

Appendix A

Terms of Reference

NAVAL RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE PANEL ON LIFE CYCLE TECHNOLOGY INSERTION TERMS OF REFERENCE

BACKGROUND: The rapid evolution of supporting technologies relative to the acquisition cycle and service lifetime of naval weapons platforms makes it essential to design and acquire future naval systems in such a way that up-to-date technologies are affordably utilized throughout the service lifetime of the system. Today, new generations of technology become available as often as every two-to-three years, whereas the design-build cycle for a major naval platform may be as long as seven-to-ten years, and service lives of 25-40 years are typical. Future naval weapons platforms must be designed to facilitate affordable insertion of current-generation technologies throughout their service lifetimes with minimum impact on availability.

SPECIFIC TASKING:

- Perform case studies of successful and unsuccessful attempts to provide for life cycle technology insertion on recent naval platforms and extract lessons learned.
- Review and assess the appropriate refresh intervals for the various classes of technologies critical to naval weapons platforms.
- Recommend a design strategy for ensuring and optimizing life cycle technology insertion opportunities for future naval weapons platforms.
- Assess current U.S. Navy acquisition practice as regards technology insertion and system re-capitalization and recommend strategies for improvement.

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Study Administrator: RADM Jay Cohen, USN, Chief of Naval Research and NRAC
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