COMBINED FEDERATED BATTLE LABORATORIES NETWORK
CFBLNet

Basic Guide to CFBLNet Initiatives Process

Version 2.00
October 2009

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CFBLNET OVERVIEW 2

Checklist 3
Description 3
Backbone Infrastructure (BLACKBONE) 5
BLUE Enclave 5
CFBLNet Unclassified Enclave (CUE) 5
Temporary Enclaves 5
Initiative Lead 6
Security 6
What is available to me? 6

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED (CIIP APPLICATION)? 7

CIIP Instructions 7
Step 1 7
Step 2 7
Step 3 7
Step 4 7
Step 5 7

INITIATIVE STAFFING PROCESS 8

Create Phase 8
Approval and Accredit Phase 9
Execute Phase 10
Final Report Phase 10

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - FAQ 11

CFBLNET OVERVIEW

The Combined Federated Battle Laboratories (CFBLNet) uses a distributed Wide Area Network (WAN) as the vehicle to conduct Initiatives. The network consists of a distributed and integrated architecture of CFBLNet Mission Partner sites as required to conduct CFBLNet Initiatives.

The vision of the CFBLNet is to provide the infrastructure of choice for research, development, trials, and assessment (RDT&A) that enable CFBLNet Mission Partners to field comprehensive operational Command, Control, Communication, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) capabilities.

The Principal Participants of the Charter are the USA, the Combined Communications-Electronics Board (CCEB), and NATO. Any entity engaged in, or supported by, RDT&A for Command, Control, Communication, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) capability development across the spectrum of operations is a potential CFBLNet Mission Partner. The nations and organisations of the Principal Participants are Core CFBLNet Mission Partners. Entities which are not Core CFBLNet Mission Partners (CMP) may become Guest CFBLNet Mission Partners (GMP), subject to the approval of the Principal Participants. Only CFBLNet Mission Partners (Guest or Core) can be Initiative Participants (i.e. can engage in an activity utilizing the CFBLNet).

For those wishing more information, a full description of the CFLNet and its Mission Partner Charter can be found within the CFBLNet Publications and the relevant CFBLNet website (cfblnet.info)

The CFBLNet consists of a distributed and integrated network architecture of Combined, Joint, and Service infrastructure components (networks, database servers, application servers, client workstations, etc.). These are located within the confines of the various CFBLNet Points of Presence (POPs), Battle Laboratories and Experimentation Sites of the CMPs and GMPs, which provide the applications, analytic tools, and communications necessary to conduct Initiatives. The USA Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA), centrally coordinates network and scheduling management in harmony with the CFBLNet Lead from the Initiative Leads (user or customer) plans.

Checklist

The checklist shows to the customer/user, the activities that are necessary to gain approval for the conduct of an Initiative over the CFBLNet. Further guidance is articulated within this document, detailed processes are contained within CFBLNet Publication 1 Annexes.

