

MCTSSA

Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity



The **Data Automated Communication Terminal (DACT)** is the Marine Corps Blue Force Tracking Program of Record. It is a tactical input/output battlefield situational awareness system and communications terminal. The DACT forms the foundation of the MAGTF's Common Operating Picture (COP) by providing digitization down to the most front-line elements of the MAGTF.

Background: Up to this point, the Marine Corps relied on a variety of C2 systems to provide a full suite of C2 capabilities. These systems provide friendly and enemy situational awareness, Position Location Information (PLI), and fire support capabilities from battalion through Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF) levels. The DACT provides the capability to enhance these existing systems by allowing the exchange of C2 information below the battalion level. The mounted variant of the DACT, running C2PC version 5.9.0.2 is currently fielded to the Operating Forces. The Dismounted variant is looking to reach Milestone C in FY-04.

Description: The DACT gives commanders and section leaders the ability to transmit and receive preformatted Variable Message Format (VMF) messages, routes, and overlays. The DACT also automates critical friendly and enemy maneuver unit Position Location Information (PLI) reporting - freeing small unit leaders to focus on other critical elements of war fighting. The DACT then injects this PLI into the MAGTF Commander's COP, thus greatly increasing the MAGTF tempo of battle, while providing one tool to aid in reducing the potential for fratricide.

DACT Fact Sheet



The DACT consists of two variants, the Mounted DACT (M-DACT) and the Dismounted DACT (D-DACT).

The M-DACT (pictured left) utilizes C2PC to support the commander down to the company level from a vehicular platform. The primary communications path for the M-DACT is the Enhanced Position Location Radio System (EPLRS). The D-DACT (pictured right) utilizes the C2CE application to support the Marine down to the section. The primary communications path for the D-DACT is SINCGARS.

MCTSSA Support: MCTSSA continually hosts developmental testing and portions of operational testing for the DACT. The Program Office utilizes MCTSSA's robust Systems Integration Facility to verify the interoperability of both variants.

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