



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY TRAINING AND DOCTRINE COMMAND
950 JEFFERSON AVENUE
FORT EUSTIS, VIRGINIA 23604-5700

ATZL-CT

14 AUG 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: TRADOC Policy Letter 21, Acquisition of Training Aids, Devices, Simulators and Simulations (TADSS) and Gaming for Training

1. References:

- a. AR 350-38, Training Device Policies and Management, 15 Oct 93.
- b. Memorandum, HQDA, SAAL-SSI, 11 Dec 06, subject: U.S. Army Policy for the Acquisition of System Training Devices.
- c. Memorandum, VCSA, 30 Jun 08, subject: Policy for the Acquisition of Training Aids, Devices, Simulators and Simulations (TADSS) and Gaming for Training.
- d. Army Training Strategy (ATS), 4 Apr 11.
- e. AR 70-1, Army Acquisition Policy, 22 Jul 11.

2. To eliminate redundancy, reduce costs, and comply with Army policy for the acquisition of TADSS and gaming for training (reference 1c) and be consistent with the Army Training Strategy (reference 1d), all TRADOC organizations will coordinate with the appropriate Combined Arms Center-Training (CAC-T) TRADOC capability managers (TCMs) before acquiring or developing any TADSS - including gaming.

3. While the Centers of Excellence (CoEs) and schools understandably want to provide the most current and effective training and education aids available, the Army cannot afford TADSS that provide singular solutions or cannot be integrated with other TADSS in the integrated training environment (ITE). We also cannot afford to have money diverted from other programs to support procurement of non-program of record, school-unique TADSS, and high-cost licensing fees. Buying unique capabilities defeats the ITE acquisition objective of having common tools in the institutions and at home station so that a graduate will not have to learn a new system after he or she arrives in the unit and will be motivated to learn how to use the tool while in school.

4. CoEs will vet all TADSS requirements with the appropriate CAC-T TCM. TCMs will validate the requirements in accordance with doctrine and approved training strategies, and ensure interoperability with existing and planned TADSS. This pre-acquisition

ATZL-CT

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coordination will ensure standardized Army training environments, eliminate duplication, and facilitate sustainment and integration planning.

5. In coordination with the TCMs, the Training Support System Enterprise governs the acquisition of system and non-system TADSS and games for training. The Training Support System Review (TSS-R) and the TSS Program Management Review identify, assess, and validate resource requirements. The gaming requirements control board facilitates the rapid inclusion of current and future requirements, applies those to emerging technologies, relevant spin-offs from other applications, and consideration of both government and commercial off-the-shelf technologies.

6. This policy letter is effective until superseded or rescinded.



ROBERT W. CONE
General, U.S. Army
Commanding

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Deputy Chiefs of General and Chiefs of Special Staff Offices,
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