



**PEO-TIS Warfighter Radio Industry Day Event
Q&A Telecon Transcript
08 July 2026**

1. Will PEO-TIS consider teaming models where one vendor provides the device while others provide waveform networking, encryption, integration, or transition support?

Yes. The Government will consider teaming arrangements. Industry is encouraged to provide modular, open architecture solutions that allow third-party waveforms, encryption, and other capabilities to be integrated without requiring reliance on the original equipment manufacturer (OEM). Greater modularity and openness are viewed favorably.

2. What capability gaps is PEO-TIS targeting for the Key Leader Radio (KLR), Intra-Team Radio (ITR), and Tactical Networking Device (TND)?

The Government identified waveform flexibility, resilience in degraded environments, encryption, interoperability, and other performance requirements as important. Rather than prioritizing one capability over another, vendors should strive to meet all requirements outlined in the Request for Information (RFI).

3. Please provide additional clarification on the mounted "jerk-and-run" requirement for the Tactical Networking Device.

The intent is for the radio to remain fully operational while mounted in a vehicle and to be removable immediately without interrupting communications or degrading performance. The objective is to transition seamlessly from mounted to dismounted operations.

4. How should industry demonstrate open architecture and third-party waveform portability without OEM involvement?

The Government is seeking platforms that provide a Software Development Kit (SDK) or similar capability that enables Government laboratories or authorized third parties to develop and integrate waveforms independently. Live demonstrations are not required during Industry Day, but vendors should explain how this capability is supported.

5. Will vendors be expected to demonstrate electronic warfare (EW) resilience features during Industry Day?

No. Industry Day is intended to showcase currently available capabilities. Demonstrations of performance, including EW resilience features, will occur during a later assessment event for selected participants.





6. How will planning, configuration management, key management, and network operations be handled across mixed OEM fleets?

The Government expects configuration management and key management across all platforms to remain important requirements. The specific implementation will depend on the outcome of Industry Day, subsequent assessment events, and future acquisition decisions. Vendors are encouraged to highlight available APIs or interfaces that enable third-party management rather than requiring proprietary OEM tools.

7. Will SOCOM provide a repository of required waveforms for the KLR and ITR?

Not during Industry Day. Vendors should present existing waveform capabilities and demonstrate compliance with the RFI requirements. As the effort matures, the Government will identify the specific waveforms required for individual mission sets.

8. Is there interest in third-party software applications that leverage the Tactical Networking Device's open architecture to provide edge intelligence capabilities?

For this effort, the Government is focused on evaluating hardware platforms, specifically the Key Leader Radio, Intra-Team Radio, and Tactical Networking Device. While future opportunities may exist for software applications, Industry Day is intended to evaluate hardware solutions rather than standalone software capabilities.

9. Will the Program Office evaluate Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 7 solutions that currently meet FIPS 140-3 Level 2 but include a roadmap to achieve Level 3 compliance?

Yes. Vendors with existing solutions and a credible roadmap to achieve FIPS 140-3 Level 3 compliance are encouraged to present their capabilities.

10. What is the anticipated release schedule for the Request for Proposal (RFP)?

Following Industry Day, the Government will review the information received and conduct a down-select for an assessment event planned later this calendar year. The timing of the RFP will be informed by those activities.

11. Is video encoding, decoding, or transcoding desired as an embedded capability within the Tactical Networking Device?

The Government is interested in understanding the capabilities currently available within industry. Both embedded and external approaches may provide value depending on implementation. Vendors should present their current capabilities and associated development roadmaps.





12. Is 30–225 MHz still the desired frequency range?

For the Key Leader Radio, 30–225 MHz remains a desired operating range. Requirements for other platforms will depend on their intended mission and application.

13. Should Tactical Networking Devices interoperate with other networking devices with or without additional hardware?

The Government has not established a mandatory approach. Vendors should clearly identify whether additional hardware is required and explain how interoperability is achieved so that alternative approaches can be evaluated during market research.

14. For waveform portability, is legacy Software Communications Architecture (SCA) compliance required, or is a Modular Open Systems Approach (MOSA) preferred?

Legacy SCA compliance is not required. The Government's priority is a Modular Open Systems Approach that enables independent integration and future expansion while allowing vendors to present alternative architectures for consideration.

