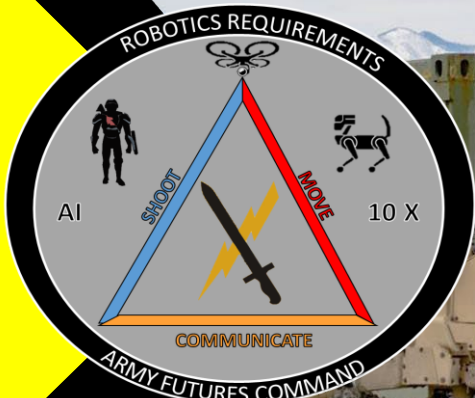




# Army Robotics at the Tactical Edge



↑ ROBOTS  
DON'T  
BLEED



TM RRD  
 Robotics Requirements  
 Maneuver Capability Development Integration  
 Directorate US Army Futures Command



# AGENDA

- Introduction Who are we – Engagement Space
- Operational Level Ecosystem
- Robotic & Autonomous Command and Control OV-1 (RAC<sup>2</sup>)
- Tactical Level Ecosystem: Hunter – Killer Pairing Robotics Autonomous Systems
- The Light Infantry Fight – System Approach



 **XVIII Airborne Corps** ✓  
@18airbornecorps

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#modernization



11:38 AM · Feb 23, 2023 · 9,500 Views





# RRD Mission and Purpose



*Enabling Lethality and Improving Survivability Through Disciplined Innovation & Focused*

## MISSION

RRD, in coordination with key stakeholders, will enable the Army to deliver robotics that enables our Army to Fight and Win and Dominate in a Multi-Domain environment by 2030.

## VISION

We will **drive requirements** and **drive transitions** in order to deliver AI enabled robotics that is expeditionary, integrated, hardened, and intuitive that enables the lethality of our Warfighters to dominate in any environment, anytime and anywhere.



## PRIORITIES

Meeting Army Senior Leader Priorities & Combatant Commander Requirements

- **People- Talent Management**
- **Process- Learning Organization; Improve Everyday**
- **Products- Professional, Timely, and accurate**
- **PPBE- Align Resources to Deliver Capability**

## Drive Requirements

### Continuous Evolution & Refinement of Operational Requirements

Threat Informed

Market Research

Science & Technology

Experimentation & Demonstration

Test & Evaluation

## Drive Transitions

**“As we move into the Future...a Soldier should never be the first to make contact with the Enemy...” – GEN Kurilla**

**RRD narrows assigned Army Capability gaps using DOTMLPF-P enhancements to enable overmatch, while continually informing Stakeholder enterprise across the Army, Joint services, Coalition Partners, Defense Laboratories, Industry, and Academia**

**RRD informs technology transitions, research and development, and user assessments, and then rapidly transitions operational requirements for procurement in support of our Nations Warfighters**

**RRD integrates and synchronizes robotic activities across the Army, tied to joint requirements, bolstered by Stakeholder enterprise information, with focused effort to improve speed, capability, cost effective, and state-of-the-art material solutions**

**RRD will engage in expert analysis, focused experiments, technology demonstrations and gather meaningful Soldier feedback to inform and drive innovation and transition well developed and refined capability documentation**



**“This is an iterative build to the end state. We never truly reach the end state; the end state is constant innovation...” – GEN Murray**

# RRD Team of Teams Approach



- Coalition/Joint Partners**
- |     |             |        |
|-----|-------------|--------|
| AUS | Joint Staff | SOCOM  |
| UK  | USMC        | COCOMs |
| NL  | USAF        | DARPA  |
|     | USN         | DIU    |
|     | USSF        |        |