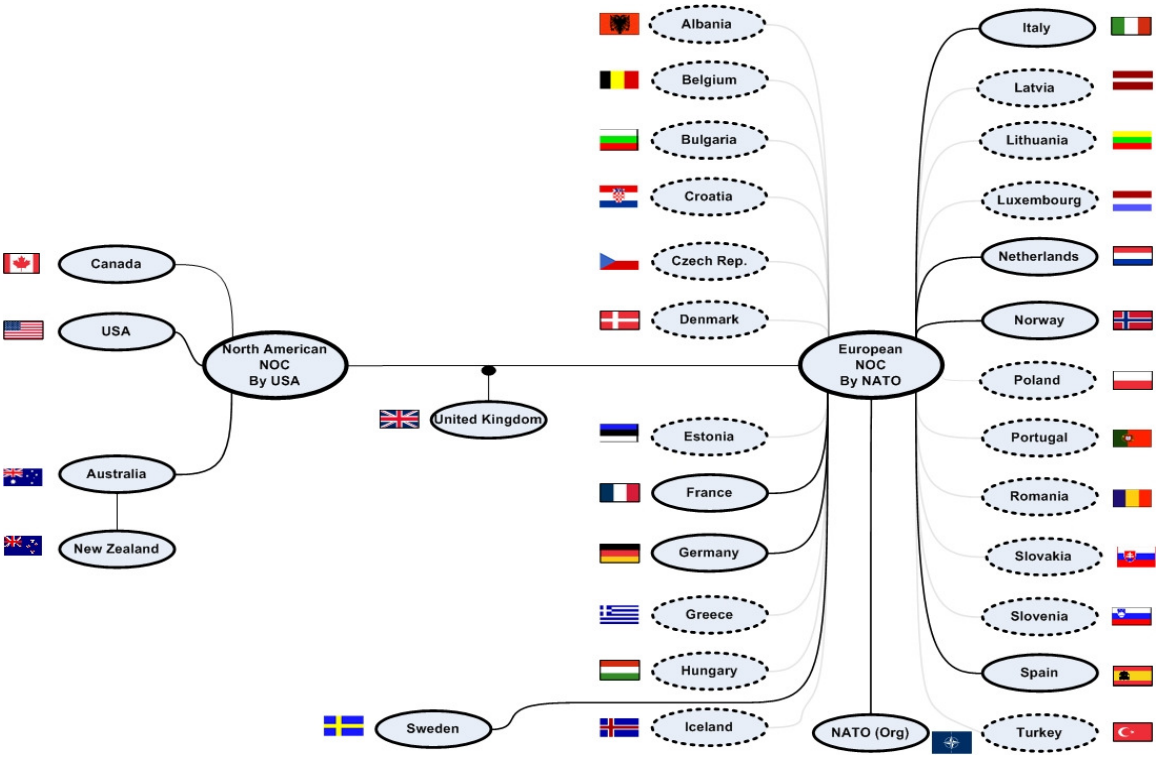
☐	Establish the lead CMP or GMP and produce an agreed outline Test Plan and Topology with all the Initiative participants.
☐	Prepare with your CFBLNet Lead a draft CFBLNet Initiative Information Package (CIIP), reflecting the agreed position and request your CFBLNet Lead Representative (Core or Guest) submit it for approval.
☐	During the approval process, the security architecture will be reviewed by the CFBLNet Security Working Group for endorsement, subject to any revisions required.
☐	During the approval process, the CFBLNet Network Working Group will review your Initiative to determine the CFBLNet resources required. Such elements as connectivity, bandwidth, services, cryptos and key material, special requirements and engineering support will be considered and subject to meeting the correct criteria endorsement will be given.
☐	Security accreditation will be necessary from your security accreditation authority for all participating Sites and the Initiative. This will then be elevated to the Multi-national Security Accreditation Board (MSAB) for final approval.
☐	The CFBLNet Secretariat will schedule your Initiative, into the Master Calendar.
☐	On being given approval by the CFBLNet Executive Group for your Initiative the CFBLNet Engineers will be provided to support the testing, execution and tear-down phases.1
☐	On completion – it is customary for the CFBLNet community to receive feedback from the customer on its performance including lessons learnt (a small questionnaire requires filling-in)
☐	For a GMP to participate they should seek a sponsor from a CMP who will guide them through the sponsorship process.

Table 1: Checklist Points for CFBLNet Approval

Description

CFBLNet Infrastructure & Mode of Operation

Figure 1 shows at a high level the POP topology for the CFBLNet.



Note: Dashed Nations pending until nominate sites.

Figure 1: CFBLNet High Level Topology

The CFBLNet provides a networked environment between each Mission Partnering POP for the purpose of conducting Initiatives. Each Mission Partner possesses its own infrastructure for connecting to government and defence sites/assets; these infrastructures can be used to conduct Initiatives. Your CFBLNet Lead will be able to inform of national distributive connections to any POPs.