15. How is "true" open architecture defined?

The Government's objective is to enable Government organizations or authorized third parties to integrate new waveforms directly onto radio hardware without requiring OEM involvement. Solutions that provide this level of independence best satisfy the intent of the open architecture requirement.

16. Are legacy waveforms currently fielded by USSOCOM required to be supported on the Intra-Team Radio (ITR) and Key Leader Radio (KLR)?

No. While certain legacy waveforms may remain necessary, the Government does not expect every legacy waveform currently in use to be supported. Waveform requirements will be determined on a case-by-case basis as the effort matures.

17. Is vendor-agnostic management software for planning, key loading, configuration management, and fleet health monitoring of interest?

Yes. Vendors are encouraged to present management software that complements their hardware platforms. Solutions that support mixed OEM environments and reduce reliance on proprietary management tools are of interest and will be evaluated alongside the proposed hardware.





18. Will there be follow-on testing of electronic warfare (EW) resilient waveforms, including Anti-Jam (AJ), Low Probability of Detection (LPD), and Low Probability of Intercept (LPI) capabilities?

Yes. Following Industry Day, selected vendors may participate in an assessment event and subsequent development effort. During those phases, the Government will establish quantitative objectives and conduct developmental and operational testing of EW resilience capabilities.

19. How should the Key Leader Radio, Intra-Team Radio, and Tactical Networking Device interoperate with future tactical edge networks, including private 5G and emerging 6G technologies?

Interoperability remains an important objective. Vendors should describe their current capabilities as well as near-term development roadmaps that support integration with future tactical networking technologies. The information gathered during Industry Day will help inform future acquisition requirements.

20. What level of maturity or operational evidence is expected for follow-on assessment or prototype consideration?

Industry Day is intended to assess the current state of available technology. Vendors are encouraged to provide demonstrations, physical prototypes, performance data, technology readiness information, and realistic development roadmaps where available. Formal demonstrations of capability will occur during subsequent assessment events.

21. Is Position Location Information (PLI) segregation preferred at the application level or at the hardware and networking level?

The Government has not established a preferred implementation approach. Vendors should describe how their solutions segregate Position Location Information and identify any additional Quality of Service or data management capabilities that improve network performance.

22. What criteria will be used to evaluate Low Probability of Detection (LPD) capability?

Specific evaluation metrics have not yet been established. Detailed performance criteria will be developed for future assessment events and are not being released during this market research effort.



23. Is the Government seeking hardware solutions exclusively, or are software enhancements also of interest?

The primary focus of this Industry Day is hardware. Vendors should prioritize presentations addressing the Key Leader Radio, Intra-Team Radio, and Tactical Networking Device. Software enhancements may be included when they directly support the proposed hardware solution.

24. Is the Government interested in tamper prevention or tamper detection capabilities?

Yes. Physical tamper resistance is consistent with the Government's objective of achieving FIPS 140-3 Level 3 compliance and should be incorporated where appropriate.

25. Can the Government provide altitude and environmental operating conditions for transport relay or non-LEO applications, such as high-altitude balloons?

The Government is currently conducting market research and has not finalized environmental performance requirements. Vendors should present the capabilities currently available in their products, including environmental ratings and associated trade-offs.

26. What spectrum coverage is desired for cognitive networking solutions using interchangeable hardware modules?

The Government seeks the broadest practical spectrum coverage while recognizing that different hardware modules may be required to satisfy all mission requirements. Vendors should present existing capabilities and explain any modular approaches that extend usable spectrum.

27. Is this opportunity open to accessory vendors, such as antenna manufacturers?

The primary focus of Industry Day is complete hardware platforms for the Key Leader Radio, Intra-Team Radio, and Tactical Networking Device. Vendors offering accessories are encouraged to partner with platform manufacturers rather than present standalone accessory solutions.

28. Where is the Request for Information (RFI) posted?

The RFI has been posted through SOFWERX. Future assessment events and associated announcements will also be published through SOFWERX.

29. Is the Key Leader Radio intended to be two separate Intra-Team Radios or a dual-channel radio providing equivalent capability?