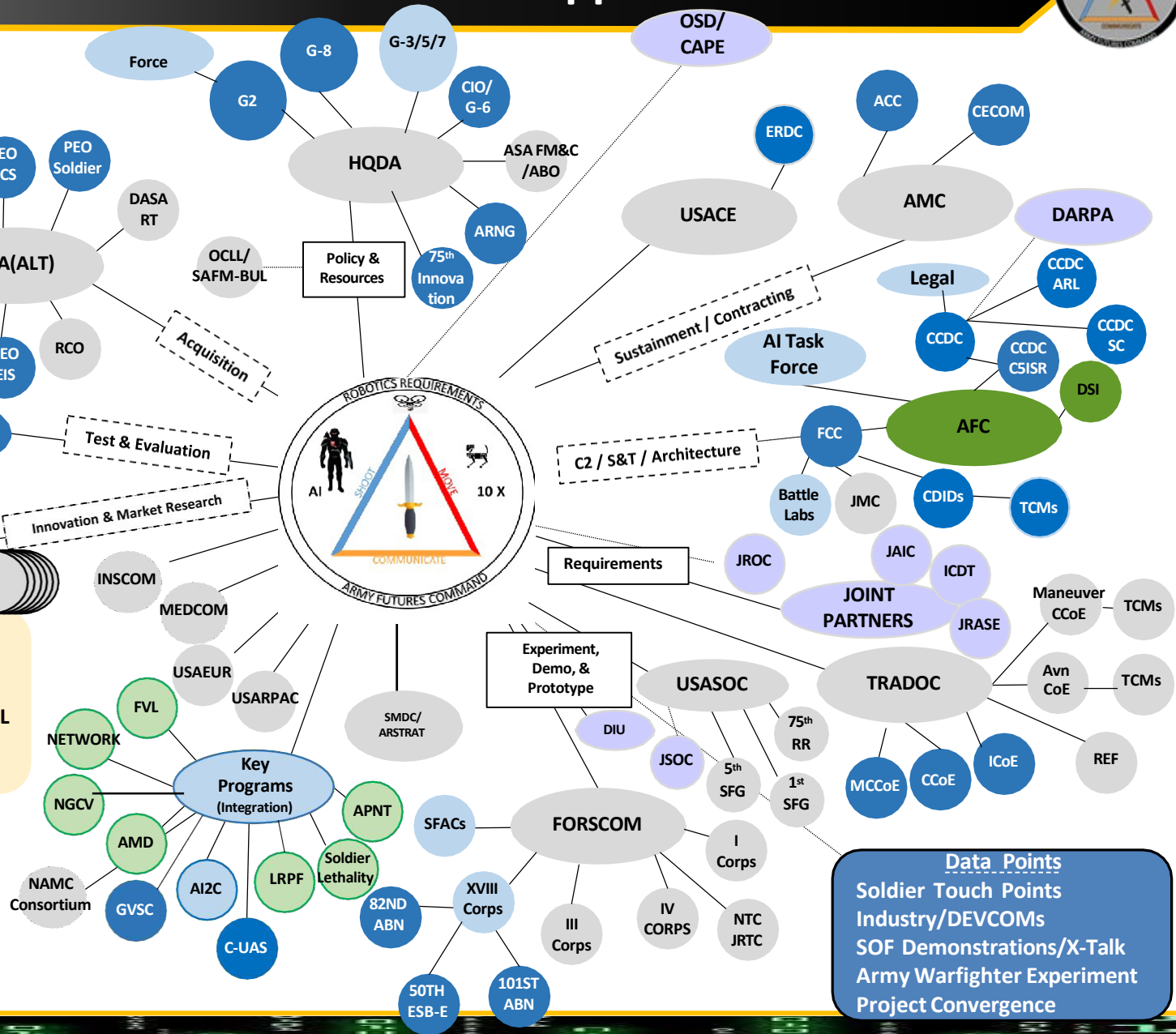
- DOT&E**
- Consortiums
- OTAs
  - Warrior Suit
  - Weaponization
  - EXO
  - 40mm Drop

- Key Industry**
- Ground
  - AIR
  - AI
  - Additive Manufact

- Academia**
- Auburn
  - Lincoln Labs/MIT
  - Tuskegee
  - Columbia
  - GTRI

- FFRDCs**
- IDA
  - MITRE
  - Lincoln Labs/MIT
  - Johns Hopkins/APL
  - Carnegie Mellon
  - Batel Labs