The CFBLNet environment consists of the following components:

Backbone Infrastructure (BLACKBONE)
The BLACKBONE provides a common, closed, unclassified routed IP network layer implementation using a mixture of both ATM and IP bearer networks. Its primary purpose is to transport encrypted traffic throughout the network; this is used frequently to set-up bi-lateral or multi-lateral enclaves for Initiatives.

BLUE Enclave
A permanent classified IP routed logical network operating over the BLACKBONE. It will operate as a System High logical network at the SECRET level, releasable AUSCANNZUKUS + NATO.

CFBLNet Unclassified Enclave (CUE)
The CUE is a permanent enclave operating at the Unclassified - Non Releasable to Internet level, over the BLACKBONE.

Temporary Enclaves
An enclave created for a finite period to support the execution of specific Initiatives and operating over the BLACKBONE. The level of classification and release caveats used within these enclaves will be determined by the Initiative requirements.

Enclave confirmation is shown at figure 2.

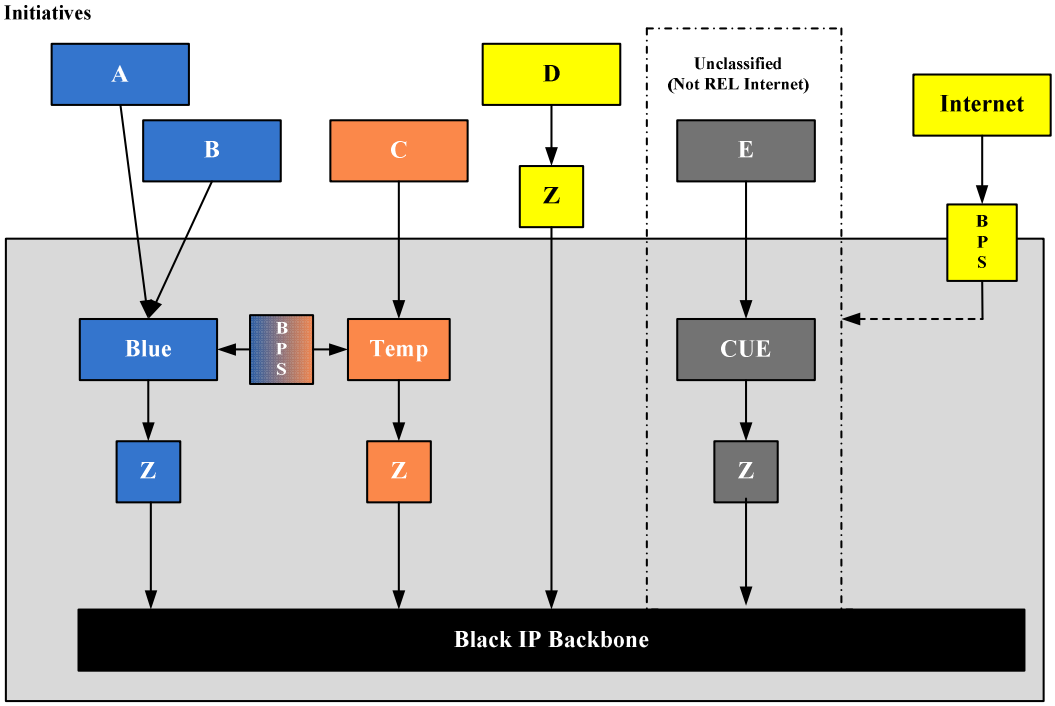


Figure 2: Description of CFBLNet Architecture

The coordination and provision of all network services within a specific temporary enclave will be the responsibility of the Initiative sponsor and is co-ordinated with the CFBLNet Network Working Group.

Initiative Lead
By definition an Initiative Lead is the selected head coordinator for and Initiative pulling together all Initiative Participant needs, for reporting to the CFBLNet Lead of a CMP or GMP. The Initiative Lead and Initiative Participants are therefore users/customers of the CFBLNet.