The Government intends the Key Leader Radio to provide equivalent capability to the Intra-Team Radio while incorporating two integrated communication channels within a single device rather than functioning as two separate radios.



30. Please clarify the requirement that radios be "instantly" removable from a vehicular mount without breaking the connection.

The Government's intent is that the radio can be removed quickly from its mounted configuration without tools and without interrupting communications. No specific time requirement has been established; the emphasis is on seamless operational transition from mounted to dismounted use.

31. Are TRL 5–6 interference-avoidance communications solutions from academia appropriate for demonstration during Industry Day?

The Government's priority for this effort is hardware platforms. Vendors are encouraged to present interference-avoidance capabilities only when they are integrated into, or directly support, a proposed Key Leader Radio, Intra-Team Radio, or Tactical Networking Device solution.

32. Has the Government defined an open architecture standard that vendors must follow?

No. The Government has not established a mandatory open architecture standard for this effort. Vendors should provide interfaces that are openly documented and publishable, enabling third parties to develop and integrate capabilities without requiring OEM involvement. A future selected solution could ultimately establish such an interface standard.

33. Is the Government evaluating complete radio networking products only, or are standalone sensing and spectrum-awareness technologies also of interest?

The focus of this Industry Day is complete hardware platforms for the Key Leader Radio, Intra-Team Radio, and Tactical Networking Device. Standalone sensing or spectrum-awareness technologies that are not integrated into one of these hardware platforms are outside the primary scope of this effort.

34. Is there interest in communications-awareness hardware that monitors link availability, interference, or jamming while operating with separate radio systems?

Yes, provided those capabilities are incorporated into or accompany a proposed radio platform. Vendors should present these capabilities as part of an overall hardware solution rather than as standalone products.

35. Can add-on modules using an open interface satisfy the open architecture requirement?

Potentially. The Government is open to modular add-on solutions provided the interfaces are fully documented, openly available, and permit third-party development without requiring OEM support. Such modules must also integrate effectively with the radio's user interface and supporting hardware.





36. Must additional waveforms operate natively on the radio, or are bridging and networking solutions acceptable?

Native waveform support is preferred. However, the Government is willing to consider bridging solutions where appropriate, recognizing that different approaches may provide acceptable operational capability depending on the application.

37. Is the Government interested in learning about the latest FPGA, System-on-Chip (SoC), and radio transceiver technologies?

The Government is interested in understanding the state of available technology; however, it does not intend to specify individual component families. Responsibility for selecting and integrating appropriate components remains with the radio manufacturer.

38. Is a requirements document available for the Tactical Networking Device?

No. Formal requirements have not yet been finalized. The information collected during Industry Day will help shape future requirements and acquisition documentation.

39. Given the projected production quantity, does the Program Office intend to transition successful prototypes into multi-year production?

Yes. The Government anticipates transitioning successful prototype efforts into production following the assessment and development phases.

40. Will operational users participate in the evaluation process for Industry Day selections?

Yes. Operational users will participate in the evaluation process, and selections will not be based solely on Program Office personnel.

41. How will vendors be evaluated for Low Probability of Detection (LPD), Low Probability of Intercept (LPI), and related electronic warfare capabilities?

Evaluation methods will be established during subsequent development and assessment activities. Specific performance criteria are not being released during this market research effort.

42. Are low-SWaP laser communications technologies of interest?

Yes, provided those capabilities are integrated into or directly support one of the requested radio platforms. Vendors should include these capabilities as part of their overall hardware presentation.



43. Will the Government modify the future Request for Proposal based on Industry Day feedback?

Yes. One of the primary objectives of Industry Day is to improve the Government's understanding of current industry capabilities so that future acquisition requirements accurately reflect available technology and achievable performance.

44. Would the Government be interested in modular, radio-agnostic power distribution accessories that support jerk-and-run operations?

Accessory solutions are of interest when presented as part of a complete hardware offering. Vendors that provide only ancillary equipment are encouraged to partner with manufacturers proposing Key Leader Radios, Intra-Team Radios, or Tactical Networking Devices.

45. Will operational users participate in evaluating capabilities during future development efforts?

Yes. Operational users are expected to play a significant role in evaluating capabilities throughout the follow-on development process.

