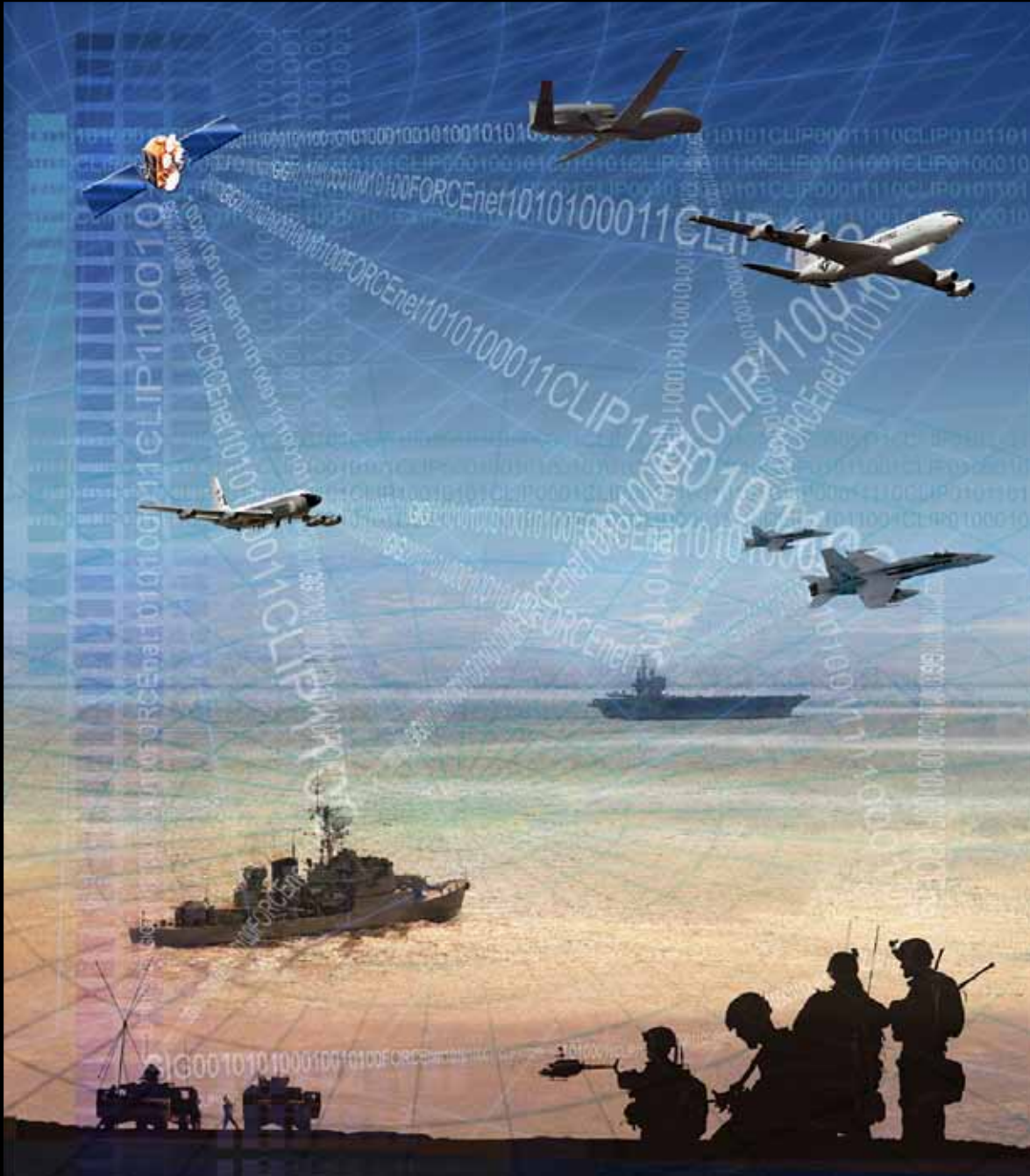


▼ Common Link Integration Processing

Standardized Software for Enterprise Data Link Implementation



Common Link Integration Processing (CLIP) is a software solution that performs data transformation and processes protocols for dissimilar communications formats. It meets the requirements for common Tactical Data Link (TDL) software that integrates into multiple platforms. CLIP improves tactical communications, alleviates interoperability issues and lowers integration and life-cycle maintenance costs.