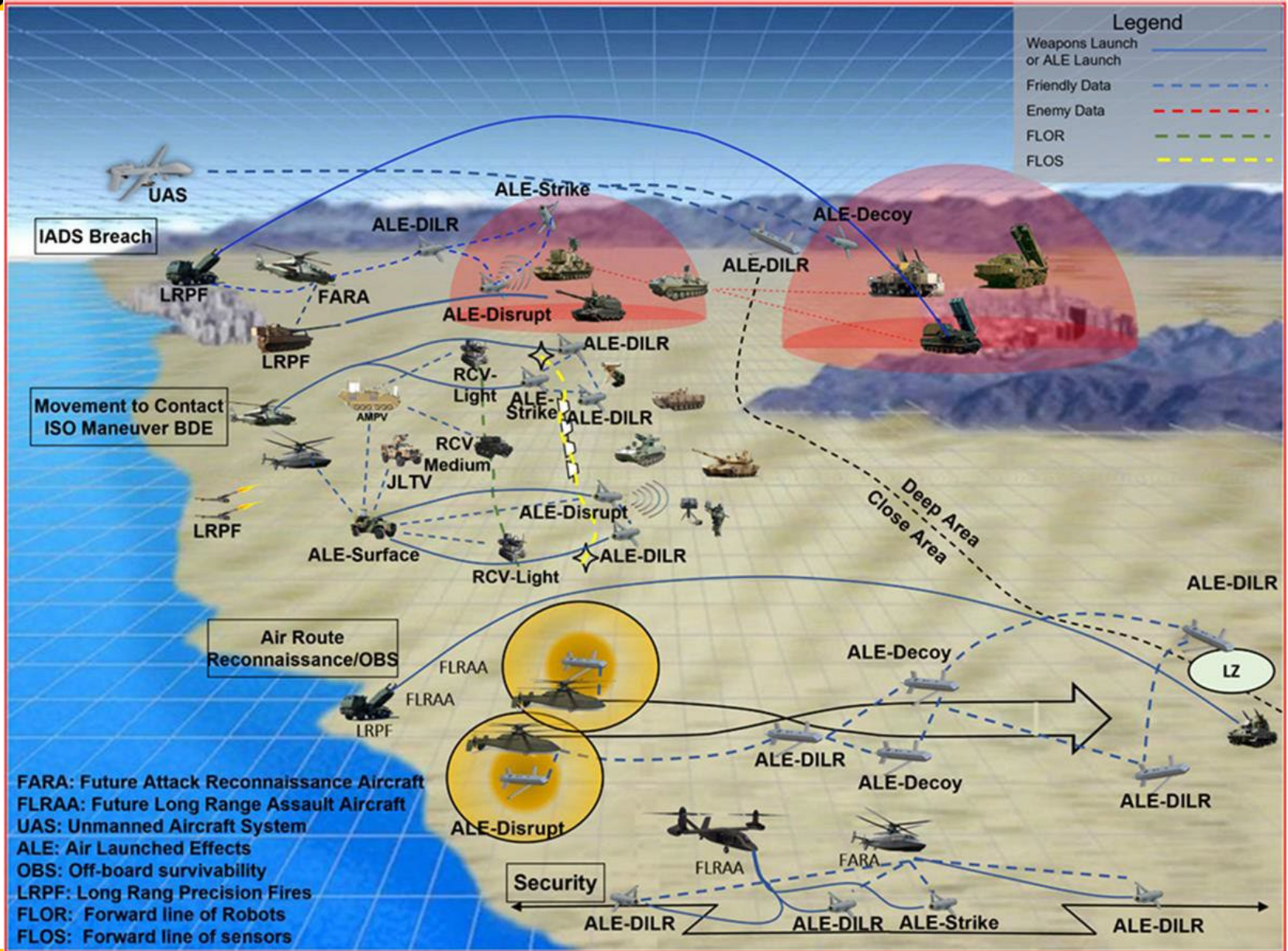
- Legend**
- AFC Headquarters
  - Supporting Members
  - Enabling Members
  - CFTs
  - Army Stakeholders
  - Joint/Coalition Stakeholders



- Data Points**
- Soldier Touch Points
  - Industry/DEVCOMs
  - SOF Demonstrations/X-Talk
  - Army Warfighter Experiment
  - Project Convergence



# Operational Level Ecosystem





# sUAS at Echelon - Near Term Efforts



## Battalion/Cavalry Squadron/Troop

Organic airborne reconnaissance and surveillance system providing day/night situational awareness to maneuver commanders

- Recon and security
- Counter rocket and mortar
- Long endurance surveillance
- Lethal & Modular Mission Payloads (MMPs)



## Long Range Recon (LRR) *Platform TBD*

- Weight: 55lbs
- Range: 20km(T)/30km(O)
- Endurance: 5hr(T)/8hr(O)

## Company/Scout Platoon

Organic airborne reconnaissance and surveillance system providing day/night situational awareness to maneuver elements.

- Recon and security
- Counter rocket and mortar
- Lethal & MMPs



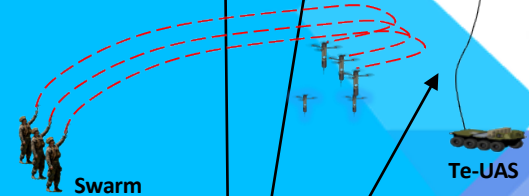
## Medium Range Recon (MRR) *RQ-11C (Raven)*

- Weight: 4.5lbs
- Range: 10km(T)/20km(O)
- Endurance: 1.5hr(T)/3.5hr(O)

## Platoon/Scout Section

Organic small form factor sensor providing real time surveillance and situational awareness support to maneuver squads.

