Disruptive Commercial Technologies (DCT)

Terms of Reference

US Marine Corps Expeditionary Forces face constant threats known and unknown. Merging threats can include commercially available global technologies and products that may be “weaponized” and used against Marine expeditionary forces in the near and foreseeable future. The enemies’ intent would be to:

- Neutralize or reduce essential Marine Corps tactical capabilities and key technological advantages
- Attack critical vulnerabilities or gaps in future operational capabilities, and
- Generally reduce an unconventional adversary’s reliance upon conventional weapons supplied by outside supporters.

These are the critical elements of the terms of reference in order to address the threats these disruptive commercial technologies may impose on expeditionary forces:

- Study the potentially disruptive nature of current and near future technologies
- Identify technologies and products that pose immediate asymmetrical counter to Marine Forces
- Establish timelines for the identified threats
- Identify indicators that would aid Marine Forces in recognizing deployed DCTs
- Propose countermeasures to DCTs
- Propose a coherent, integrated investment strategy to counter DCTs
- Focus the study on the period 3-7 years from now

The study sponsor, Lieutenant General James F. Amos, CG Marine Corps Combat Development Command, encourages the Committee to explore relevant research, technologies and capabilities, by which the Marine Corps can anticipate these potential developments, and to counter or neutralize their effect prior to application in future military operations.