Designed to assure interoperability between different VMF implementations, CLIP provides data forwarding and interoperability between VMF and Link 16. Depending on platform requirements, additional data links can be incorporated into the existing CLIP framework.

How It Works

CLIP uses a common, open architecture for processing data links such as Link 16, Link 22 and Variable Message Format (VMF). Future data links include Tactical Targeting Network Technology (TTNT) and Joint Tactical Radio System (JTRS) Wideband

Networking Waveform (WNW). By separating TDL processing from the host flight control, combat system or command-and-control operating system, CLIP enables each user to implement common standards-based solutions. It reduces life-cycle maintenance by making changes and upgrades common to multiple platforms without costly updates to their host operating systems. CLIP's architecture allows robust gateway and data-forwarding functionality among TDLs and emerging service oriented architectures, supporting the Global Information Grid.

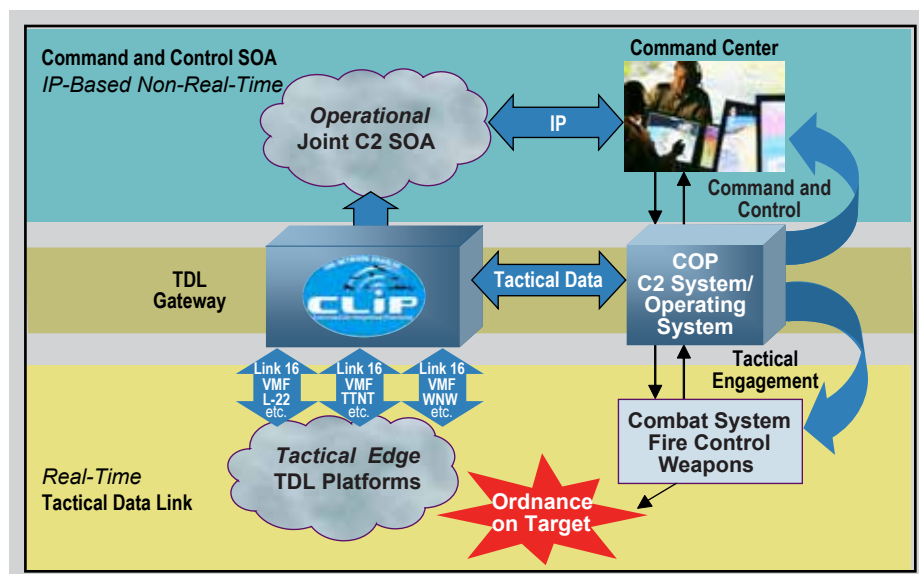
CLIP uses a link-neutral tactical data exchange format and acts as a gateway to generate messages that simultaneously support tactical edge TDL platforms and Joint Command and Control (JC2) centers. CLIP bridges real-time tactical link data with non-real-time command and control information, providing a pathway for tactical platforms and operational JC2 centers to be connected and share a Common Operational Picture.

The CLIP Program

The CLIP program is a capabilities-based joint acquisition, funded by the Navy and the Air Force, to address the requirements outlined in the Tactical Data Link-Transformation Capabilities Description Document (TDL-T CDD). The B-1B and the B-52 bombers integrate Link 16 using a common CLIP baseline. The architecture framework and half of the Link 16 message set were completed under the current increment, along with Joint Range Extension Application Protocol (JREAP) A and B. The remainder of the Link 16 messages and initial VMF will be completed in future increments.

CLIP Advantages

- Compatible with net-centric open architecture and software communications architecture
- Eliminates duplication in design, development, testing and life-cycle support
- Increases interoperability through joint service interpretation of standards and government-approved Performance Requirements Specification (PRS)
- Implements Link 16, Link 22 and VMF data links and future TINT and JTRS WNW data links
- Real-time, portable: VxWorks, INTEGRITY, Linux, Intel® Pentium®, PowerPC
- Government-owned, non-proprietary common software



CLIP enterprise integration provides TDL data as an information service.

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