

5 Fundamentals to Simplify Tactical Data Link Translation

The tactical data link (TDL) gateways that translate information across TDL types are notoriously difficult and time-consuming to set up and configure.

Warfighters at the tactical edge of the battlefield don't have the knowledge, skills, or time to operate them.

Here's what it takes to resolve the main issues.

1 Near-Instant Startup



ISSUE: It can take several hours to connect and configure a TDL gateway. Some systems can require multiple days of effort.

SOLUTION: Push-button startup and automated link connections with no expert input required. *Startup time:* A few seconds.

ISSUE: All of the connection and configuration complexity is exposed to end users in a very unfriendly way.

An Intuitive Interface 2



SOLUTION: A clear and easy-to-understand graphical user interface that hides complexity and presents pertinent mission information in a highly visible and simplified way.

3 Contextual Translations



ISSUE: Literal, word-for-word translations of link information that are difficult to understand and sometimes don't make any sense at all.

SOLUTION: Automated, conceptual translations that put link information into context with previously received information and information on other link types.

ISSUE: Partial Link 16 implementations restrict interoperability and limit translation potential.

A Full Link 16 Implementation 4



SOLUTION: Gateway developers with the exceptionally deep and broad Link 16 expertise needed for a full Link 16 implementation.

5 A Holistic Approach to Development



ISSUE: Only a limited number of TDL gateway usability challenges have been addressed, and only in a very narrow, specific, or over-simplified way.

SOLUTION: A broad, mission-oriented, and human-centered approach that involves warfighters in the design process, leverages agile development methodologies, and includes iterative prototype testing.

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Learn More

Curtiss-Wright's TCG HUNTR™ TDL Hub and Network Translator addresses all of the issues with legacy TDL gateways to give warfighters exactly what they need — dramatically simplified and automated access to relevant TDL data at the tactical edge of the battlefield.

Find out more at: <https://www.curtisswrightds.com/products/tdl/huntr.html>