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SPACE OPERATIONS COMMAND

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Nuclear, Space, Missile, Command and Control

COMBAT FORCE PROPONENT – FIELDING PROCESS

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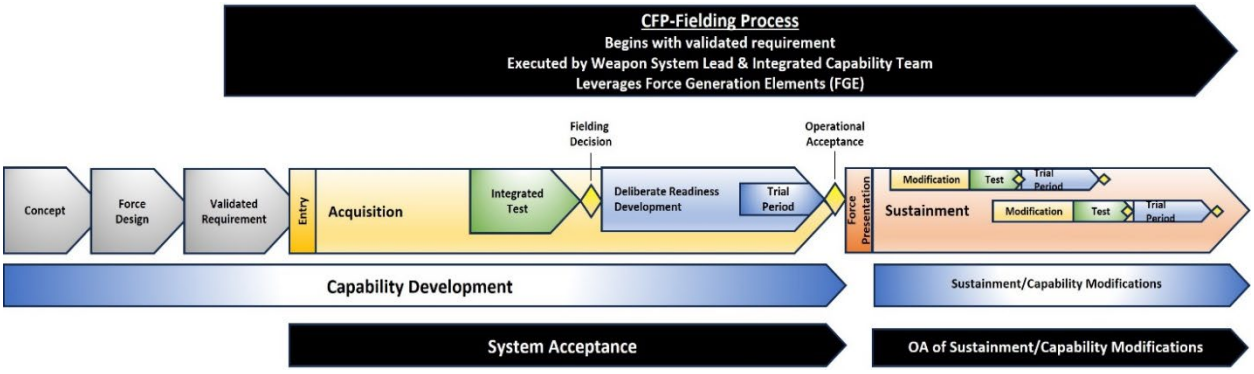
Chapter 1

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

1.1. Overview. Combat Force Proponent - Fielding Process (CFP-FP) is a thorough and tailorable process to deliver fully burdened space warfighter capabilities to the joint fight in support of National Security and National Defense Strategies, USSF Chief of Space Operations' Planning Guidance, and the Commander, United States Space Command's Strategic Vision and Strategy. Previously known as Operations Integration and Mission Delivery (OIMD), successful CFP-FP execution leads to Operational Acceptance (OA), the decision by the Commander, Space Operations Command (SpOC/CC), or delegate, to accept delivery of a new or modified weapon system for the USSF to present as an operational capability to the combatant command. A USSF weapon system is defined as a type of space-based, terrestrial-based, or cyber warfare system that performs a combat mission function or combat support function and includes all associated equipment, workstations/consoles, communication terminals, and computer systems and servers required for self-sufficiency. Examples of weapon systems: Upgraded Early Warning Radar (UEWR), Wideband Global SATCOM (WGS), Counter Communication System (CCS), and the Defensive Cyberspace Operation for Space (DCO-S) suite. Simulated systems, such as simulators and trainers, are not referred to as weapon systems.

1.2. CFP-FP. CFP-FP begins with a validated requirement (reference **Attachment 1**: Terms) and continues through each weapon system's lifecycle through to end-of-life. It is applicable to both new and significantly modified USSF mission systems. **Figure 1.1** depicts the CFP-FP in relation to the USSF System Acceptance process.

Figure 1.1. CFP-Fielding Process.



1.2.1. CFP-FP is thorough. CFP-FP is based on Force Generation Elements (FGEs) which incorporate the Doctrine, Organization, Training, materiel, Leadership, Personnel, Facilities and Policy (DOTmLPF-P) framework to ensure every critical aspect is considered prior to OA of a USSF weapon system. Although OA is the key milestone, CFP-FP spans the entire lifecycle of a weapon system ensuring no critical aspect is overlooked from concept through end-of-life.

1.2.2. CFP-FP is tailorable. The CFP-FP may be tailored to include the necessary FGEs for a weapon system. Weapon System Leads (WSLs) must consider the entire complement of FGEs, but the WSLs can work through their respective FGE Subject Matter Experts (SME) and action only the relevant FGEs (and/or relevant subtasks within each FGE).

1.2.3. CFP-FP applicability. SpOC mission area divisions initiate the CFP-FP for future weapon systems that have not reached an OA decision, as well as for significant modifications (reference **Attachment 1**: Terms) to existing systems introducing a new capability, major upgrades with no new capabilities, and weapon systems undergoing Service Life Extension Programs (SLEPs). SpOC mission area divisions, in coordination with the applicable Mission Delta, will determine when to utilize CFP-FP for sustainment modifications.

