



Information Brief

DoD Intermediate Force Capabilities: Bringing the Fight to the Gray Zone

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<http://jnlwp.defense.gov/>



Scene Setter

- Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Program (JNLWP) created in 1996 out of impetus from Gen Zinni and his experiences in Somalia during Operation Restore Hope
- Executive Agent (CMC) Oversight via DC, PP&O with Joint Integrated Product Team
- Program has achieved many accomplishments with regard to advanced technology development and adoption of some capabilities into the Services
- Over time, the Services have vectored their involvement in the program to policing and security force communities for advocacy and resourcing
- In era of “lethality” investment, the naming convention of “non-lethal” has precluded the mainstreaming of critical capabilities into the warfighting paradigm

Must change the conversation to Intermediate Force Capabilities (IFC) to engender meaningful conversation with broader community bases within the Services



Utility of Intermediate Force Capabilities Across Warfare Spectrum



“Gray Zone” competition dominates any conceptual Spectrum of Warfare and is ideally suited for Intermediate Force Capabilities



Phases of Warfare



Competition Continuum

IFC are a ***strategic risk mitigation investment*** that provide warfighters tools to seize the initiative while competing below the level of armed conflict.



Investment Disparity of IFC Despite Strategic Utility



Investments in IFC do not come at the expense of lethality to the overall force

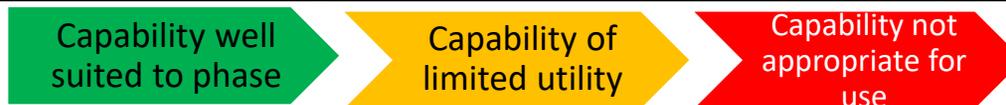
Suitability of Intermediate Force Capabilities



Suitability of Lethal Capabilities (Other than Deterrence)



If the Services accept the term “enhanced lethality” as the *sole* attribute that informs requirements and acquisition decisions, their ability to equip relevant combat forces today and tomorrow will greatly suffer.





Intermediate Force Capabilities in Information Space



IFCs are a ***strategic risk mitigation investment*** that provide our warfighters the tools to compete below the level of armed conflict without losing credibility in the ***information space***.



Effects Without Destruction

- IFC implementation involves more than materiel
- Must change operational mindset so that Services incorporate IFCs into regular training and planning cycles
- With the proper tools and training, our warfighters will be unbeatable across the competition continuum, not just in the “Dominate” phase.

VISION: Transform the National Security Enterprise by mainstreaming the planning and employment of intermediate force capabilities to save lives and reduce collateral damage.



Current vs. Advanced Technology IFC Initiatives/Concepts



Dazzling Lasers



Projected MUA-FY22

Stun Grenade



40mm Munitions



12 ga. Munitions



Acoustic Hailer



TASER



Stingball Grenade



Current Form Factor



**Active Denial System (ADS)
Tube-based mm-Wave
Demonstrator
(Two Systems Exist)**



**Escalation of Force CROWS
Concept for IFC Kit
(Projected Demo - FY23)**

Future Form Factor



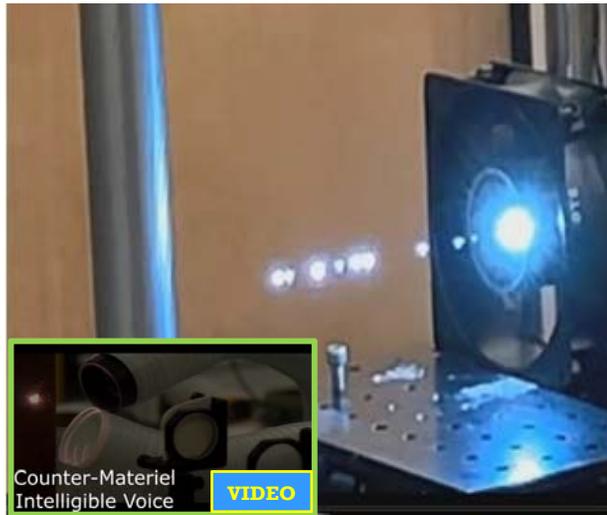
**USA – Solid State - Active Denial
Technology (ADT)
Focused Assessment
(Projected 1st QTR 2021)**



**USCG Directed Energy Vessel Stopper
Afloat Military Utility Assessment
(Projected FY24)**



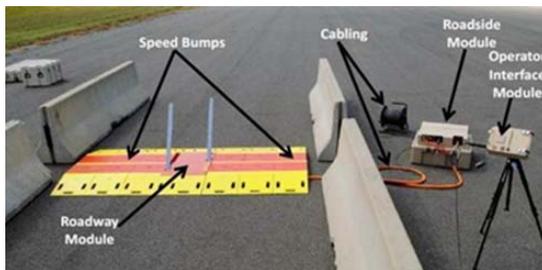
Additional Emerging IFC Technology



Laser Induced Plasma Effects



Human Electro-Muscular Incapacitation Munitions



Pre-Emplaced Electrical Vehicle Stopper Pilot Program

Counter UAS

Innovative Application of NL Technologies
 Collaboration w/ MCWL
 (Dazzling Lasers; HPM / ADT)



Operational Vignette Example

Expansion of Indo-Pacific Alliances and Partnerships



SCENARIO: Mixed fleet of armed Chinese Coast Guard vessels and fishing vessels operated by civilian paramilitaries/militia attempt to disrupt the U.S. and Philippine bilateral naval and ground training exercises in South China Sea.

APPROPRIATE IFCs

- MEU installs ADS on island to dissuade fishing boat incursions during exercise.
- Chinese fishing vessels attempting to disrupt the exercise are engaged with **Dazzling Lasers** from **both afloat and ashore** forces. **IFC-capable, Amphibious Combat Vehicle-mounted Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station's (CROWS) dazzling laser** is used to warn and suppress the Chinese vessels' operators.
- Marines ashore deploy **Active Denial System (ADS)** against Chinese fishing vessels to deter their aggressive actions around the island.



OPERATIONAL IMPACT:

- Expanding the competitive space and seizing the initiative
- Introducing unpredictability (and imposing cost) to our competitors
- Reducing the risk of unnecessary escalation
- Offering creative deterrent approaches in a complex security environment

1 + 1 = 5



SUMMARY



- Need to change conversation to Intermediate Force Capabilities (IFCs)
- IFCs enable the warfighter to compete across the competition continuum without losing in the information space
- Ultimate goal of IFCs is mission accomplishment without unnecessary destruction that initiates or prolongs expensive hostilities





For More Information



JNLWP Website
www.jnlwp.defense.gov

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