Security
The CFBLNet provides multiple appropriately separated networked security domains to enable Initiatives with any mix of CFBLNet Mission Partners to share information at any level up to and including SECRET. The Core CFBLNet Mission Partners are responsible for accrediting, in accordance with the CFBLNet's security accreditation requirements, their systems and the systems of the Guest CFBLNet Mission Partners which they sponsor, to maintain the security and integrity of the CFBLNet.

Each Initiative participant is responsible for implementing CFBLNet Security Policies and Procedures in conjunction with the National Accreditation Authorities (NAA) accreditation procedures. Participants will require security endorsement by the Multi-National Security Accreditation Board (MSAB), for site(s) and the Initiative(s) prior to connection to the CFBLNet.

The identification, ordering and provision of cryptographic key material should be addressed at the early stages of an Initiative. Crypto equipment and associated key material may take time to facilitate; therefore this is captured and implemented early in the CIIP process.

Likewise GMP Sponsorship and GMP site nominations should be started early to meet Initiative timescales.

What is available to me?
International connectivity and services under controlled security parameters and technical charters; this should make easy your requirements for international information exchange.

Basic User Services for each enclave as required:

- Domain Name Service (DNS);
- E-mail (SMTP);
- Web (HTTP);
- Network Time Protocol (NTP) Source;
- News (NNTP);
- IP Telephony Call Manager;
- VOIP phone @ each site.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED (CIIP APPLICATION)?

A draft CIIP is required to be completed and submitted by the Initiative Lead of the body of people interested in conducting an event across the CFBLNet in conjunction with the Core CFBLNet Lead Representative (CLR) or Guest CFBLNet Lead Representative (GLR). The CIIP is available in spreadsheet and webbased forms, your CLR or GLR will give guidance on the format to be submitted.

CIIP Instructions

Step 1 - You should first identify which CMP or GMP will lead for the Initiative. This CMP or GMP will then become the primary body responsible for the generation of the CIIP, which provides the essential details for the CFBLNet community to approve your Initiative.

Step 2 - The CIIP is completed by the Initiative Lead with the assistance of their CLR or GLR.

Step 3 - Some of the key factors you will need to consider with your Initiative community to give a consolidated agreement prior to filling out the form are:

- The participating nations and sites of CFBLNet core members and guest members – if any;
- POC details;
- Time schedule for CFBLNet usage;
- Network topology and cross domain connection;
- Information protective marking and/data release caveat;
- Initiative MOU and/or data sharing agreement;
- Network services and application;
- If a GMP is participating has Sponsorship been agreed and any GMP Site Nominations approved

Step 4 - On completion give to your CLR or GLR, who will then submit/activate the CIIP for approval. A customer of the CFBLNet should expect from the submission of the CIIP the following times to gain approval from the CFBLNet authorities:

a. 45 working days for a non-complex Initiative where networking is straight forward, site accreditation is in place, together with the available provision of cryptos, key material, connectivity etc.

b. For more complex Initiatives where there are design iterations, multiple nations, perhaps cross boundary devices, lead times of up to 90 working days can be expected,

c. There may be occasions that long lead time items such as security accreditation, cryptos and sponsorship of GMPs may cause extensions beyond 90 working days.

Step 5 - During the lifecycle of the Initiative it is the responsibility of the Initiative Lead to inform the CFBLNet Lead (CLR or GLR) of any changes. An assessment will be made to whether or not the CIIP will require re-submission.

INITIATIVE STAFFING PROCESS
(THE ROUTE THE CIIP TAKES FOR APPROVAL)

The CFBLNet Initiative staffing process is the means by which an activity is approved and hence supported for execution on the CFBLNet; it encompasses the entire life-cycle, to include security accreditation and final reporting.

A high level flow diagram of the CFBLNet Initiative staffing process can be seen at figure 3, together with details of the four phases.