1.2.4. CFP-FP risk assessment. When tailoring, SpOC mission area divisions in coordination with the Mission Delta Commander, must consider the risk to mission and risk to force. Decisions on risk acceptance are made by the OA authority.

1.2.5. Plan of Action and Milestones (POAM): For each weapon system or capability, SpOC mission area divisions will develop a POAM to include:

1.2.5.1. Appointment of WSL.

1.2.5.2. Establishment of Integrated Capability Team (ICT).

1.2.5.3. Space Rapid Capabilities Office (SpRCO) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) items, if applicable

1.2.5.4. Resourcing decision points

1.2.5.5. Formal testing schedule (Integrated Testing).

1.2.5.6. Fielding Decision

1.2.5.7. Trial Period entry/exit schedule.

1.2.5.8. OA decision/Initial Operational Capability declaration.

Chapter 2

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1. HQ SpOC Deputy Commander for Operations, Plans, Training & Force Development (S3/5/7).

2.1.1. Primary interface between SpOC Staff, the acquiring command, Space Training and Readiness Command (STARCOM), and all other external capability development stakeholders during program development and acquisition of new weapon systems and/or modifications of existing systems.

2.1.2. Facilitates resolution of issues concerning the delivery and presentation of new SpOC weapon systems among all USSF and external organizations.

2.1.3. Prioritizes, if necessary, weapon system focus areas.

2.2. HQ SpOC/S35 Divisions.

2.2.1. Implement CFP-FP across their weapon system portfolio.

2.2.2. Provide routine updates to SpOC S3/5/7 regarding CFP-FP status of weapon system capability progress, considering risk to assigned weapon systems, especially with weapon systems undergoing rapid capability development.

2.2.3. Appoint WSLs for each assigned weapon system to execute all CFP-FP functions, to include the formation of ICTs.

2.2.4. Ensure appropriate level ICT partnership with all external SpOC agencies representing FGEs outside of SpOC's authority.

2.2.5. Coordinate with respective Directors, Divisions, and other mission owners to inform stakeholders and ensure CFP-FP participation at the operational unit level.

2.2.6. Present weapon system capability status to SpOC, Space Systems Command (SSC) and STARCOM leadership, and external stakeholders during Operations, Acquisition, Test and Training (OATT) Summits and Proponency Updates.

2.2.7. Mission area divisions outside of S3/5/7 (S2, S6, S10) participate in CFP-FP as well.

2.3. WSL.

2.3.1. Form and lead the ICT.

2.3.2. Determine with ICT members which FGEs will be actioned.

2.3.3. At a minimum, execute CFP-FP update briefings on a semi-annual basis for each assigned weapon system to division or directorate leadership.

2.3.4. Develop and update POAM for each assigned capability to identify key CFP-FP milestones and projected completion dates and provide copies to S553 for centralization.

2.3.5. Update and maintain complete CFP-FP briefing charts for each assigned weapon system, ensuring individual FGE status are current. The following SharePoint site contains CFP-FP briefings and templates: https://usaf.dps.mil/sites/USSF-HQ-SpOC/DCG-O/S55/S35PI/OIMD.

2.4. ICT.

2.4.1. Comprised of FGE SMEs from SpOC Staff, Mission Deltas, System Program Offices and other external agencies required to execute all relevant FGEs.

2.4.2. Matrixed at the AO level from across the stakeholder community to facilitate system specific CFP-FP execution.

2.4.3. Determine (through WSL and FGE SMEs) which FGEs to action for each weapon system. This is the "tailorable" aspect to the CFP-FP.

2.4.4. Form early in a system's lifecycle and continue until system end-of-life.

2.4.5. Facilitate, coordinate, and synchronize the completion of actioned FGEs to OA and thru each weapon system's end-of-life.

2.5. HQ SpOC/S553.

2.5.1. Manage the overall SpOC CFP-FP.

2.5.2. Serve in an advisory role to all Directors, Divisions, and WSLs and attend mission area-led CFP-FP briefings.

2.5.3. Provide CFP-FP training to all levels of users (e.g., Divisions, WSLs, ICT members, etc.) regarding CFP-FP execution and product standardization.

Chapter 3

FORCE GENERATION ELEMENTS

3.1. FGE Overview. FGEs are vital DOTmLPF-P related areas that must be assessed to ensure a system or capability is ready for OA. Each FGE includes context of DOTmLPF-P-related subtasks, derived from distinct Joint, Department of the Air Force, USSF, or SpOC guidance.