- Recon and security
- Persistent surveillance (Hover/Perch and Stare)
- IED interrogation
- Bridge/culvert inspection
- Lethal & MMPs



## Short Range Recon (SRR) *RQ-28A (Skydio)*

- Weight: 3lbs
- Range: 3km(T)/5km(O)
- Endurance: 30min(T)/45min(O)
- 60 minutes perch and stare

## Squad

Provides the small unit the organic capability to perform Beyond Visual Line-of-Sight (BLOS) R&S with payloads such as Full Motion Video.

- Exceptionally small form factor
- Intuitive operation; minimal training
- "over the wall/around the corner" employment
- Lethal & MMPs



## Soldier Borne Sensor (SBS) *Black Hornet 3*

- Weight: <6ozs
- Range: 1km(T)/2km(O)
- Endurance: 15min(T)/45min(O)
- Soldier Borne weight: <3lbs

## Battalion/Squadron and Below

Provides an operator with a full function system capable of controlling current and future air/ground RAS in the battalion.

- Due to the size and weight requirements, SBS will utilize a different controller than RAC2 initially. Software integration with Nett-Warrior or IVAS in the mid to far-terms will allow for information sharing with RAC2.



"The Soldier is the center of gravity"

## Robotic and Autonomous Command and Control (RAC2)

- Unifies control for the RAS portfolio to enable the COP within the COE
- Integrates and leverages SCI/WMI

# Ground Robotics Branch

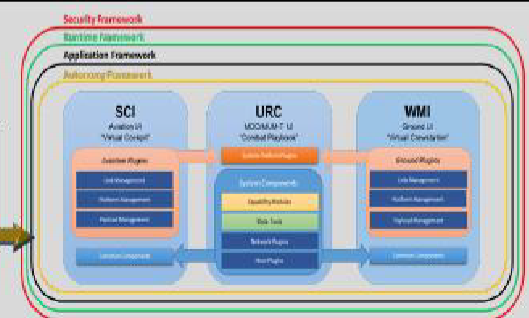


| Current  |   | Emerging   |  |  | Army 2030 - 2040   |   |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| Universal Robot Control  |   |  |  |  |  |   |  |
| Common Robotic System – Individual (CRS-I)   | Small Multipurpose Equipment Transport (S-MET)  | Small Multipurpose Equipment Transport Inc. I (S-MET Inc. I)   | Modular Mission Payloads (MMPS)  | Robotic Combat Vehicle – Light (RCV- L)<br><i>*NGCV-CFT</i>  | Exoskeleton / Warrior Suit   | Family of Integrated Tactical Sensors (FITS)  | Legged Robots  |
|  |   |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low Cost</li> <li>Modular</li> <li>Rapid Development</li> <li>Increased SA/Lethality</li> <li>C-sUAS</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Help shape 1<sup>st</sup> human contact, does not prevent</li> <li>Assured communication</li> <li>AI-Assisted Target Recognition and Detection</li> <li>Leverage robust sensor packages</li> <li>Supports Modular Mission Payloads</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced Soldier Load</li> <li>Increased task performance</li> <li>Reduce musculoskeletal injuries</li> <li>Powered / Passive</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides enhanced SA/SU</li> <li>Lightweight/low cost</li> <li>Multiple modalities                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seismic</li> <li>Acoustic</li> <li>Magnetic</li> </ul> </li> <li>Multiple Emplacement methods</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active Sensors</li> <li>Lethality Packages</li> <li>Recon/Surveillance</li> <li>Sub-T Operations</li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25lbs man-packable</li> <li>4 DoF Arm/6.5lbs of lift</li> <li>Color/Thermal Camera – 600m Recognition</li> <li>Modular Mesh radios – 2000m + Range</li> <li>Sub-T Operations</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2500lb Payload capacity</li> <li>3kW Off loadable Power                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 x Universal Battery Chargers</li> </ul> </li> <li>Available payloads include:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AN/PRC-162 (2)</li> <li>AN/PRC-160 (1)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Various CoTS C-sUAS systems</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AROC ~4QFY22</li> <li><i>Will be re-competed</i></li> <li>Modular autonomy kit</li> <li>Includes MMP Annexes                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>C- sUAS</li> <li>JP-8 Fuel Cell</li> <li>Distributed Comms</li> <li>Lethality</li> <li>CASEVAC</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <b>Payload Development</b>   |  |  |   |  |

## Robotic and Autonomous Command and Control



RAC2 Software unifies Tactical C2 and extends Operational C2 for the RAS portfolio to enable the Common Operating Picture within the Common Operating Environment.

