

# Your Entry Point to the Maneuver Support Center

By Lieutenant Colonel (P) Charles A. Williams and Mr. J. Eric McGrath

*[TRADOC Capability Manager–Maneuver Support] TCM-MS will perform as the Army’s centralized manager for the doctrine, organization, training, materiel, leadership and education, personnel, and facilities (DOTMLPF) program management and integration of all developmental programs associated with functional and multifunctional capabilities that assure the mobility, freedom of action, and protection of Army units in full spectrum operations. TCM-MS will coordinate and synchronize the efforts of maneuver support capability developments within the Maneuver Support Center (MANSCEN). TCM-MS will also interact with other Center of Excellence TCMs and Capability Development Integration Directorate Management Cells, other Services, and the joint community to identify and solve required capability gaps.*

*TCM-MS is responsible for duties outlined in TRADOC Regulation 71-12, TRADOC System Management. Assisted by the chemical, engineer, and military police proponents, TCM-MS will ensure [that] deliverables are developed along timelines to meet capability milestones. The TCM-MS will manage the timely DOTMLPF synchronization of all MANSCEN capability developments to ensure that all aspects of doctrine, organizing, training, and leader development [are] synchronized with the issue of new equipment to the field. The TRADOC commanding general and MANSCEN commanding general will resource TCM-MS in order to meet capability objectives.*

*TCM-MS, by means of this charter, is hereby delegated the full line authority of the TRADOC commanding general for the central management of assigned responsibilities...*

—General William S. Wallace  
Commanding General, TRADOC  
1 October 2007

**T**he commanding general of MANSCEN holds the TCM-MS responsible for “being the proponent” for the maneuver enhancement brigades (MEBs), the brigade special troops battalions (BSTBs), and since January, the chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high-yield explosives (CBRNE) operational headquarters, the 20th Support Command, CBRNE. This charter fulfills his vision for MANSCEN. He reoriented a materiel systems-oriented TCM toward capabilities and organizations. In his message to the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) requesting approval of this charter, he identified integration as his greatest concern in this Center of Excellence organization.

## Missions

**W**e execute this charter in four major areas, as follows:

- Externally, the TCM operates the MANSCEN Fusion Center, as required, to coordinate installation responses to requests for assistance from deployed and deploying commanders and to assist Headquarters, Department of the Army, and the United States Army Forces Command (FORSCOM) in the reset and training readiness of their forces. The Fusion Center is part of the Maneuver Support Knowledge Network (MSKN) on Army Knowledge Online (AKO). We also attend the branch schools’ classified counterpart videoteleconferences.
- Internally to TRADOC, the TCM coordinates DOTMLPF solutions with other TRADOC centers and capability managers to ensure that maneuver support units are adequately supporting and supported.
- Internally to MANSCEN, the TCM-MS establishes synchronization procedures and synchronizes the

actions of the MANSCEN Capability Development Integration Directorate (CDID), the MANSCEN Directorate of Training (MDoT), and the MANSCEN schools to deliver maneuver support capability to commanders.

- And finally, TCM-MS coordinates international program activities conducted by CDID, MDoT, and the MANSCEN schools to ensure participation in activities and completion of tasks.

Within TRADOC, there are 30 TCMs overseeing unique capabilities represented throughout the Army. Most are responsible for materiel systems such as air sensors and unmanned air systems. Several are responsible for organizations such as heavy brigade combat teams (BCTs), infantry BCTs, and Stryker BCTs. A TCM is not a large organization. TCM-MS, like most, is staffed with seven people and led by a colonel whose title is “the TCM.”

### External Stakeholder Relationships

Like the organizationally focused TCMs, we represent our stakeholders in TRADOC studies such as the ongoing Organization-Based Assessment. We implement Warfighter Forums that will take MSKN to the next level of effectiveness. And we are the designated entry point for information and assistance from MANSCEN. Part of our mission is to coordinate with organizationally focused TCMs, which are supported by BSTBs, by MEBs, and by the functional brigades and battalions at MANSCEN (see Figure 1).

Part of our mission is to engage our stakeholders. The MEB is new and its doctrinal manual is still a field manual, interim. Its representation in division and higher doctrine is thin. Habitual associations with those organizations do not yet exist, so we make time and dedicate resources to partner and communicate with division, corps, and higher staffs about what capabilities the MEB provides.

### Internal Stakeholder Relationships

Within MANSCEN, we are part of the Program Management and Integration Directorate (PMID). Together with our two sister directorates, CDID and MDoT, we report to the MANSCEN deputy commanding general. As our name implies, our job is synchronization. While doctrine and collective training are consolidated under MDoT, individual training execution is still under the three schools and the MANSCEN Noncommissioned Officer Academy. Thus the development of training takes place in five organizations: individual training in the three schools, collective and leader training in MDoT, and training for new equipment in CDID. Together with joint and inter-Service training, there are many moving parts that require a management structure to oversee and synchronize (see Figure 2).