3.1.1. FGEs vary across capabilities and can evolve over the lifecycle of a given weapon system. The CFP-FP process is tailorable to adapt to each weapon system throughout its lifecycle.

3.1.2. Although all FGEs must be assessed or considered, only FGEs that apply to a particular weapon system need to be actioned. Similarly, certain tasks or sub-tasks within an FGE may not apply or tasks and sub-tasks may be added to support OA.

3.2. FGEs. Table 3.1 lists and defines each FGE.

Table 3.1. FGEs.

FGE	Definition
Acquisition	The conceptualization, initiation, design, development, test, contracting, production, deployment, integrated product support, modification, and disposal of weapons and other systems, supplies, or services (including construction) to satisfy Department of Defense (DoD) needs, intended for use in, or in support of, military missions.
Assured Access to Space	The capabilities necessary to launch and insert United States national security payloads into space whenever such payloads are needed.
C4	Integrated systems of doctrine, procedures, organizational structures, personnel, equipment, facilities, and communications designed to support a commander’s exercise of command and control across the range of military operations.
Concepts (mission/system-centric)	System-centric concepts, as integral to Other Concepts in the USSF Concepts guidance, provide Mission Area Proponents (MAPs) a basis for developing the weapon systems and services required for presentation to meet the needs of the warfighter.
Counterintelligence	Any activity aimed at protecting an agency's intelligence program from an opposition's intelligence service. Counterintelligence activities can be categorized as being either collective, defensive or offensive.

FGE	Definition
Cyber Defense Integration	A coordinated act of resistance that guards information, systems, and networks from cyber-attacks, including those targeting space-based assets, by implementing protective procedures such as firewalls, network detection and response (NDR), endpoint detection and response (EDR) to identify, analyze, and report incidents that occur within a network, as part of Defense Cyber Operations for Space (DCO-S) which protects space-based systems and supports the Cyber Flag - Full Spectrum (CF-FS) process, enabling the integration of cyber defense operations to defend against cyber threats and protect critical space-based infrastructure.
Electromagnetic Spectrum (EMS) Enterprise	An enterprise approach applied to all activities necessary to enable Electromagnetic Spectrum (EMS) superiority through the conduct of DoD Electromagnetic Spectrum Operations (EMSO) to ensure DoD maintains access to and control of the EMS across the full spectrum of operations.
Funding	All sustainment costs incurred from the initial system deployment through the end of system operations. This would include all costs of operating, maintaining, and supporting a fielded system. Specifically, this consists of the costs (organic (government civilian and military) and contractor) of facilities and infrastructure, personnel, equipment, supplies, software, and services associated with operating, modifying, maintaining, supplying, and otherwise supporting a system in the DoD inventory. These costs include those associated with the system-specific training of personnel necessary to support the system.
Human Capital	Management that involves the development, implementation, and oversight of policies and processes related to workforce acquisition, workforce management, and workforce optimization.
Information Protection	The protection of information and information systems from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction in order to provide confidentiality, integrity, and availability.
Integration & Interoperability	The synchronization of data/effects across a common operating picture and achieve among communications-electronics systems or items of communications-electronics equipment the ability for information or services to be exchanged directly and satisfactorily between them and/or their users.
Intelligence	Any effort that requires intelligence data during development or to perform their mission, requires the direct support of intelligence personnel, or influences intelligence data at any point in the Planning and direction, Collection, Processing and exploitation, Analysis and production, and Dissemination (PCPAD) cycle.