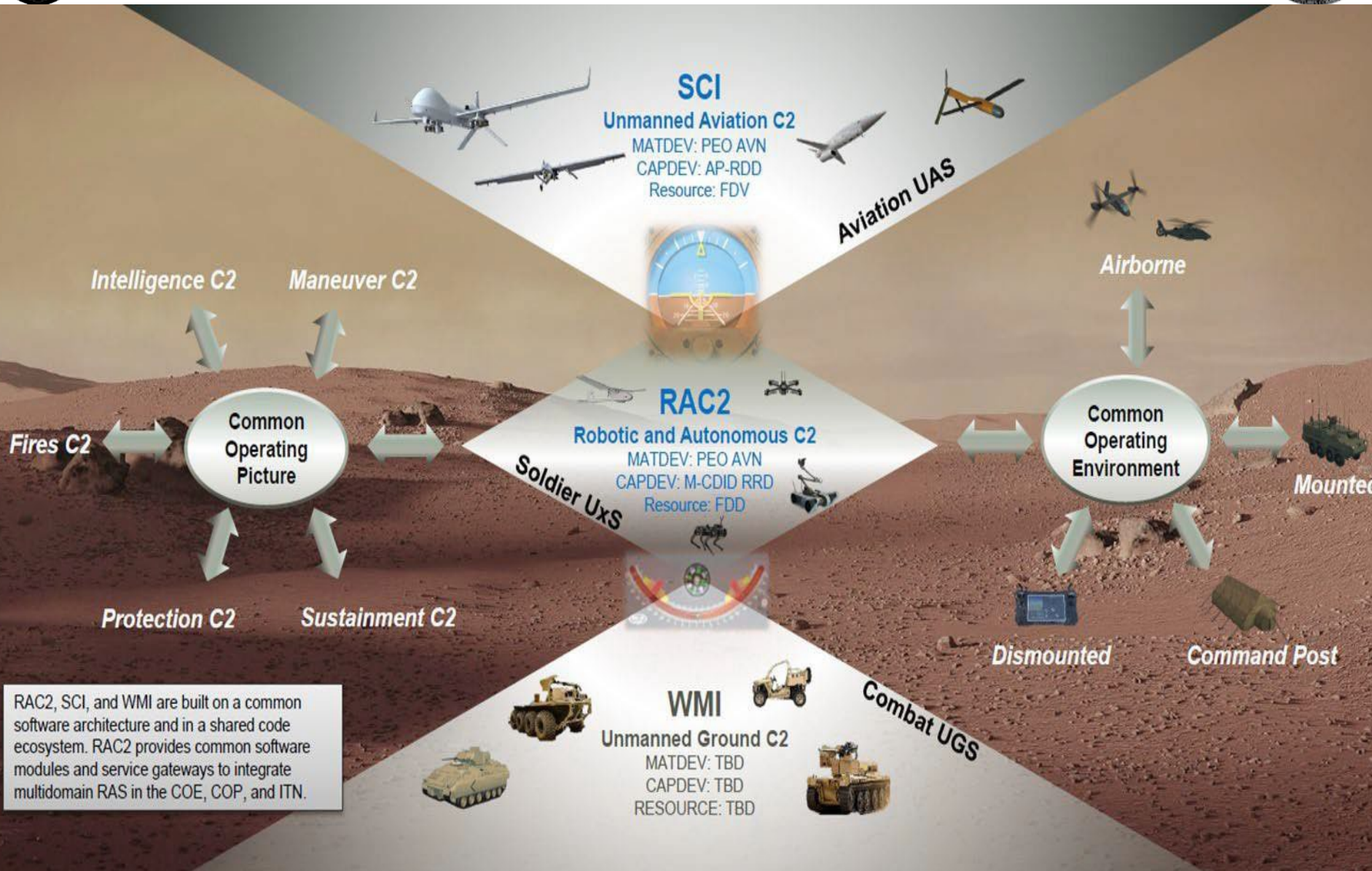


RAC2 integrates and leverages common RAS C<sup>2</sup> software with Peer Programs: Scalable Control Interface (SCI) and Warfighter-Machine Interface (WMI)



Unclassified

# RAC2 Concept



RAC2, SCI, and WMI are built on a common software architecture and in a shared code ecosystem. RAC2 provides common software modules and service gateways to integrate multidomain RAS in the COE, COP, and ITN.

