Performance Based Logistics
De-risking Implementation through Shared Information

Performance Based Logistics (PBL) rewards the contractor for delivering agreed levels of equipment output performance. But this brings additional challenges for asset and supply chain management. Fujitsu’s approach to sharing information de-risks PBL and so benefits both the contractor and client.

The Challenges of PBL
PBL rewards the contractor for equipment output performance. This might be sustaining given levels of operational tempo or the achievement of an agreed rate of successful missile launches. PBL has the potential to deliver advantages to the client and the provider. For example, output is aligned to the warfighter’s needs, through life costs are reduced via reliability and maintainability programmes and obsolescence is better managed. For the contractor, incentivised contracts provide the opportunity for increased revenues through gain share agreements.

However, in PBL the contractor becomes accountable not only for the performance of the equipment but also the supply chain. This brings several information challenges:

- Military supply chains cross many boundaries as assets move between sub-contractors, distributors, OEMs, main operating bases, military logistic networks and forward operating bases. Visibility of the status, location, usage and configuration of assets throughout this chain is essential for the achievement of agreed performance criteria.

- Availability, reliability and maintainability not only affect through life costs but also the achievement of military output. Knowledge of the in-use behaviour and history of an asset is critical to the successful delivery of PBL and the control of through life costs.

- Commercial sensitivities and national security considerations mean that protecting the confidentiality, availability and integrity (information security) of data is paramount. However, the contractor must have shared views of relevant information with its suppliers, sub-contractors and customer. A single, agreed and shared version of the truth (or Joint Operating Picture: JOP) is a key prerequisite of an effective and efficient PBL implementation.

- Underpinning the shared, single version of the truth is data quality. Military supply chains have potential points of data quality failure at each boundary. These weak links present risks to PBL contracts. Achieving and maintaining data quality vital for successful implementation.
Overcoming the Challenges

Fujitsu has a portfolio of solutions that can contribute to, and help de-risk, the implementation of a PBL contract.

- **Edgeware.** Operating on the edge of the enterprise, Edgeware is a value adding technology enabling data to be moved between the different information systems in the supply chain. It is device and system agnostic and so can be implemented without amending the legacy enterprise applications. Allowing the same information to be written once but used many times, it provides an agile, low cost pathway to sharing error free data critical to the delivery of PBL contracts. In so doing it gives operators and supervisors at the workforce real time information on the status of the supply chain.

**Edgeware: An Integrated Edge to Enterprise Systems’**

- **Data Fusion.** In any military supply chain there are many stakeholders, each of whom will be the owner of data and information needed to provide a holistic view of the distribution and performance of the supply chain and the assets within it. Fujitsu’s Logistics Decision Support (LDS) tool fuses data from a number of sources while maintaining the information confidentiality demanded of commercial and national security systems. LDS has role based access control which is managed by a Picture Manager. This approach to data fusion and Multiple Level Security (MLS), which is at the centre of our Logistics Decision Support capability, is shown in the accompanying diagram.

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**Automatic Identification Technology (AIT)**

Fujitsu recognises that clients may well have a significant investment in AIT. Our device agnostic approach means that this investment can be re-used. However, Fujitsu also has a range of data readers, RFID and contact button devices that automate data capture and so remove human error from the process. These tags can be encrypted to protect sensitive data from compromise as the asset moves through the supply chain. Storing status, location, usage and configuration data in this way allows information on equipment reliability, maintainability, serviceability, etc to be compiled and so assist in through life asset management.

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