FGE	Definition
International Affairs	Encompasses (1) compliance with DoD and USSF guidance on global posture, international agreements, and foreign disclosure authorities; (2) coordination of posture inputs and interagency review of overseas force structure changes; and (3) identification of existing international agreements or appropriate authority to negotiate new agreements where required. International cooperation in acquisition is to reduce weapon system acquisition costs through cooperative development, production and support.
Legal Review	Attorney review of weapons, weapon systems, and other capabilities as well as ancillary/supporting plans, orders, agreements, etc. related to capability testing, exercise, and operational use to ensure compliance with applicable international laws (including the law of armed conflict), treaty obligations of the United States, and domestic laws, regulations, policies, and other guidance.
Life Cycle Logistics (LCL)	The planning, development, implementation, and management of a comprehensive, affordable, and effective systems support strategy that encompasses the entire system's life cycle: acquisition (design, develop, test, produce and deploy), sustainment (operations and support), and disposal.
Location, Facilities & Infrastructure	The deliberate process to develop location, facility and infrastructure requirements to support the proposed weapon system.
Operations/Systems Protection	Employment of various techniques to protect the location, equipment, and personnel associated with a weapon system.
Organization	Group of stakeholders that works together to accomplish a mission or assigned tasks.
Policy	Statements of important, higher-level direction that guides decisions and actions throughout the Department of the Air Force (DAF). Policies are used to implement requirements and directives in law, controlling executive branch regulations, and DoD policies.
Program Plan/Implementation Plan (PPLAN/IPLAN)	A PPlan is used for complicated planning, involving multiple functionals and subordinate units. It consists of a Basic Plan and supporting functional staff annexes. The primary types of actions for which a PPlan is developed include unit activations or inactivations and realignments involving the physical movement of people or assets. An IPlan is an implementation plan used by Headquarters (HQs) of Major Commands (MAJCOM), Field Commands (FLDCOM), Direct Reporting Units (DRU), or Field Operating Agencies (FOA) that provides strategic level guidance and direction to MAJCOM, FLDCOM, DRU or FOA staff and subordinate units for employing MAJCOM, FLDCOM, DRU, or FOA commander-directed initiatives or employing MAJCOM, FLDCOM, DRU, or FOA actions supporting a Program Action Directive (PAD) or Program Guidance Letter (PGL).

FGE	Definition
Public Affairs	Generate Public Affairs (PA)-specific plans and tactics in order to support strategic communication objectives. Execute tactical elements and assess for effectiveness to support data-driven decisions in strategic communication.
Requirements	Needed capability to meet an organization's current and future roles, functions, & missions.
Resiliency	The ability to continue providing a defined capability through adversary actions, and to recover that capability to an acceptable level if degraded or interrupted by adversary actions**.**
Risk Management Framework	Mandated by federal law, the Risk Management Framework (RMF) provides a disciplined and structured process that combines system security and risk management activities into the system development life cycle and authorizes their use within DoD. The RMF changes the traditional focus of Assessment and Authorization (A&A) as a static, procedural activity to a more dynamic approach that provides the capability to more effectively manage system-related security risks in diverse environments of complex and sophisticated cyber threats and ever-increasing system vulnerabilities. RMF applies to all systems and organizations regardless of acquisition pathway in the DoD, as well as DoD partnered systems and organizations where DoD standards will be followed. These technologies are broadly grouped as DoD systems, Information Technology (IT) services, and IT products.
Safety	Acceptance of operation(s) inclusive of acceptable risk and attentive to mishap prevention, protection of personnel and critical assets.
Security	Measures taken by a military unit, activity, or installation to protect itself against all acts designed to, or which may, impair its effectiveness.
Space Test Range Support	All the functions needed to support live, virtual and constructive USSF test and training environments, to include electromagnetic warfare, orbital warfare, cyber warfare, labs and chambers, and range scheduling services.
System Acceptance	The USSF process to ensure new systems meet operational and institutional requirements and have the necessary elements required to support mission execution. System acceptance is implemented through a thorough and scalable process to deliver essential space warfighting capabilities to the war fighter in accordance with (IAW) Chief of Space Operations (CSO) strategic objectives.
Test & Evaluation	The act of generating empirical data during the research, development or sustainment of systems, and the creation of information through analysis that is useful to technical personnel and decision makers for reducing design and acquisition risks. The process by which systems are measured against requirements and specifications, and the results analyzed so as to gauge progress and provide feedback.

FGE	Definition
Training	The objective of Ready Spacecrew Program (RSP) training is to qualify individuals for spacecrew operations and enhance the spacecrew member knowledge and warfighting readiness capability throughout the continuum of conflict. This program includes Qualification Training (QT) and Continuation Training (CT).

Chapter 4

CFP-FP RAPID FIELDING PRINCIPLES

4.1. Rapid Fielding Overview. The CFP-FP ensures rapidly fielded capabilities are delivered for OA whether actioning all or a tailored number of FGEs. SpOC mission area divisions should consider the following when executing the CFP-FP for rapidly fielded weapon systems.

4.1.1. Consider the minimum viable product (MVP) of each actioned FGE and potential improvement post-OA. (reference DoDI5000.87_DAFI63-150, *Operation of the Software Acquisition Pathway*).

4.1.2. Consider sufficient training and associated risk to mission and risk to force. Consider if familiarization, over-the-shoulder, or other non-standard training techniques are sufficient before a training program is established.

