

## USASMDC/ARSTRAT

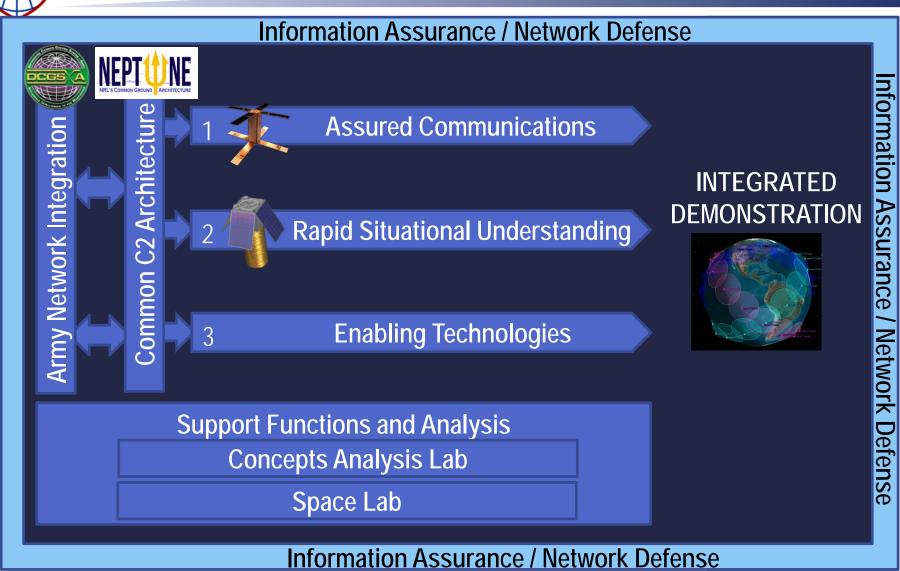
## U.S. Army Small Space Update

Mason Nixon, M.S. Electrical Engineering Mark Ray, M.S. Electrical Engineering

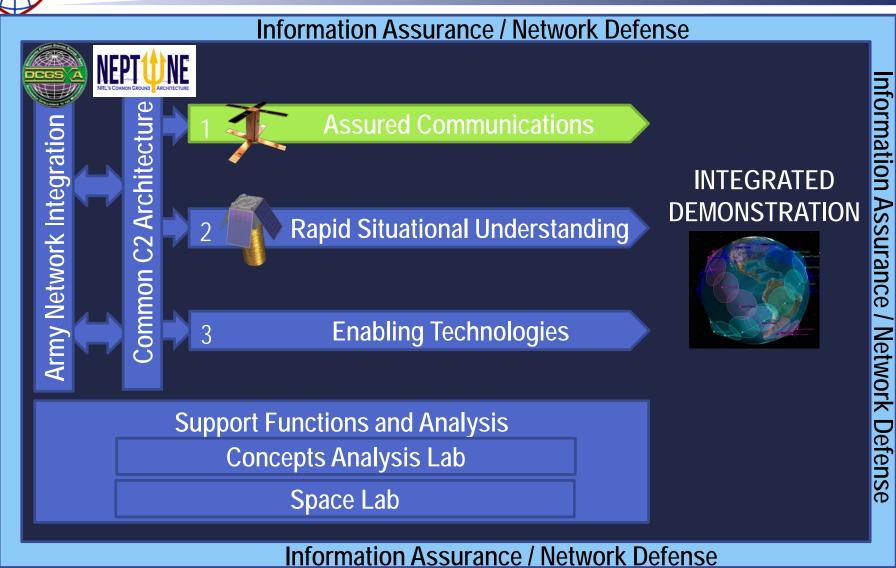


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**UNCLASSIFIED** 

Assured Communications (LEO SATCOM)

SMDC ONE Launched 8 DEC 2010



Over the Horizon (OTH)
UHF Communications
UGS Data Exfiltration



Beyond Line of Sight (BLOS) UHF Comms with Hand Held Radios (HHR)

SNAP I

SNAP 3 Launched 8 OCT 2015



BLOS UHF Comms On Vehicle Propulsion Type 1 SDR Encryption HHR Comms Text Messaging

**UGS Data Exfiltration** 



ARGOS TD Launch in 2019



BLOS UHF & On-the-Move (OTM) Ka-Band Comms Hi Data Rate Minimal Forward Footprint

## INTEGRATED DEMONSTRATION NETWORK



Worldwide Warfighter Tasking Constellation Mission Mgmt Global TT&C Capability DCGS-A Integration Enable Tactical Commercial Imagery Dissemination FUTURE PROGRAM OF RECORD



Resilient Global / Theater On-Demand Imagery Direct Theater Tasking Automated Data Dissemination

#### **Common C2 Architecture**

**Army Networks Integration** 

**Information Assurance / Network Defense** 

**Concept Analysis Lab** 

Space Laboratory



## First Nanosat Relay of Voice Comm 6 November 2012



- Successful voice relay through SMDC-ONE nanosatellites
- Standard issue, <u>unmodified</u> PRC-152 handheld radio
- SNaP JCTD satellites have even higher gain



