



MSIAC Success Story

Technical and Operational Support to Battle Command Training

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Customer:	4 th Battalion, 227 th Aviation Regiment and the Fort Hood Mission Command Training Center (MCTC)
Challenge:	Ordered to deploy its organic air and ground units together, the 4 th Battalion, 227 th Aviation Regiment were required to train as one cohesive unit, which had never been done in the past. In an environment of restricted budgets and resources coupled with time and area constraints, they realized that modeling and simulation (M&S) could provide realistic practice environments without the financial burden. However, to be successful they needed to find a partner who could utilize existing M&S tools and tailor a solution to meet their specific needs.
Approach:	The MSIAC, with its long-standing history of M&S success and its vast pool of subject-matter experts (SME), understood that a solution using M&S would be possible. By searching the Modeling and Simulation Information System (MSIS), the DoD M&S Catalog, DTIC databases, and its internal knowledge bases, MSIAC quickly determined that there was no single, existing simulation that met the requirements. Using these same data sources, MSIAC then proceeded to identify sets of models and simulations that could be <i>composed</i> to form a complete solution. To compose models and simulations, the individual components must be based on similar sets of concepts and also need to interchange information in an intelligent and understandable manner. With guidance from MSIAC, the battalion identified the Virtual Battlespace 2 (VBS2) and the Aviation Combined Arms Tactical Trainer (AVCATT) simulations as best suited to form the individual components needed to meet their requirements. Their basic conceptual approaches were similar, but they still needed to <i>interoperate</i> . Ensuring this successful and meaningful interchange of information, MSIAC developed a software bridge between these two simulations that also incorporated the capability to change basic training scenarios by simply changing inputs.
Value:	MSIAC produced a flexible, efficient, and cost-effective M&S-based system to train both air and ground teams together as one cohesive unit in a virtual, three-dimensional battlespace. The MSIAC solution utilized existing simulations and created interoperability between them which, enhances future performance by permitting easy scenario changes to meet evolving needs of the warfighters. In addition, MSIAC's approaches and solutions are fully documented within DTIC databases to further future training successes based on M&S.