Unclassified





# Robotic & Autonomous Command and Control OV-1 (RAC<sup>2</sup>)

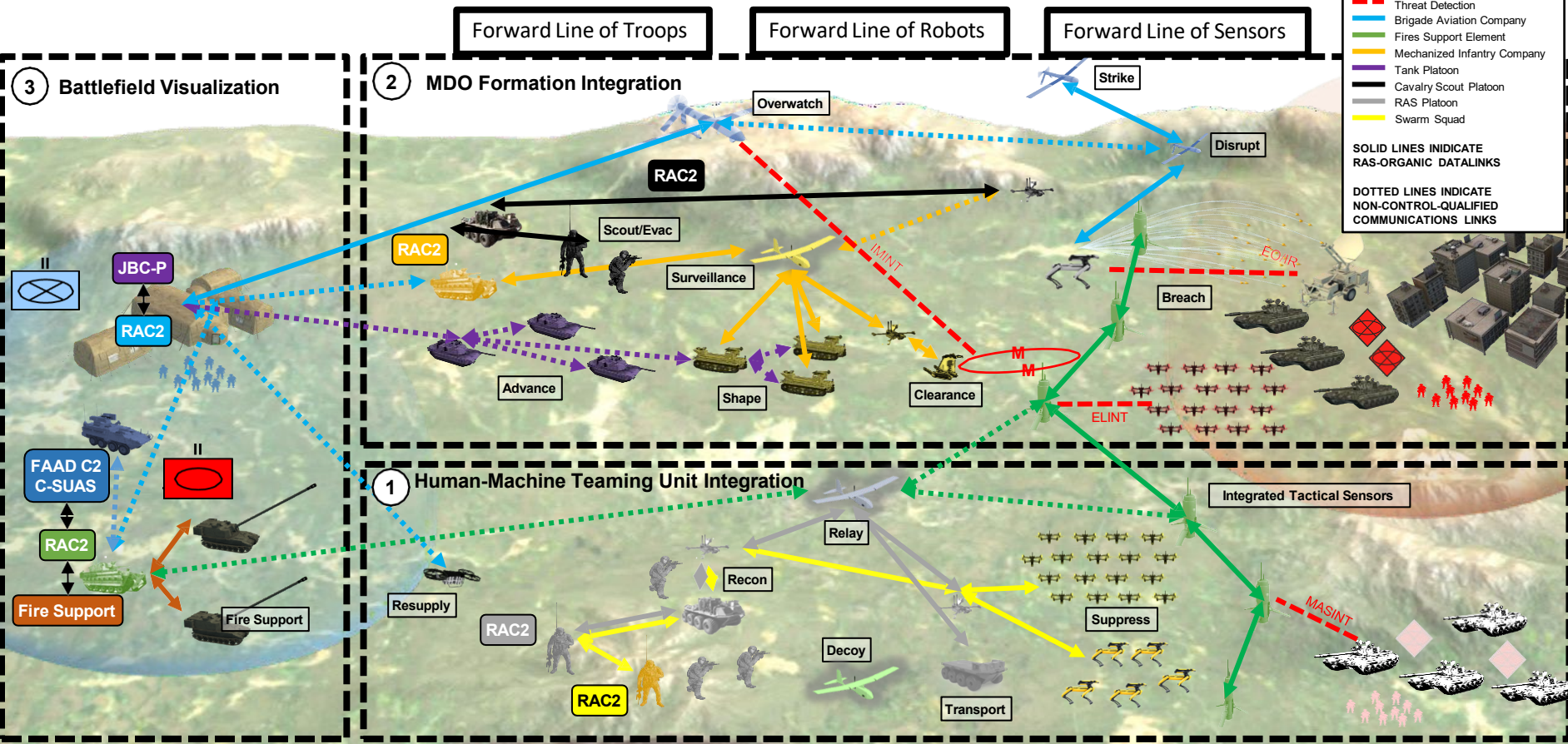


**Legend**

- Threat Detection
- Brigade Aviation Company
- Fires Support Element
- Mechanized Infantry Company
- Tank Platoon
- Cavalry Scout Platoon
- RAS Platoon
- Swarm Squad