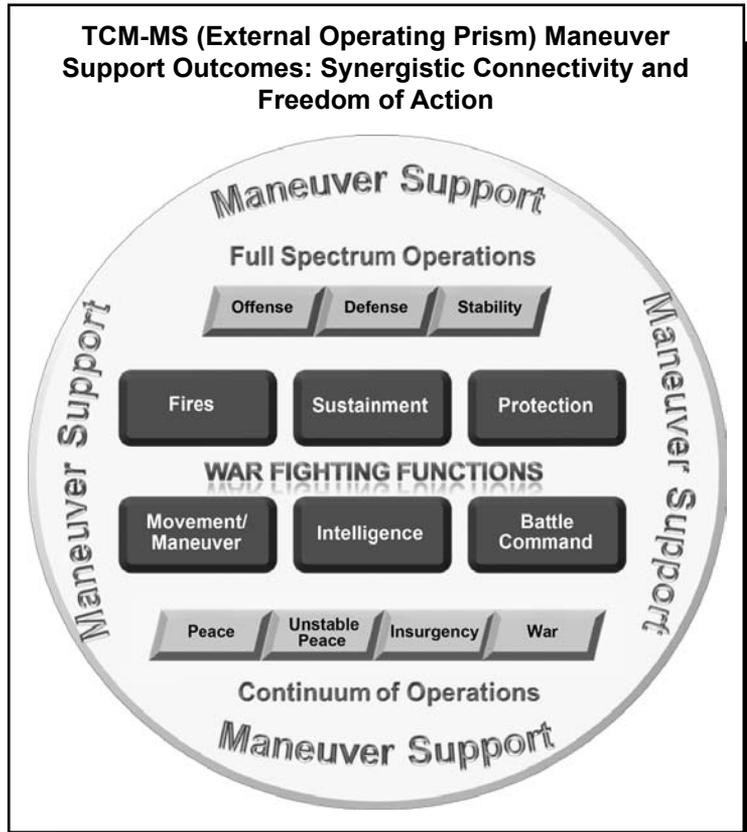


Figure 1. The External Family of Stakeholders

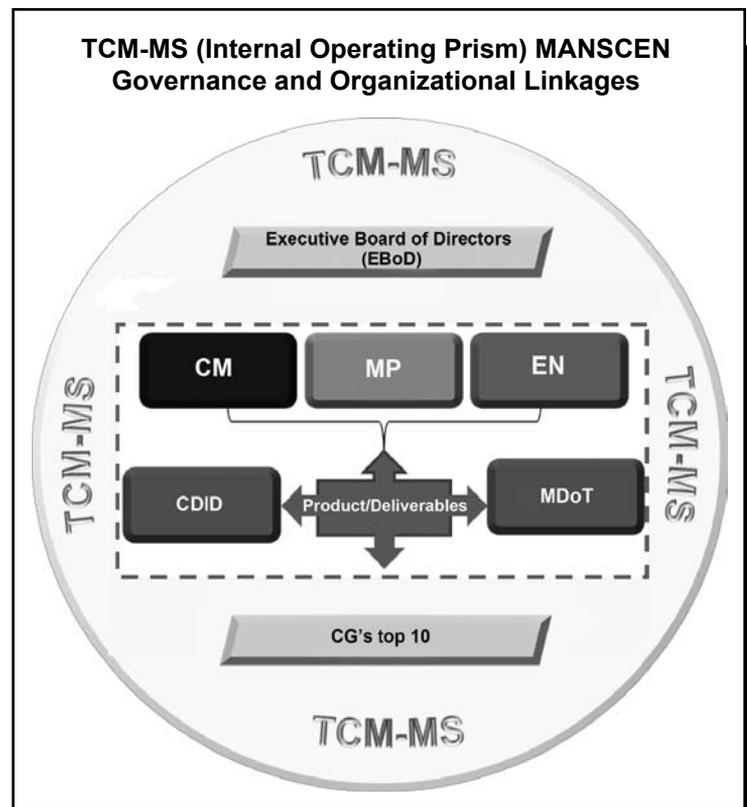
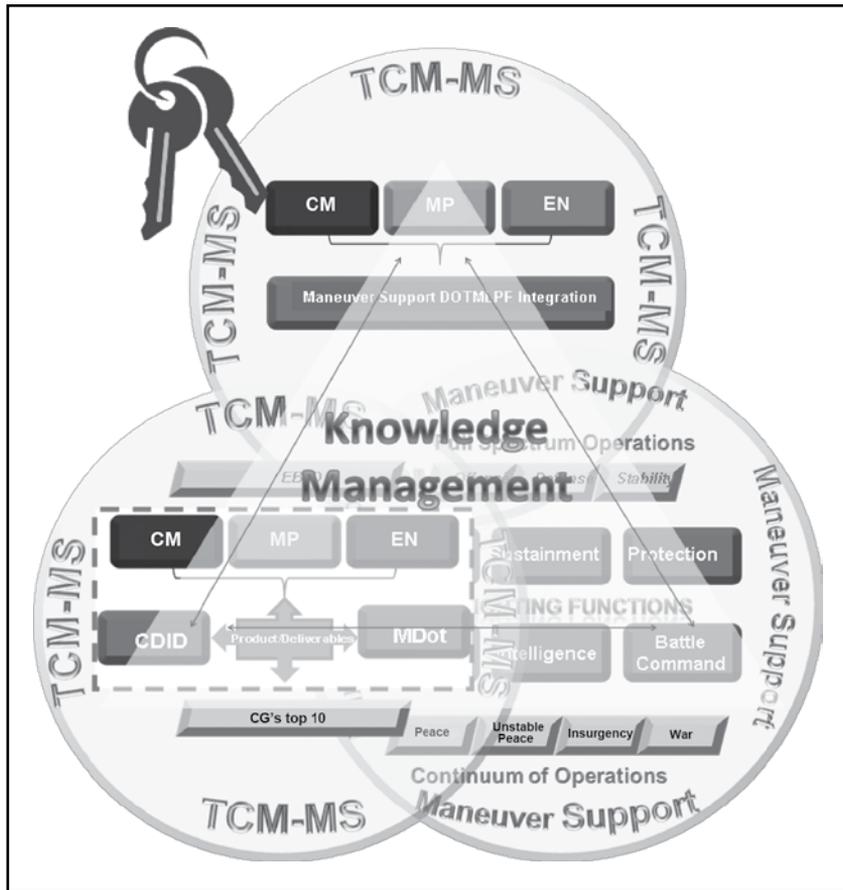


