**Why Multi-Domain Battle?**

The emerging operational environment indicates future operations will be significantly different than those of the recent past. US forces will likely confront sensor-rich militaries of peer states and proxies employing precision-guided munitions on highly lethal battlefields that can restrict Joint Force freedom of maneuver and action. Adversaries will counter US strengths such as air and maritime superiority, degrade key capabilities by limiting access to space, cyberspace, and the electromagnetic spectrum (EMS), and exploit perceived US weaknesses. Advanced adversaries studied the manner in which the US coordinates technical reconnaissance, satellite-based communications, and air and maritime power to enable ground freedom of maneuver and achieve overmatch over enemies. The subsequent capabilities developed threaten Joint Force interdependence which turns long-assumed strengths into potential weaknesses. As a result, the Joint Force can no longer assume continuous superiority in any domain.

**Anti-Access/Area Denial**

*Multi-Domain Battle: Combined Arms for the 21st Century* calls for ready ground combat forces capable of outmaneuvering adversaries physically and cognitively through extension of combined arms across all domains. Through credible forward presence and resilient battle formations, future ground forces integrate and synchronize joint, inter-organizational, and multinational capabilities to create temporary windows of superiority across multiple domains and throughout the depth of the battlefield to seize, retain, and exploit the initiative and achieve military objectives. When overmatch is not possible, US Forces will create and exploit temporary windows of advantage. In general application, operational and tactical level commanders will use cross-domain fires, combined arms maneuver, and information warfare to enable the opening of successive and/or simultaneous windows in depth to allow maneuver to positions of relative advantage. As adversaries contest joint forces in one area, forces will either fight through, endure enemy actions, or bypass these effects by rapidly moving to another area where a temporary window of advantage has been created.

*"The U.S. military along with allies and partners will project power across multiple domains to decisively defeat the adversary by compelling it to cease hostilities or render its military incapable of further aggression."* -2015 US National Military Strategy
Multi-Domain Battle is not unprecedented, rather it is about using capabilities in more innovative ways to overcome new challenges. Multi-Domain Battle allows US forces to outmaneuver adversaries physically and cognitively, applying combined arms in and across all domains. It provides a flexible means to present multiple dilemmas to an enemy and create temporary windows of localized control to seize, retain and exploit the initiative. Employing Multi-Domain Battle, Army and Marine forces with cross-domain capabilities provide a credible capability to deter adversary aggression, deny enemy freedom of action, overcome enemy anti-access and area denial (A2AD), secure terrain, compel outcomes, and consolidate gains for sustainable outcomes.

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