46. How does the recent SOCOM Low-Cost Data Radio effort differ from the Tactical Networking Device (TND) effort?

The two efforts address different mission requirements, capabilities, and performance specifications. They are managed by separate program offices and should be considered independent acquisition efforts.

47. Is the anticipated Request for Proposal (RFP) release expected in 2027?

The Government is focused on conducting an assessment event later this calendar year, followed by a development effort. The release schedule for a future production solicitation will depend on the outcome of those activities.

48. Is there interest in handheld free-space optical communications for line-of-sight voice and data applications?

Yes, provided the capability is incorporated into a proposed Key Leader Radio, Intra-Team Radio, or Tactical Networking Device. Vendors without a qualifying hardware platform are encouraged to partner with a hardware provider.



49. Will vendors be expected to provide demonstration assets for the assessment event, or will the Government supply radios?

Vendors will be expected to provide demonstration assets. The assessment event will be used to evaluate the maturity and capability of proposed solutions and inform selection for follow-on development efforts.

50. Is the desired end state for cognitive networking simply maintaining communications in contested environments?

Yes. The Government's primary objective is to ensure continuous communications despite contested or degraded operating environments. The specific technical approach used to achieve that objective is left to industry.

51. May organizations attend Industry Day without presenting in order to learn about emerging technologies and potential partnerships?

Yes. Non-presenting attendance may be approved. Interested organizations should coordinate attendance requests through SOFWERX for Government review and approval.

52. Since open architecture may increase cost, maintenance, and Size, Weight, Power, and Cooling (SWaP-C), what is the Government's priority?

The Government's priority remains open architecture. Vendors are encouraged to discuss associated trade-offs, implementation approaches, lifecycle impacts, and cost considerations during their presentations.

53. Will future evaluations be based on threshold and objective requirements or broader capability assessments?

Thresholds and objectives will be established during the development phase. Industry Day is intended solely to understand the current state of available technologies and their maturity.

54. Are there SWaP-C concerns associated with a Commercial Solutions Opening (CSO) architecture, and is the jerk-and-run capability still required?

The Government recognizes that SWaP-C trade-offs exist and encourages vendors to present their current capabilities, associated limitations, and estimated development required to achieve desired performance. The jerk-and-run concept remains an operational objective.





55. Can the Government provide additional information regarding the acquisition strategy? Will this effort use a CSO, OTA, or traditional FAR-based contract?

The anticipated strategy consists of Industry Day, followed by an assessment event and a prototype development effort conducted through SOFWERX. Successful prototype efforts are expected to transition into a FAR-based production contract.

56. Will vendors have the opportunity to conduct one-on-one discussions with the Government during Industry Day?

Yes. Industry Day presentations are expected to be conducted individually rather than in a shared session with competing vendors. Vendors with additional proprietary information may also provide supplemental material directly to the Government following their presentation.

57. Does the high-altitude use case imply a minimum range requirement?

No minimum performance requirement has been established at this stage. Vendors should present the capabilities currently available within their solutions, and the Government will use that information to help define future requirements.

58. When will developmental testing occur, and how many test events are anticipated?

Testing schedules and the number of events will be determined following the assessment event as part of the subsequent development effort.

59. What does the "jerk-and-run" requirement mean operationally?

The Government defines jerk-and-run as the ability to remove an operational radio from a mounted vehicle configuration without disconnecting cables, changing batteries, or otherwise interrupting communications. The objective is a seamless transition from mounted to dismounted operation.

60. When is the assessment event expected to occur?

The Government is targeting the assessment event for later this calendar year.

61. Are commercially available software-defined radios with open software architectures acceptable?

Yes. Commercially available software-defined radios may be acceptable provided they are delivered as complete, user-friendly products. The Government does not intend for operators to rely on command-line interfaces, scripting, or other development tools during normal operation.





62. Is anti-jam capability for the Tactical Networking Device expected to rely solely on waveform attributes, or can network-level rerouting satisfy the requirement?

Network-level rerouting alone is not sufficient. The Government expects anti-jam capabilities to be incorporated into the waveform itself. Additional networking capabilities that improve resiliency are encouraged as complementary features.