Figure 2. The Internal Family of Stakeholders



**Figure 3. The Fusion of the Greater Family of Maneuver Support Stakeholders**

### Fusion of Maneuver Support Stakeholders

**W**e coordinate across MANSCEN to assist maneuver support units (see Figure 3). Over the next five years, the Army will organize and activate 23 MEBs, the vast majority of them in the National Guard. Most of these new MEBs are converting from functions other than chemical, engineer, or military police, so gaining staff expertise is a challenge. Since we are not resourced for mobile training teams to teach the staffs, TCM-MS hosts coordination meetings that accomplish these functions and prioritize our efforts.

In addition to these missions, we also execute focal projects as directed by the commanding general or deputy commanding generals. Recent examples include DOTMLPF analysis for police intelligence operations and tactical

wheeled vehicle fire prevention and suppression. In these cases, our role as the integrator is to organize the experts—many of them in the field—to get the best answer to resolve issues and fix problems.

### Summary

**W**e at TCM-MS are the designated entry point into MANSCEN for BSTB, MEB, and CBRNE operational headquarters issues. We take telephone calls, e-mails, and MSKN messages and make sure they're delivered to the right subject matter expert and ensure that a response goes out in a timely manner. For assistance with anything concerning maneuver support, contact us. It is our mission to find the best possible answer and solution.

*Lieutenant Colonel (P) Williams assumed duties as the TRADOC Capability Manager-Maneuver Support in September 2007. His most recent assignments include Deputy Brigade Commander, 16th Military Police Brigade (Airborne), Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and Baghdad, Iraq; Commander, 342d Military Police Battalion; Director of Emergency Services and Chief, Command and Tactics Division, United States Army Military Police School, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He has a master's in counseling and leader development*

*from Long Island University, is a graduate of Command and General Staff College, and is a Senior Service College selectee. He was selected for brigade command in 2007.*

*Mr. McGrath entered federal service as a second lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers in 1974. He left active duty in August 1981 and entered civil service as part of the Directorate of Combat Developments, United States Army Engineer School. Since 1998, he has been the Deputy TRADOC Capability Manager at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Mr. McGrath also served in the United States Army Reserve and the Army National Guard as a primary and special staff officer at all echelons through corps. He is a graduate of the Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Combined Arms and Services Staff School, the Command and General Staff College, and the Army Systems Management College.*

***“Together with joint and inter-Service training, there are many moving parts that require a management structure to oversee and synchronize.”***