E. DEFENSE TECHNICAL INFORMATION CENTER (DTIC)

The Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC) is a major component of the Defense Science and Technical Information Program (STIP), contributing to the management and conduct of Defense research, development and acquisition efforts. DTIC provides access to and transfer of scientific, technical, and management information for DoD personnel, DoD contractors and potential contractors, and other U.S. Government agency personnel and their contractors.

DoD Technical Reports

DTIC is the central DoD repository for the collection and secondary dissemination of DoD technical reports. The reports are abstracted, indexed and cataloged, as part of DTIC's DROLS, the Defense RDT&E Online System. Through this on-line searchable database, the non-government sector of the Defense industry conducted over 28,067 searches of DTIC databases and they received 212,957 output products from DTIC in FY 99. DTIC provided 13,317 technical reports to the National Technical Information Service (NTIS). These documented results of Defense R&D contribute to technology transfer by helping private sector organizations identify DoD work in their fields of interest.

The means for searching DTIC's Technical Reports Collection via the Internet is DTIC's web site, STINET (the Scientific and Technical Information Network). The purpose of STINET is to help the DoD community access pertinent scientific and technical information to more effectively meet mission needs. There are two STINET services available via the Internet: Public STINET, which is available to the general public, and Secure STINET, which is restricted to qualified, registered users and provides encrypted transmission of citations and documents. There were over 3 million web accesses to both of the sites in FY 99. Through Public STINET, over 107,000 searches of the unclassified, unlimited distribution Technical Reports Collection were conducted in FY 99. From Secure STINET, 15,000 additional searches were conducted against the unclassified, limited distribution Technical Reports Collection and over 1,800 reports were downloaded in full text.

Defense Technology Transfer Information System (DTTIS)

DTIC maintains the DTTIS in cooperation with the Military Services and Defense Agencies. As of December 31, 1999, the DTTIS contained project information on 3,265 DoD Technology Transfer Activities, including 1,671 active Cooperative Research and Development Transfer Agreements (CRADAs) and 174 active Patent License Agreements. Approximately 100 Technology Transfer professionals are registered to use the DTTIS secure World Wide Web site to view and analyze T2 data. 1999 input into the DTTIS included 476 new records and 1578 modifications.

Independent Research and Development (IR&D) Database

DTIC maintains a database with project description and financial information reflecting Independent Research and Development efforts conducted by Defense contractor activities. In 1999, the database received 3,542 project descriptions reflecting 2.4 billion dollars in 1999 IR&D investment. It is estimated that this reflects almost 85% of the cost recoverable independent research and development efforts performed by Defense contractors. The information in the database is proprietary and disseminated to U.S. government activities only via an on-line subscription service or a CD-ROM product. In FY 00 DTIC will have available a secure IR&D World Wide Web site to better serve DoD customers in the leveraging of IR&D technology for DoD purposes.

Registration for Access to DoD Technical Information

DTIC provides centralized registration services for access to Defense technical information. The registration system authorizes DoD organizations, DoD contractors, and prospective DoD contractors access to DTIC's databases of ongoing and completed R&D, thus leveraging the nation's investment in DoD STI.

Of 4,818 registered users in FY 99, 2,661 were non-governmental users. Specifically, registered users included 1,990 industrial organizations and 671 educational organizations. DTIC facilitates awareness of technology through its registration program by targeting prospective participants in the DoD Small Business Innovation Research program and the University Research Support program, as well as through outreach to Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

DTIC's registration goal for FY 00 is to begin the transition from registering authorized organizations to registering individual end users within the organization.

Internet/World Wide Web (WWW)

The DoD continues to maintain its position as a leader in improving access to information through innovative Information Technology (IT) solutions. Advances in IT now make it possible to collect and disseminate information in a dynamic manner to assure that the latest data is made available as rapidly as possible, both to the public and to internal DoD users. In its development and maintenance of more than 80 DoD Web information systems, the DTIC is taking advantage of newly available technologies in creating applications which will gather and distribute technology transition information in the most timely and accessible manner.

This support is exemplified by two DTIC-developed Web information services: the Research and Development Descriptive Summary (RDDS) web site, and the Web-based DoD In-House RDT&E Activities Report. The new RDDS site provides the capability to access and search the reports without the necessity of rehosting data at a central location, as previously required. As the data of each Descriptive Summary remains on the Web site maintained by the issuing organization, it is now available to the entire user community as soon as it is posted. The DTIC RDDS site, which is publicly accessible, allows users to search and retrieve information from these individual sites by entering a single query at the DTIC site. The RDDS documents may be searched either by a known organization and Program Element number, or by a keyword query such as PE title or number, budget activity, fiscal year, and Agency or Service.

The Web publishing process of the annual DoD In-House RDT&E Activities Report has also greatly increased availability of information while reducing the time formerly required for collection and publication. The time needed for collection, compilation and publication of the hard-copy report has decreased by 75%, and the work-hours to produce the report have been cut by approximately 60%. Not only is the Web version of this report available in a more timely fashion, but the electronic accessibility of the data within the report allows it to be utilized with more agility and power than was possible when the document was limited to paper copy. This encourages scientists and engineers to communicate with their counterparts and enhances the potential for technology cooperation and transfer between the private sector and DoD Laboratories. The team responsible for developing this product has been presented with Vice President Gore's Hammer Award.

DoD Information Analysis Centers (IACs)

The DoD IAC Program provides access via the World Wide Web (WWW) to 13 DTIC sponsored Centers and one Army sponsored Center for the analysis of scientific and technical information. Each IAC Home Page continues to experience a steadily increasing volume of inquiry traffic from the public sector, especially in Chemical and Biological Defense, Information Assurance (Electronic Security), and Y2K issues. WWW access provides significant opportunity for technology transfer of publicly accessible Defense technical information plus a channel for two-way electronic communication with technology experts.

The DoD IAC Program has experienced steady growth, as evidenced by an increase to $100M in reimbursable dollars placed on IAC contracts in FY 99. Other accomplishments of the DoD IAC Program during 1999 include:

a. Established three new IAC contracts: Modeling and Simulation IAC, Jun 99; Weapon Systems Technology IAC, Sep 99; and Chemical Warfare/Chemical and Biological Defense IAC, Oct 99.

b. Fielded Performance Results Evaluation Management Information System (PREMIS) at 13 IACs, Defense Supply Center Columbus Contracting Office, 15 Contracting Officer's Technical Representative locations, and the DoD IAC Program Office at DTIC. This system provides IAC Program participants instant electronic access to technical area tasks status.

c. Initiated an effort to upgrade the PREMIS system from a client server version to a web-based version.

Additionally, extensive interaction is underway with three technical communities to explore the feasibility of establishing IACs in the areas of Data Fusion, Advanced Medical Technology and Warfighter Readiness.