



Knowledge to Evolve Understanding

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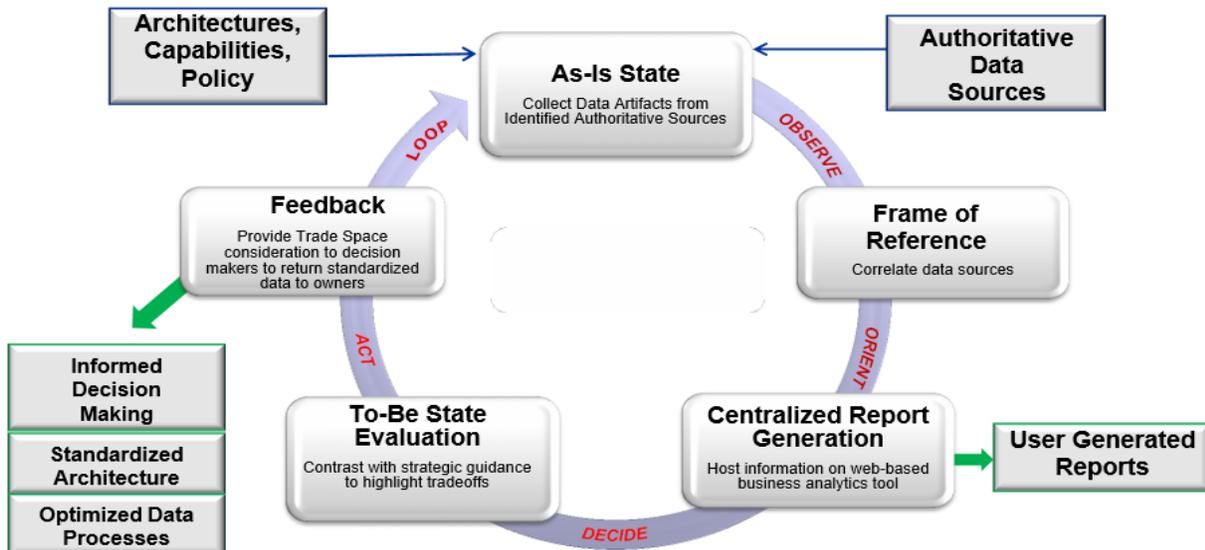
Given an ever-increasing competitive reliance on information, the need for timely access to facts, awareness of relationships, and contextual understanding of dependencies has created the need for real-time assessments of this dynamic environment. This has driven a need to bridge the gap between increasing capabilities and decreasing resources by leveraging technology and analytic tools to decipher complexities and interdependencies associated with today's programs. The methodology and tool suite to derive a fast and thorough analysis is essential if decision makers are to be provided timely information to support, enhance, and execute mission capabilities effectively in today's Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous (VUCA) environment.

- **Why is a *DST* necessary?**
 - *Making more informed decisions*
 - *Show the relationships between capabilities, capacity, resources, and time*
 - *Illustrates past, present, and future trends*
- **How do we move beyond spending the majority of our time on data input and validation to empirical assessments?**
 - *Focus on analysis and trending*
 - *Leverage processes and standards to ascertain data veracity and information dependencies*
 - *Develop business analytics to assess cost benefits analysis to mission effectiveness/efficiencies and reliability/resiliency*
- **How do we make *DST* the primary integration tool?**
 - *Illustrate causality and potential operational consequences of programmatic decisions*
 - *Identify the value proposition of current investments and highlight opportunities for realignment*
 - *Coordination with Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to correlate and understand results achieved from decisions made*
- **What benefits will *DST* provide?**
 - *Provide contextual knowledge to decision makers to inform wise decisions*
 - *Optimize effective return on operation (ROO) and efficient return on investment (ROI)*
 - *Compares "As-is" state with the "To-Be" state to illustrate those options that illuminate opportunities to fulfill operational objectives*



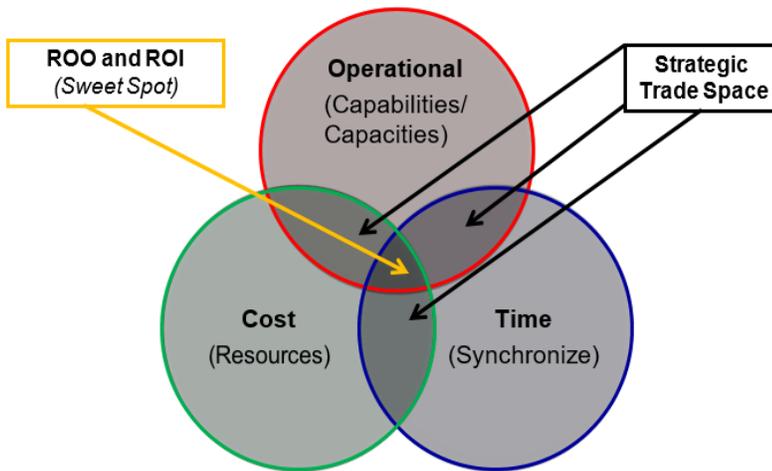
The Decision Support Tool is a capability that informs decision makers with relevant facts to support strategic trade-offs, enabling them to prioritize actions that effectively leverage resources to optimize the potential to develop abilities in sufficient capacity to meet mission objectives. This highly tailorable, authoritative suite of enterprise tools enables integration across the enterprise. It draws on authoritative sources to dynamically visualize credible programmatic and operational data interdependencies and relationships.