63. Should unattended operations include sleep modes or extended battery operation?

Vendors should present their current unattended operating capabilities, including battery endurance, sleep modes, and other power management features. The Government will evaluate available approaches during market research.

64. Is the Government interested in software waveforms operating on existing commercial hardware?

Yes. Vendors may present existing hardware that can satisfy Government objectives through software enhancements or modifications. Partnering arrangements that combine hardware and software capabilities are also encouraged.

65. Is active sensing or passive sensing preferred for cognitive networking?

Active sensing is considered the preferred end state. However, the Government recognizes benefits associated with both active and passive sensing approaches and encourages vendors to present their current capabilities.

66. Will Industry Day presentations be conducted privately?

Yes. Approved vendors will receive individual presentation time slots. Presentations are expected to be conducted one-on-one with the Government rather than in front of competing vendors.

67. Should the Key Leader Radio support dual channels operating in different frequency bands?

The Government's preference is for both channels to provide capabilities comparable to the Intra-Team Radio. Vendors should present their current designs, recognizing that different frequency band implementations may be acceptable depending on performance and technical trade-offs.



68. For cognitive networking, is resilience the primary objective regardless of the mitigation technique employed?

Yes. The Government's primary concern is maintaining resilient communications in contested environments. Vendors are free to employ frequency changes, power management, or other technical approaches that achieve the desired operational outcome.

69. Where will user evaluations be conducted?

User evaluation locations, participating units, and operational activities will be determined following the assessment event during the subsequent development effort.

70. Are low-altitude HF CubeSat solutions within scope?

Only if they directly support the Key Leader Radio, Intra-Team Radio, or Tactical Networking Device requirements. Solutions outside those hardware categories are not currently within the scope of this effort.

71. Will 4G and 5G-based platforms be considered?

Yes. Platforms incorporating 4G or 5G technologies will be considered if they satisfy the requirements outlined in the Request for Information and support the broader waveform and mission requirements identified by the Government.

72. Will there be a down-select before user evaluations, and who will fund capability maturation?

Yes. User evaluations will occur during a Government-funded development effort following the assessment event. Selected vendors will receive funding to mature their capabilities during that phase.

73. How important is data throughput?

Data throughput is an important consideration; however, the Government has not established a specific threshold during Industry Day. Vendors should present current performance and achievable growth potential for evaluation.

74. Are there specific modular hardware designs the Government prefers?

The Government's primary objective is modular hardware supporting the Key Leader Radio, Intra-Team Radio, and Tactical Networking Device. Vendors should demonstrate how their designs support modularity, openness, and future growth.





75. Must the team network maintain full shared state if the Key Leader Radio disconnects, or is graceful degradation acceptable?

The Government would generally prefer uninterrupted network performance but remains interested in evaluating alternative architectures. Vendors should explain their approach and any operational trade-offs associated with graceful degradation.

76. For FIPS 140-3 Level 3 compliance, are all protection profile requirements equally important?

The Government continues to prioritize FIPS 140-3 Level 3 compliance and encourages vendors to present either compliant products or credible development roadmaps toward certification.

77. How many assets should vendors bring to the assessment event?

The number of demonstration assets is left to the vendor's discretion. Vendors should provide sufficient equipment to effectively demonstrate their proposed solution during the assessment.

78. Are vendors disadvantaged if they propose only one of the three requested radio platforms?

No. Vendors are not required to offer all three platforms. Each solution will be evaluated independently on its own technical merit.

79. Is the Tactical Networking Device intended only for dismounted personnel, or should it also support unmanned systems?

The primary focus is dismounted operations. However, the Government is also interested in solutions that can be adapted for vehicles, maritime platforms, aircraft, and unmanned systems, recognizing that those applications may introduce additional form factor requirements.

80. Is the solution expected to function as an inline encryptor?

No. Inline encryption functionality is not an objective of this effort.

81. For the Intra-Team Radio, what is the Government's intent regarding data communications?

Voice communications remain the primary focus for the Intra-Team Radio. Data communications are desired, but the Tactical Networking Device is expected to provide the primary high-capacity data transport capability.





82. Can the page limit for the RFI responses be increased? (So we can properly communicate responses to all of the requirements in the RFI)?

No