4.1.3. Consider the rapid fielding timeline and budget as constraints. Mission area divisions must think creatively to viably satisfy actioned FGEs, while program managers provide potentially creative materiel solutions. Operational Acceptance authorities are empowered to defer operational acceptance despite timeline and funding constraints if the risk to mission and/or risk to force is unacceptable.

CHANDLER P. ATWOOD, Brigadier General, USSF
Deputy Commander

Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References

AFI 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, 23 March 2020

DoDI5000.87_DAFI63-150, *Operation of the Software Acquisition Pathway*, 11 August 2021

SPFI 13-604, *System Acceptance*, 30 August 2023

Prescribed Forms

None

Adopted Forms

DAF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

Abbreviations and Acronyms

A&A—Assessment and Authorization

AFI—Air Force Instruction

AO—Action Officer

C4—Command, Control, Communications and Computers

CCS—Counter Communication System

CFP-FP—Combat Force Proponent – Fielding Process

CSO—Chief of Space Operations

CT—Combat Training

DAF—Department of the Air Force

DCO-S—Defensive Cyberspace Operation for Space

DoD—Department of Defense

DOTmLPF-P—Doctrine, Organization, Training, materiel, Leadership, Personnel, Facilities and Policy

DRU—Direct Reporting Unit

EDR—Endpoint Detection and Response

EMS—Electromagnetic Spectrum

EMSO—Electromagnetic Spectrum Operations

FGE—Force Generation Element

FLDCOM—Field Command

FOA—Field Operating Agency

HQ—Headquarters

ICT—Integrated Capability Team

IPlan—Implementation Plan

IT—Information Technology

LCL—Life Cycle Logistics

MAJCOM—Major Command

MAP—Mission Area Proponent

MOU—Memorandum of Understanding

MVP—Minimum Viable Product

NDR—Network Detection and Response

OA—Operational Acceptance

OATT—Operations, Acquisition, Test and Training

OIMD—Operations Integration and Mission Delivery

OPR—Office of Primary Responsibility

PA—Public Affairs

PAD—Program Action Directive

PCPAD—Planning and direction, Collection, Processing and exploitation, Analysis and production, and Dissemination

PGL—Program Guidance Letter

POAM—Plan Of Action and Milestones

PPlan—Program Plan

QT—Qualification Training

RMF—Risk Management Framework

RSP—Ready Spacecrew Program

SATCOM—Satellite Communications

SAP—Special Access Program

SCI—Sensitive Compartmented Information

SLEP—Service Life Extension Programs

SME—Subject Matter Expert

SpOC—Space Operations Command

SpOC/CC—Commander, Space Operations Command

SpRCO—Space Rapid Capabilities Office

SSC—Space Systems Command

STARCOM—Space Training and Readiness Command

UEWR—Upgraded Early Warning Radar

USSF—United States Space Force

WGS—Wideband Global SATCOM

WSL—Weapon System Lead

Office Symbols

HQ SpOC/S3/5/7—Deputy Commander for Operations, Plans, Training & Force Development

HQ SpOC/S35—Future Operations

HQ SpOC/S553—Operations Integration

Terms

Capability—The ability to achieve a desired effect within a specific operating environment.

Concept—An idea for solving a military problem that informs development and employment of future force capabilities.

End of Life—The point in a capability's lifecycle where it no longer has the ability to function effectively and is considered too old or outdated to receive further updates or support.

Force Design—The framework to identify and integrate a comprehensive suite of capabilities that fulfill our key responsibilities, which include preserving freedom of action in space, enabling Joint Force lethality, and offering independent technology options.

Fully Burdened—A fielded weapon system that is sufficiently resourced and supported to present a combat-credible capability to the joint warfighter.

Rapid Fielding—Fielding capabilities using accelerated timelines compared with traditional acquisition.

Significant Modification—Any modification $100M and over and/or with the subjective considerations of both strategic impact and risk. SpOC Division lead will make final determination whether or not the capability modification needs to go thru CFP-FP.

Tailorable—Discretion to act on most or all of the FGEs.

Validated Modification—Any modification validated by the SpOC Configuration Review Board.

Validated Requirement—Any requirement (urgent need, Capability Development Document, etc.) validated by an appropriate authority (e.g. Joint Requirements Oversight Council).

Weapon System—A combination of one or more weapons with all related equipment, materials, services, personnel, and means of delivery and deployment required for self-sufficiency.