



News Release

Joint Program Executive Office, Joint Tactical Radio System

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JPEO JTRS Releases MHAL Application Program Interfaces

SAN DIEGO – The Joint Program Executive Office for the Joint Tactical Radio System (JPEO JTRS) approved a second release of JTRS Application Program Interfaces (APIs) for public release. The JTRS Modem Hardware Abstraction Layer (MHAL) API is provided in this release. The API may be downloaded from the JPEO JTRS Software Communications Architecture (SCA) website at <http://jtrs.spawar.navy.mil/sca>.

The MHAL API abstracts the radio's modem interfaces from the application software. The MHAL API supports communications between application components hosted on General Purpose Processors, Modem Digital Signal Processors and Modem Field Programmable Gate Arrays. The concept of the MHAL API is to provide a consistent host environment for waveform applications and waveforms across SCA-compliant platforms.

The SCA plays a vital role within JPEO JTRS by standardizing the deployment, management, interconnection and intercommunication of software application components in embedded, distributed-computing communication systems. While the SCA is published and maintained by JPEO JTRS, it has received wide support and use from commercial radio developers and industry organizations.

About JPEO JTRS

In February 2005, the Under Secretary of Defense of Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (USD AT&L) announced organizational changes to the JTRS program to ensure the development of all affiliated programs as products under single management. In March 2005, USD (AT&L) appointed a Joint Program Executive Officer for JTRS to provide an enterprise management structure. The JPEO JTRS was given full directive authority for research, development, and developmental test and evaluation of all waveforms, radios, common ancillary and network management equipment, and software for the JTRS program. JPEO JTRS directs and implements all aspects of JTRS acquisition from Milestone A approval through successful full rate production decision.

On March 31, 2006, the Department of Defense signed an Acquisition Decision Memo (ADM) approving the restructuring of the JTRS program under a management construct that creates a "family of software radios." The ADM directed the JPEO to implement the restructured JTRS program with an evolutionary acquisition strategy using an incremental development approach at moderate risk.