Technology adapted for the Soldier's needs

No new equipment in the field





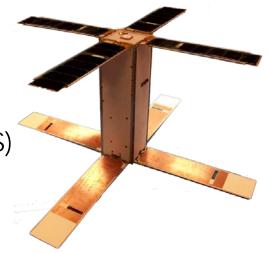


## **SNaP**

 Mission: Demonstrate orbital tactical communications for the disadvantaged warfighter while maturing small satellite capabilities and components

## Objectives

- Demonstrating beyond-line-of-sight communications
- On-orbit use of encryption
- Data exfiltration from unattended ground sensors (UGS)
- Nanosatellite propulsion



#### Results



- Comms Huntsville, AL & Mayport, FL (>540mi apart) during OpDemo ✓
- Cold gas propulsion activation ✓
- AES-256 hardware-based encryption (first on-orbit) ✓
- Analog voice, digital voice, image, and text data transmission ✓

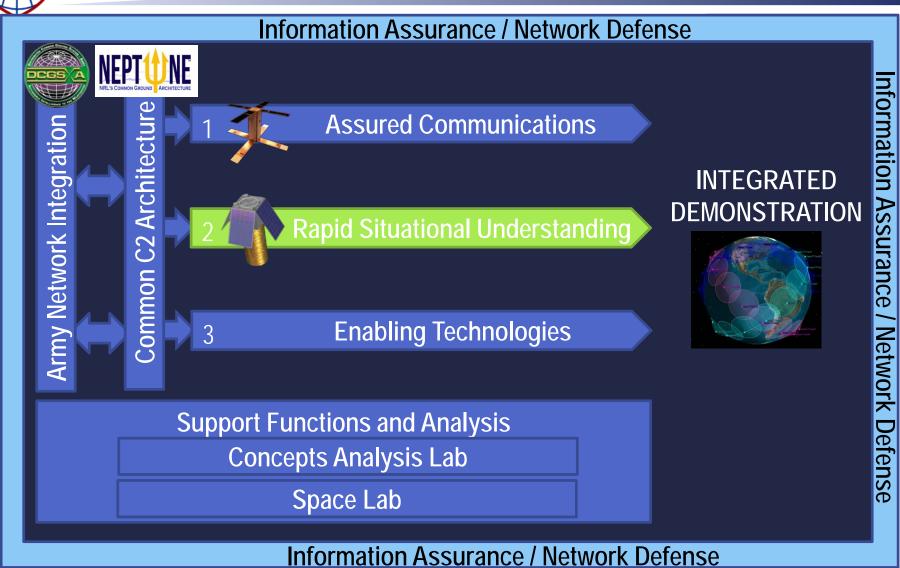


## **ARGOS**

- Unattended Ground Sensors
- Brigade Combat Team (BCT) and below operations in UHF via Army Tactical Radio Equipment
- On The Move (OTM) Ka band







## **UNCLASSIFIED** Rapid Situational Understanding

(LEO Imagery)

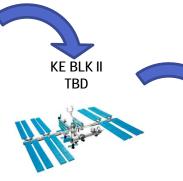




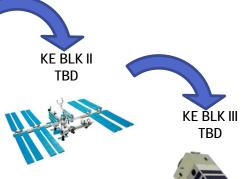
KE BLK II Launch in 2017



Electro-Optical (EO) Visible 1.5 m GSD Task from Theater



EO & Infrared (IR) **Hosted Payload on ISS** 





Low Light EO & IR Low Drag Steerable payload

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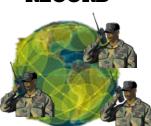


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## Kestrel Eye

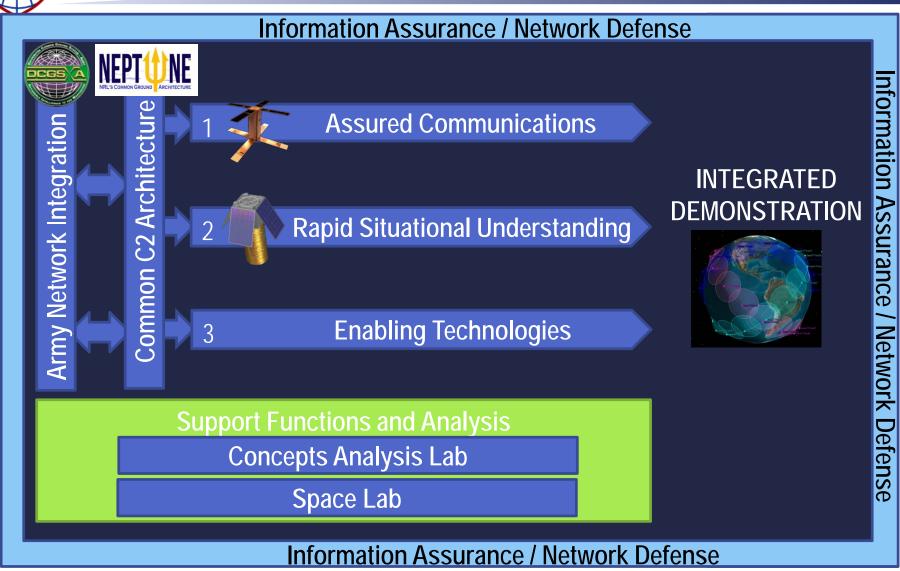
- KE2M deploy from ISS and demo in Q2FY17
  - Independent evaluation of military utility
  - Tasking uplinked and image downlinked directly to the same Warfighter
- KE2A
  - Evaluating options
- Kestrel Eye Ground Station
  - Designed for both satellites
  - SMDC CAL took software dev. Lead
  - Earned Air Space and Missile Defense
     Association Technical Achievement Award for a Government Team













