



**MARINE CORPS TACTICAL SYSTEMS SUPPORT ACTIVITY**

**Make Marines More Capable**

# **Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity**

## ***“Impacts of STRL designation on USMC Acquisitions”***

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## Command Overview

**MISSION:** MCTSSA provides 24/7 global technical support for C5I systems; and conducts engineering, testing and evaluation, and supports experimentation on C5I systems and amphibious platforms in order to inform acquisition decisions and make the FMF more capable



**Warfighter Support Division (WSD)** - Provide 24-hour global support to the FMF utilizing program and non-program of record equipment and provide feedback to Program Offices in order to support USMC unit operations and exercises and inform all deputy commandants on the health of USMC programs.



**Test and Engineering Division (TED)** - Perform Program Engineering, Developmental, Cyber, Shipboard, and concept-based testing and experimentation of existing and emerging USMC C5I systems in support of the acquisition community and the naval enterprise. Provide Military Standards expertise to achieve interoperable, integrated, and certified solutions to meet USMC, Joint, and Mission Partner requirements.



**Amphibious Vehicle Test Branch (AVTB)** - Plan, execute, analyze, and report developmental and integrated testing and evaluation events in order to characterize the performance of expeditionary combat vehicle systems and equipment in support of informed acquisition decisions.



**Infrastructure and Information Support Division (I2SD)** – Provide compute, transport, storage services, and critical IT infrastructure in order to support developmental testing and engineering of USMC C5I systems.



**Priorities: Support Force Design – Support to Program Offices – Support to the Warfighter**



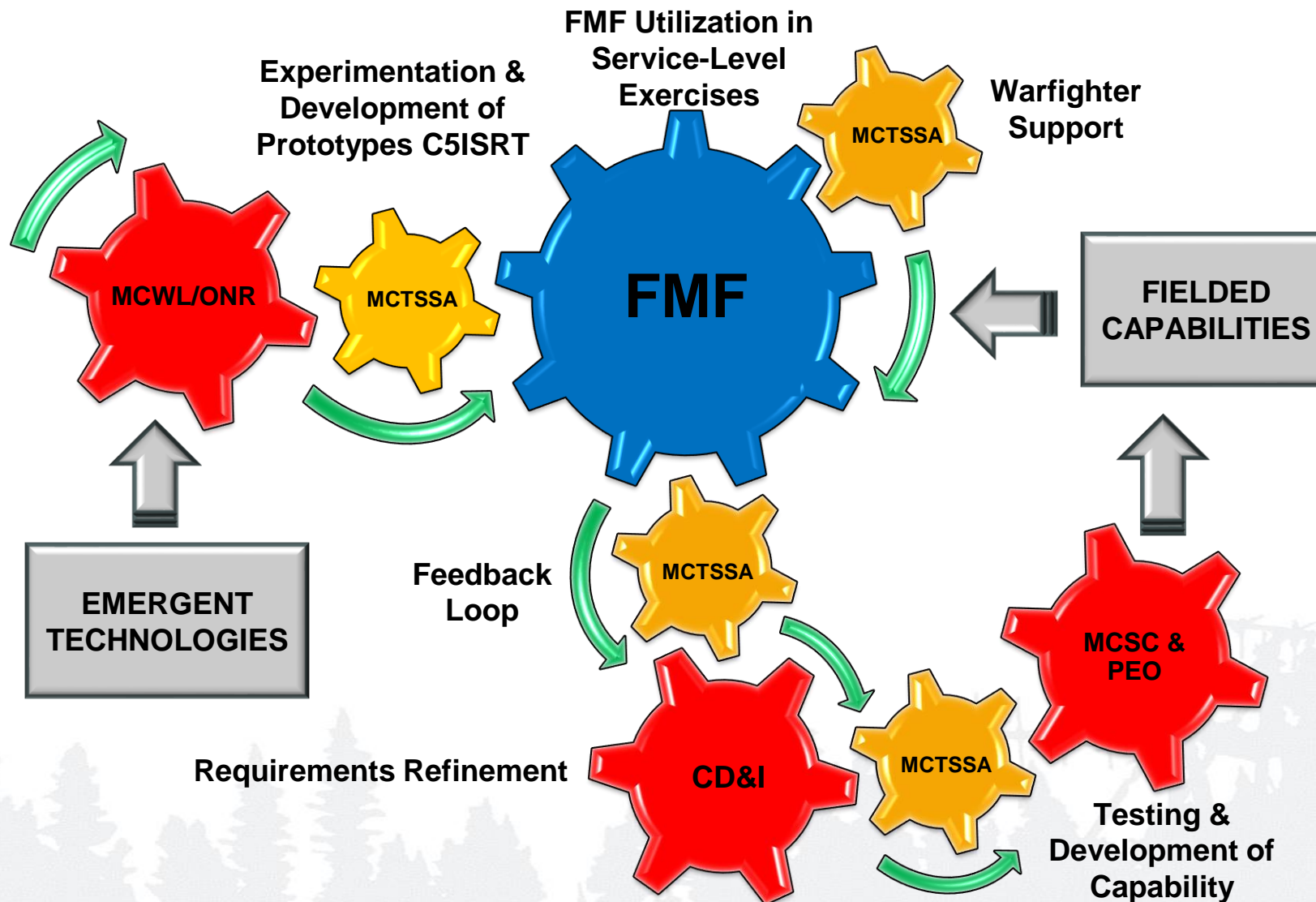
- Designated the Marine Corps' first ***Science and Technology Reinvention Laboratory (STRL)*** in October 2023
  - *is an organizational designation, historically, through a National Defense Authorization Act, or designated as such by the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (USD(R&E)).*
- With this designation, MCTSSA was accepted into the Section 233 Pilot Program for the Enhancement of Department of Defense Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) Centers and granted unique STRL authorities
- MCTSSA can now leverage certain legislated authorities:
  - *Personnel management flexibilities,*
  - *Minor military construction flexibilities*
  - *Ability to adopt mechanisms that give STRL Directors discretionary funding flexibility*

