

*Logistic Information Planning* provides the key information exchange requirements for Information Solutions to be developed to allow sharing between MoD and Industry. There are examples of where logistic information planning was omitted before contract let and CLS effectiveness has been inhibited due to the lack of logistics information sharing and the unforeseen costs incurred to remedy the situation. Logistic Information Planning prevents this because it is based on agreed information standards, reducing the need for bespoke interfaces for sharing information. It minimizes the cost of introducing process change as information exchanges are standardized rather than locked into ad hoc or proprietary solutions.

### What are the Costs?

*Logistic Information Planning* is currently funded and executed centrally within MoD using a small specialist team highly experienced in information planning. They spend their time working with IPTs and their industry counterparts to develop the Logistic Information Plans for CLS projects. Several Defence OEMs also have in-house specialists that understand the LCIA and work closely with the MoD Team.

A Logistic Information Plan develops over a period of time, depending on the size and maturity of the project. Generally it involves short interactive workshops to develop understanding of the logistic processes, stakeholders and key logistic decisions for the project. These are automatically translated into a Logistic Information Plan which is maintained to give through-life benefits. Considerable time and resource is saved by re-using logistic templates and a Logistic Information Planning Tool.

*Logistic Information Planning* is now a reality across MoD, and the question is whether or not your project is going to be part of it. The benefits are self-evident and the key now is not what to do.... but how fast you are going to do it so that you can bring the benefits to your projects.

### More Information

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## The Real Benefits Of Logistics Information Planning

Logistics Coherence  
Information Architecture



Defence Equipment & Support



# THE REAL BENEFITS OF LOGISTICS INFORMATION PLANNING

## Why Do Logistic Information Planning?

Few would argue against the proposition that there's much more we can do to improve the effectiveness of logistics and supportability across Defence. Here's one technique that's achieving this and is costing very little: *Logistic Information Planning*

In the past too many logistic support contracts have been run under bespoke arrangements, with different information systems and applications being developed for common logistic functions. The shift towards Contractor Logistic Support (CLS) for delivering operational capability means a closer information-sharing relationship between MoD and Industry. Both now depend on the mutual sharing of day-to-day performance and operating information to execute their part of the CLS contract.

It's widely recognized that there is a lack of consistency in how MoD and Industry share information to enable the execution of CLS. But having a variety of individual contract approaches is inefficient for MoD and Industry. A number of key strategic initiatives have therefore expressed the need to simplify logistic processes and to achieve greater value and improve the effectiveness of logistic supportability.

This is achieved by simplifying and converging the way we do logistics between MoD and Industry, focussing on sharing the right logistics information to enable effective decision-making on logistic performance, through life support and cost optimization. *Logistic Information Planning* does this.

## How It Works

*Logistic Information Planning* identifies the key logistics data that MoD and Industry want to exchange when running a CLS contract so they can each have the information they really need to help improve effectiveness. The simplification comes from the LCIA which is the joint MoD-Industry tool for describing and agreeing logistics functions and activities, and the information needed to support them.

Once a defence project is established and has identified CLS as its support strategy, then the project is engaged

by LCIA specialists to determine the logistic information sharing requirements. The process is relatively quick and it generates a Logistic Information Plan that MoD and Industry can both agree and include in the CLS contract. The Plan is then also used to develop MoD-Industry Information System Exchanges and Business Intelligence solutions.

Until recently, many projects have failed to understand and plan for their logistic information needs and this has led to undue risk and cost growth, inhibiting effective through-life logistic support.

## What Are the Benefits?

*Logistic Information Planning* is now being applied to over 80 major UK defence projects to varying degrees to produce the following real benefits:

### Benefit 1. Improved Supportability and Through Life Cost Optimization

Both MoD and Industry can only reduce through-life support costs and improve supportability if they have the right performance information to help them make decisions.

Often CLS contracts do not seriously consider their logistic information needs before the contract. Logistic Information Planning forces this to happen and ensures both sides are set up to feed the right logistics performance information to each other. This includes data on equipment operation, configuration, faults, and spares consumption to allow better fleet and asset utilization, R&M and supply chain performance. This gets away from the old manual sequential processes for handing-off information that were time-consuming, inefficient, and prone to errors. Instead, these are replaced by automatic and trusted information sharing between MoD and Industry systems that enable faster and informed logistic decisions to mutual benefit.

The end game is enabling through life support cost optimization and enhanced operational supportability through better utilization of logistic information.

### Benefit 2. Greater Understanding of your Logistics Business

The Logistic Information Planning process uses LCIA to develop clear roles and responsibilities for logistics under

CLS. LCIA is a benchmark description of all the conceivable logistic activities to be performed under CLS, it helps to identify the logistic support functions that are important, but which projects can inadvertently omit. Consequently, MoD and Industry develop much greater understanding and definition of their logistic roles and responsibilities within the CLS contract as a result of this process.

Projects using LCIA report major time and resource savings because the tool contains joint MoD and Industry agreed descriptions of logistics functions, and the associated information that is needed to execute them under CLS. This brings clarity to stakeholders and produces development rigor for the processes, systems and structures to support them.

These are major benefits and our experience is that all projects benefit from this approach, and it also reduces the inevitable time and resource pressures to reach contract.

### Benefit 3. Through Life Logistic Process Improvement

Defence logistics has been plagued with inefficient and bespoke support processes for what are essentially similar logistics functions. Using LCIA to identify logistics functions and information flows helps MoD and Industry to introduce aligned processes for CLS contracts. Common logistic templates are being developed for specific domains such as aircraft IOS, vehicle support, maritime fleet support, and weapons CLS contracts. This enables Defence companies to begin to operate common systems across their different product lines, thereby reducing the need for costly, ad hoc or random processes. Moreover, it allows MoD and Industry to converge towards integrated processes that enable simultaneous visibility of logistics information across the Defence enterprise.

### Benefit 4. Real Value from Logistic and Supportability Information

There is generally no shortage of logistic information in Defence. The problem is that the logistic information that we want is sometimes inaccessible, unreliable, or undiscovered. Logistic Information Planning solves this problem by identifying what information is needed, and where it is needed before MoD and Industry agree a CLS contract. This gives both sides a clearer understanding of the costs and value of logistic information and helps to de-risk projects by identifying information requirements up front so that provision can be made.