



# Acquisition Directorate



# Interagency Operations Centers/Command 21

April 2009



The USCG Acquisition Directorate is committed to delivering and supporting state-of-the-market platforms and systems that are affordable, efficient and mission-capable.

### Project Description:

The Coast Guard is transforming Sector Command Centers into Interagency Operations Centers (IOC) to meet the requirements of federal, state and local partner agencies at ports around the nation. By improving facilities, information management tools, sensor capabilities and information sharing with partner agencies, the IOC/Command 21 program will help meet the enhanced port security requirements of the Security and Accountability for Every (SAFE) Port Act of 2006.

### Mission Capability:

WatchKeeper is the information management tool

that IOC/Command 21 will use to collect, interpret, organize, share and apply knowledge that will help watch standers make informed command and control decisions. For example, WatchKeeper will use the Coast Guard's Rescue 21 data to provide location information necessary to begin a search and rescue case. WatchKeeper will also use geospatial and other identification information from the Nationwide Automatic Identification System to designate incoming vessels as cleared or not cleared to enter U.S. ports.

IOC/Command 21 will allow all of a port's safety, security and emergency response partner agencies to combine their sensor networks and better align various maritime security programs. Using WatchKeeper

Mission execution begins *here.*

software, IOC participants will share a common operating picture that will help them better visualize, share and act on relevant information. WatchKeeper will also monitor vessel behavior to ensure compliance and detect behavioral anomalies while vessels are still far enough away from critical infrastructure to give decision-makers time to respond.

As Coast Guard Command Sectors evolve toward IOCs, the project will help automate and increase the use of Maritime Domain Awareness, which is defined as the effective understanding of all activity, threats and hazards associated with the maritime domain that could impact the security, safety, economy, or environment of the United States.

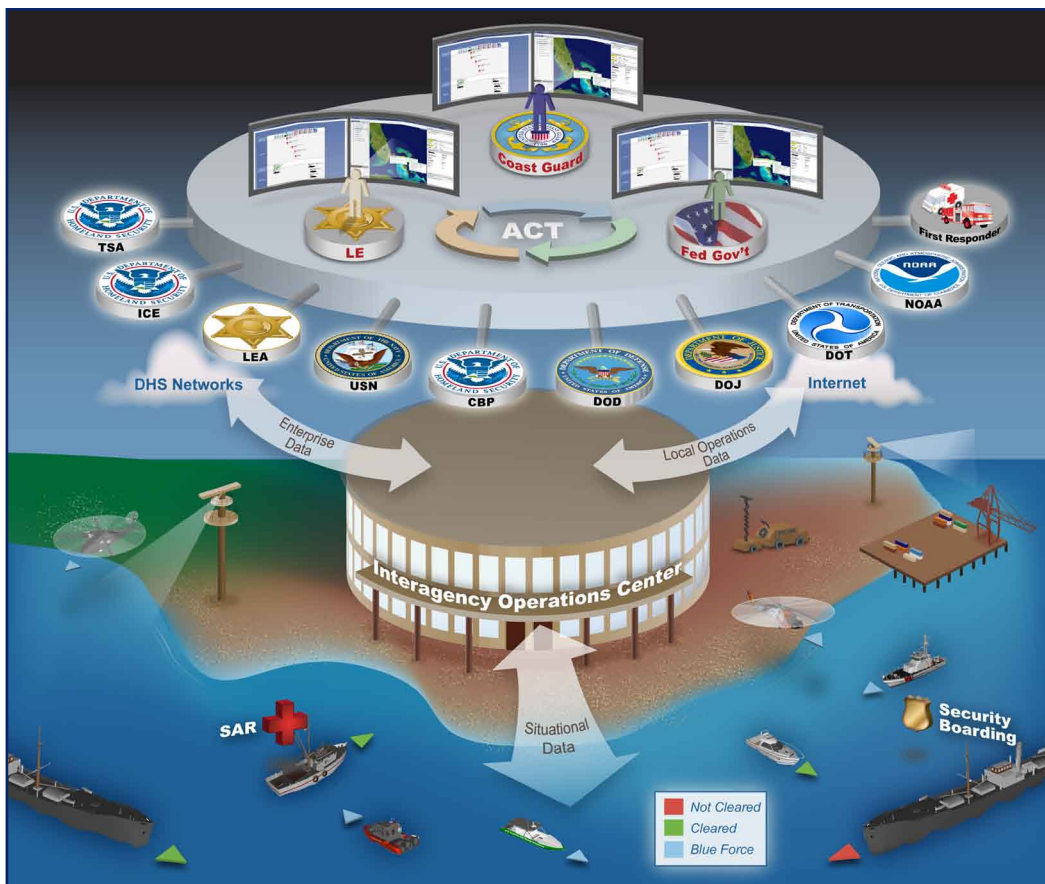
The IOC/Command 21 project will either build new facilities or upgrade current sites to ensure sufficient work space to support surge operations staff. At full

implementation, each IOC/Command 21 watch floor will be tailored to meet the individual needs of each port. While each IOC will differ, partners who could populate IOCs include representatives from federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, port authorities, the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense.

The IOC/Command 21 project will use an incremental acquisition strategy to provide upgraded facilities, field the information systems and acquire the networks needed to conduct successful interagency operations.

**Status:**

The first IOC/Command 21 increment will establish a functional pre-production facility configured for additional field testing. IOC/Command 21 will achieve initial operational capability by the summer of 2010 and full operational capability within seven years.



*IOC/Command 21 will improve tactical decision-making, situational awareness and joint planning in a coordinated interagency environment.*

The Coast Guard's Acquisition Directorate is responsible for a \$27 billion investment portfolio that includes more than 20 major projects. The Coast Guard's investment in modernization and recapitalization ensures that the operational force has the equipment necessary to remain the lead agency in maritime safety, security and natural resources stewardship.