational or business processes and databases. Nor is there a good understanding of options, applications or technical standards to enable the Navy to truly capitalize on the investments. Additionally, decision making is hampered by myriad separate, non-interoperable databases and the lack of effective means to exchange the vast amounts of available information.

TASK FORCE W, to be chaired by CINCLANTFLT N6, is chartered to develop a vision and overall plan to take advantage of web technologies to create integrated and transformational information exchange for the Navy.

VISION: A Navy in which operational and business processes are conducted worldwide via interconnected and interoperable web-based IT systems.

TASK FORCE W will survey existing web-based systems and technological innovations in place in the commercial sector that might have applicability for the Navy. The Task Force will outline the objectives and timelines for the transformation of Navy practices and procedures to a web-based environment.

Specific tasks include:

- Definition of "web-based"
- Determine the appropriate level of technical interoperability required to enable systems and databases to communicate with each other
- Outline a framework of operational and business web architectures
- Define the specific characteristics of Navy web systems
- Outline individual Knowledge Management (KM) portal options

- Propose performance and interoperability standards
- Identify hardware, software and training requirements
- Propose options for the human resource sustainment of IT in the Navy
- Advance a POA&M to accomplish the foregoing actions

This Task Force has an opportunity to profoundly influence the Navy of the 21st Century and transform the way we do our business and conduct operations.