***So what does this mean for the Marine Corps?***



- **Expansion of MCTSSA's mission**
  - *Increased prototyping and experimentation with the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab (MCWL) and Fleet Marine Force*
  - *Will provide program managers with more timely and relevant data to inform programmatic decisions and create a continuous feedback loop from FMF to all stakeholders*
- **The establishment of the Chief of Contracting Office (CCO)**
  - *Maximize speed and agility by providing the ability to execute more contracting documents locally, have oversight of personnel staffing and management; and develop processes and procedures unique to MCTSSA's mission*
- **STRL personnel demonstration system**
  - *Development of a more technical workforce*

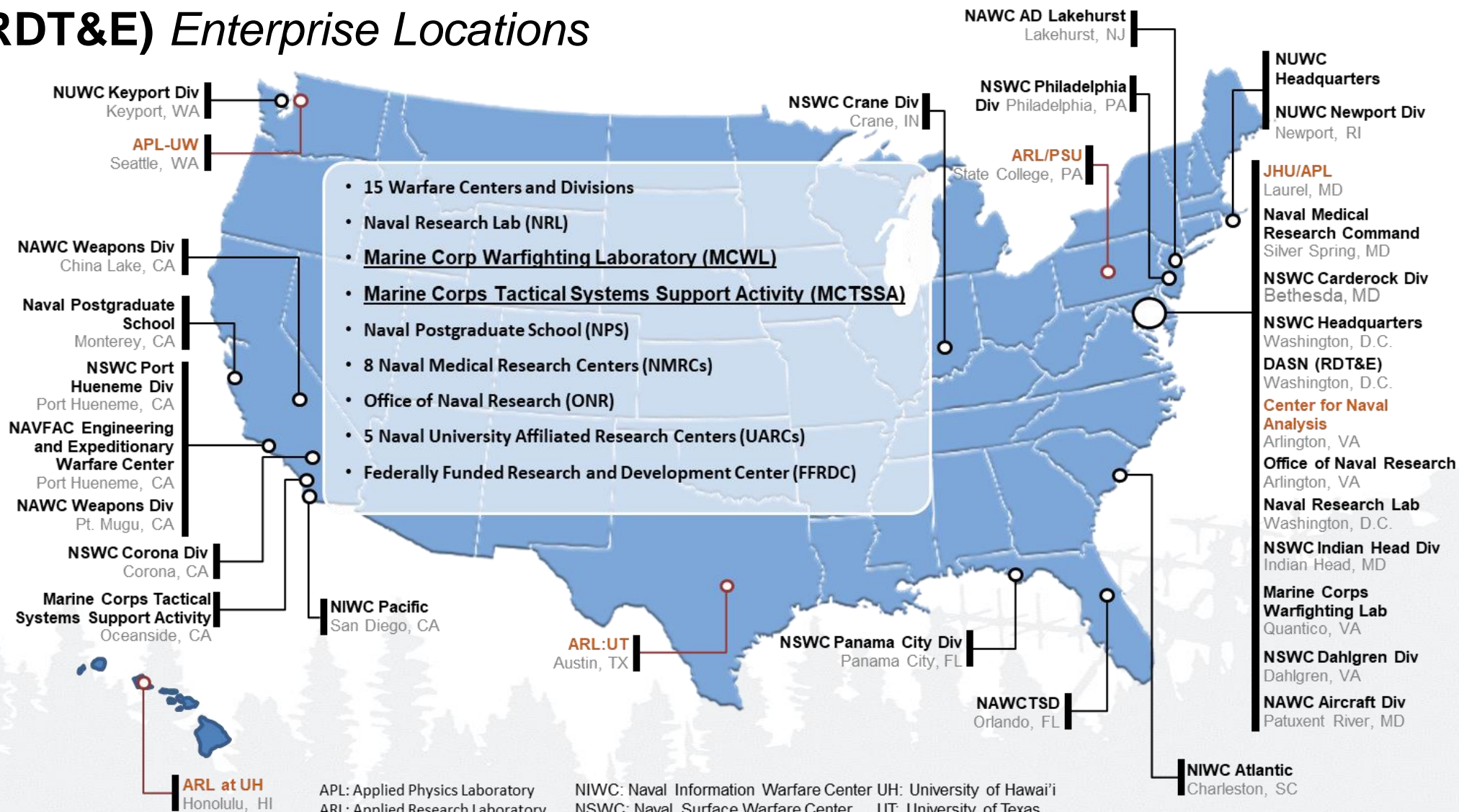
***So what does this look like?***



***Putting emergent capabilities into the hands of the Marines faster***



## DASN (RDT&E) Enterprise Locations



APL: Applied Physics Laboratory  
ARL: Applied Research Laboratory  
JHU: Johns Hopkins University  
NAWC: Naval Air Warfare Center

NIWC: Naval Information Warfare Center  
NSWC: Naval Surface Warfare Center  
NUWC: Naval Undersea Warfare Center  
PSU: Pennsylvania State University

UH: University of Hawai'i  
UT: University of Texas  
UW: University of Washington



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