SOLID LINES INDICATE RAS-ORGANIC DATALINKS

DOTTED LINES INDICATE NON-CONTROL-QUALIFIED COMMUNICATIONS LINKS

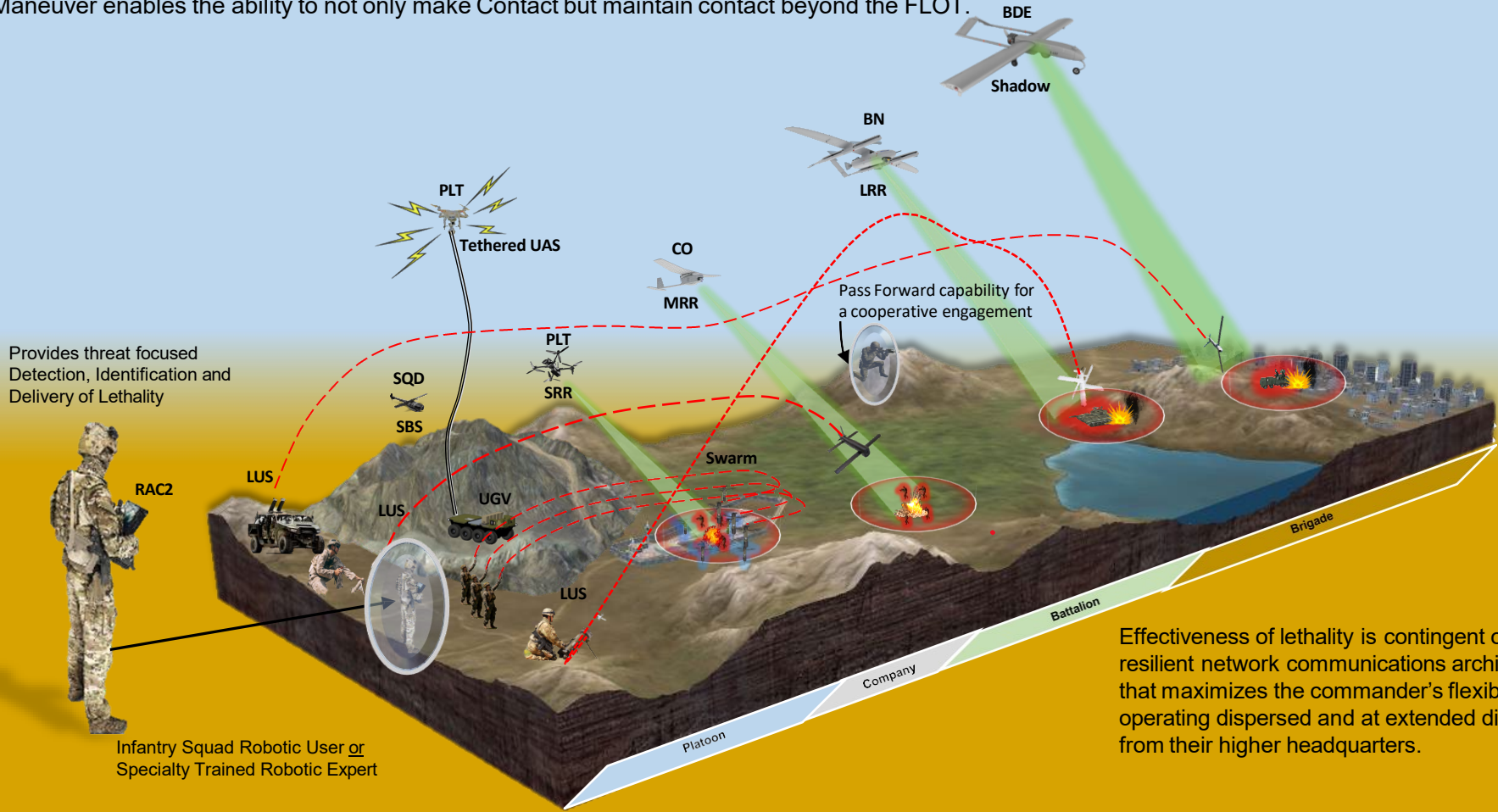




# Hunter – Killer Pairing - Robotics Autonomous Systems



**Robotic Enabled Maneuver at the Tactical Edge:** Equipped with ground and air Robotic Autonomous Systems (RAS), which are integrated as part of a layered network of sensors and shooters, the Infantry Soldier provides CO/BN/BCT Commanders a sense, detect, and identification capability at extended range. This will enhance situational awareness and increases decision space to employ organic or higher headquarters Lethal Unmanned Systems (LUS) with precision to shape the battlefield. “Close with and Destroy” remains fundamental to the Light Infantry Formation. Robotic Enabled Maneuver enables the ability to not only make Contact but maintain contact beyond the FLOT.