## CAL/Space Lab



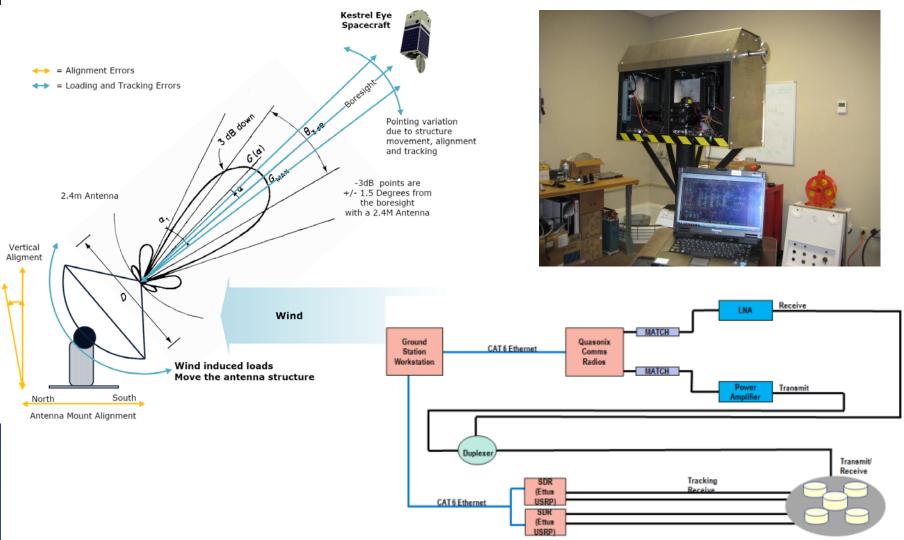


## **Coverage Analysis Satellite Control** Control Law Torque Contributions lar Radio Flux Per Unit Frequency 1960-Present Time [s] **Orbital Lifetime**

**Software Production** 

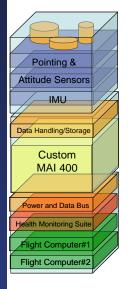


## Warfighter Assisting LEO Tracker (WALT)





# Army Cost Efficient Spaceflight Research, Experiments, & Demonstrations (ACES RED)





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Spacecraft Flight Test	Technology Objective	Status
ADACS Flyer	Test and fully evolve ADACS standard set	Design Phase
Vector Signal Generator Flyer	VSG radio test	Concept
EO/IR Flyer	Infrared and optics test	Concept
Environment / GPS Flyer	Measure drag, fields, and rad. GPS at LEO to improve TLE	Concept

ACES RED Exp 1 will fly on ISS Dec 2018



## Responsive Launch

Multi-purpose Nano-Missile System ~ 2010



- Investigation into low cost launch for small satellites
- Precursor to SWORDS

Soldier-Warfighter Operationally Responsive Deployer for Space ~ 2014



- SWORDS was a low cost launch vehicle design effort
- Conclusion development too costly for one organization
- Currently Army looking to emerging commercial solutions

Small space community needs alternative to rideshare



## **Conclusions**

- Army increasingly interested in the utility of small satellites to benefit warfighters
- Continue to leverage previous Army efforts
- Primary focus on rapid situational understanding and communications
- Army Science and Technology (S&T) funds for these efforts have been steadily increasing
- Greater recognition for the potential of small satellites
- Working to technology roadmap to address current and future Army warfighter needs

Small space has great potential to address warfighter needs



## **Questions?**

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- Mark Ray <u>mark.e.ray.civ@mail.mil</u>



## **BACKUP SLIDES**



## **Enabling Technologies**

- SWIFT™ Tactical UHF and K-Band SATCOM
  - Software-defined radio (SDR), SDR-based Processing, and antenna pointing methodologies
  - Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) subsequent (2<sup>nd</sup>) Phase II
- Redundant High Bandwidth Communications
  - High data rate in Ka band and moderately high data rate in X band
  - Three SBIR Phase I Programs
- ElectronicVeil™: Security for Mobile AdHoc Networks.
  - Efficient security for data in transit and overcomes current device-level and network security processing issues on MANETs (or fixed networks)
  - SBIR Phase II
- Reliable Expandable Satellite Testbed