The tool aids in leveraging capabilities while fully considering current causality and its consequences for interdependencies. Through a thorough analysis, it identifies those options for success. Through measurable metrics, it provides quantifiable assessments that illustrate the propensity of risk modeled against what-if scenarios to ascertain operational courses of action that identify potential second and third-order effects of actions taken, measured against desired results to be achieved.



By establishing and applying an enterprise data architecture leveraging authoritative data sources, the complexities are unraveled, revealing undesirable redundancies. This allows verifying the veracity of data and identifying information interdependencies to assess the potential value proposition, properly aligning resources with mission imperatives. At its core,

the *DST* associates all program elements with an organization's portfolio of critical resources to effectively align them and assess Return on Operations (ROO/effectiveness) against Return on Investment (ROI/efficiencies). This provides the organization with the relational dependencies necessary to inform its planning and programming processes. The result is the illumination of the complexities of the current effort to store, transport, and apply information to provide timely analysis that identifies horizontal integration across service core functions, platforms, systems, and programs.



Since its inception, the *DST* has a continuum of methodologies, tools, and data sets to validate, manage, and Access, characterize, enlighten, empower, and Evolve (*ACE*) program elements critical to the successful engagement of operational imperatives. With the ability to aggregate information and provide a visual representation easily digested by users, *DST* illustrates that these capabilities must be

applied, and the associated capacity is essential to fulfill the ascribed operational objectives. This allows assessing options and their strategic trade-offs as they present themselves.

The reduction of over 80 percent of time spent on data gathering and research affords more time for exploration to assess the course of action (COA) analysis and decision options. The result is a more robust solution derived from a better understanding of the capabilities and components necessary to optimize both *ROO* and *ROI*. Once completed, an analysis can be conducted to identify the interdependencies, investments, risks, and consequences of the enemy threat to our logistical assets in theater. Following these activities, detailed recommendations can be established, providing the insight necessary to justify future operations and investment decisions.

This Decision Support Tool facilitates informed decisions to manage reactions and expectations, explore causality, and proactively manage potential consequences. By illustrating the interdependencies and the threats and vulnerabilities of each, we can now explain the critical nodes, assess the quantitative impact of disruption, and quantify the costs of sustainment and disruption for future investment decisions. This process shows the cascading effects of alternatives and long-term cost in both sustainment and operational engagements.

➤ **Why do we need DST?**

- *Mitigate unintended consequences*
- *Strategic tradeoff between capabilities/resources/ time*
- *Predictive capacity innate in past/present/future trends*

- **How do we move beyond spending the majority of our time on data input/validation?**
 - *Register authoritative data sources (ADS) to establish a common name convention and referential definition*
 - *Catalog Information to establish structure and ascertain intrinsic relation dependencies*
 - *Establish a contextual knowledge base to assess and query ADS to make relative determinations*
- **What value does *DST* provide as an integration tool?**
 - *Affords opportunity to mitigate potential operational consequences of programmatic decisions*
 - *Ensures that investments deliver mission value*
 - *Illustrates return on past investments from actions taken, measured against results to be achieved*
- **What benefits will *DST* provide for our organization?**
 - *Elevates awareness to inform understanding that shows potential strategic trade space*
 - *Offers opportunity to capitalize on strategic choices in today's resource-constrained environment*
 - *Provides actionable data that informs knowledge to evolve understanding to make wise decisions*

The *DST* evolves an ever-expanding dynamic knowledge base that illustrates current relationships to *ACE* and those actions essential to achieving the organization's strategic imperatives. It provides the necessary facts and outlines their associated dependencies, enabling an informed course of action that leverages enterprise-authoritative data sources to empower organizational decision-making. The shared view of programmatic reality informs planning, programming, and budget execution to realize envisioned capabilities that support operational objectives and achieve the ascribed goals, thereby assuring mission-critical imperatives vital to the organization's success.