**The Soldier is the “Center of Gravity” on the battlefield**



# Key Tasks FY23-24

## Air Key tasks MMP (Lethality, Range Extension, ISR, EW) J-CDD Annex development

- Nano SBS
- SRR
- Swarm
- Te-UAS
- MRR
- LRR

## Ground Key Tasks

- SMET INC 2/MMP Development
- Electric Lightweight Transport (Requirements Development)
- FITs SEP proposal for air/ground deployment
- RAC2

## AI

- 10X 23/24 Trust
- Launched Effects SESU (Swarm, Sharing, Paring)
- AMASS (ALE, SESU, COMBAT, ASTARTE, FIRESTORM, OFFSET)
- RAQ2 (LOE3-COP and LOE HMT/Trust/AISUM)

## C-sUAS

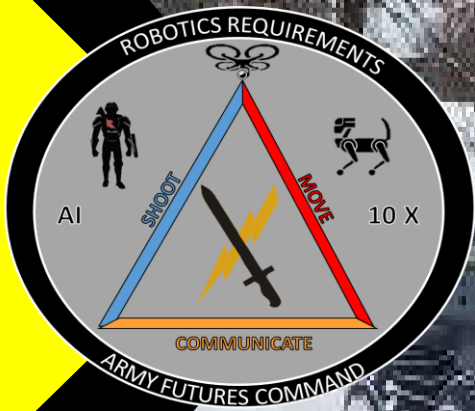
- Dismounted capability
- Mounted Capability
- Munitions Ballistic PROX/DE, EW
- UAV vs. UAV
- Passive vs. Active Detect
- C2 Data Transport

OPS:  
Synch Strategy  
SL-CFT  
GVSC  
NGCFT

FVL  
AMD  
LRPF  
FCC  
AI2C  
DEVCOM

Cross Cutting  
Capability Enablers

# Backup Slides





# Talking Points



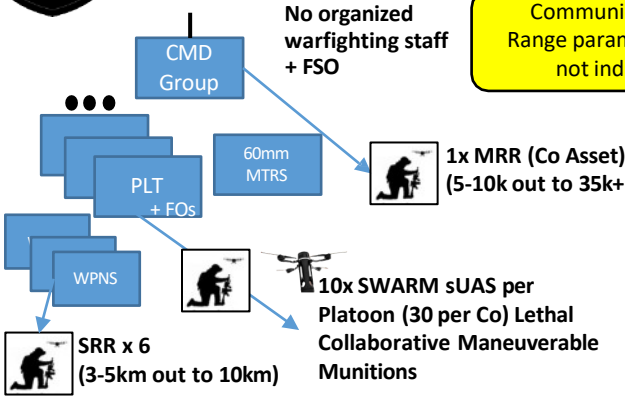
- **Software Priorities for Robotic-Enabled Maneuver:**
  1. **Robotic Platform and Payload Control (AISUM)**
  2. **Common Operating Environment – linkage to TAK/Net Warrior through ITN**
  3. **Autonomous systems support the human ability to sense, make sense, decide, and act in combat situations faster than the adversary. The RAS system-of-systems shortens and thickens the kill chain by increasing speed and redundancy in engagements**
  
- **Joint Small UAS Capabilities Development Document (J-sUAS CDD)**
  1. **Annexes: Soldier Borne Sensor, Short-Range Reconnaissance, Swarm, Medium-Range Reconnaissance, Tethered UAS, Long-Range Reconnaissance.**
  2. **Contingent upon RAC<sup>2</sup>**
  3. **System Standardization**
  
- **Communications (ML/AI)**
  1. **Data optimized at the tactical edge with specific message formats, datalink protocols, and multipath data routers.**
  2. **Develop, evaluate, and optimize echeloned AI enabled networks (multiband, multi-path, multi-form) with limited network processing in the close combat environment.**
  3. **Optimize system information formats/packets to enable rapid, narrow AI at the edge (small scale HSC), focused on critical mission data –not open access to complete network.**
  4. **“Ping” based system that recognizes access points sequentially, by protection level Soldier-to Platform, Platform-to-node-, Node-to integrated network enterprise.**
  5. **End user device enabled with accelerometer and weapon based digital compass. When weapon system fired, updated line of bearing sent as short message form as fire control protocols and ATR architecture developed and utilized in the SBU environment .**



# Light Infantry Fight (Time & Space)



Communication architecture will drive Range parameters and effects of lethality – not individual system capabilities



RAS Operator (Organic add or dedicated member of the Squad/PLT)  
Enhance SA + Handover and Employment of Lethal Munitions ISO of CO or BN