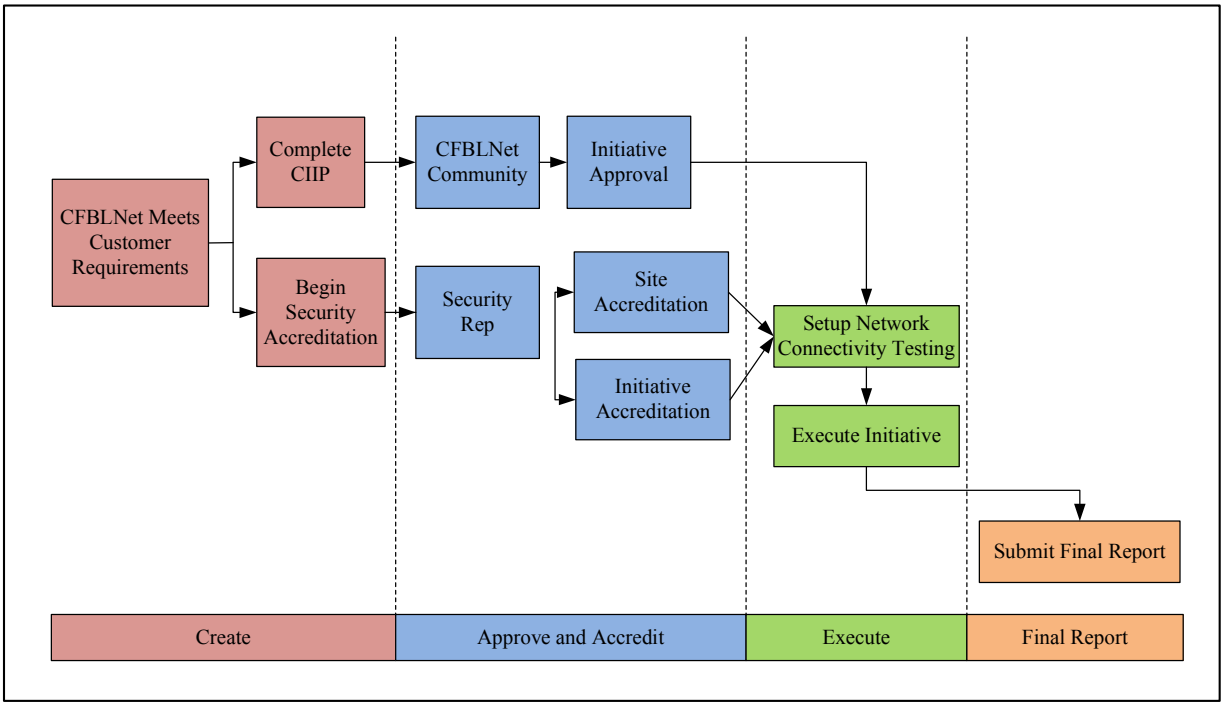


Figure 3: Flow Diagram of the CFBLNet Initiative Approval Process

Create Phase

Participants	▪ Initiative Lead and Initiative Participants who will be conducting the Initiative (customer/user); ▪ CFBLNet Lead (CLR or GLR) and his/her counterpart CFBLNet colleagues who will be involved; ▪ National Accreditation Authority.
Input	A draft CIIP.

Procedure	This phase encompasses all preliminary staffing and scoping that will result in a consolidated CIIP; the Initiative Lead and CFBLNet Lead (CLR or GLR) will work in conjunction to generate the CIIP and distribute to participants for initial agreement. It will include agreement on: ▪ All Initiative Participants are content to proceed with the architecture, resourcing, sites, security parameters and Initiative usage dates for the CFBLNet (build-up, execution and post execution tear down); ▪ All CMPs and GMPs whose infrastructure is affected are in agreement; ▪ Confirmation of any security related Initiative issues (such as Information Sharing Agreements and MOUs); ▪ Any GMP should be identified; the procedure for addressing this is recorded at Annex E and F of CFBLNet Publication 1.
Output	An agreed CIIP is submitted by the CFBLNet Lead (CLR or GLR) to the CFBLNet Secretariat to commence approval

Approval and Accredit Phase

Participants	▪ Initiative Lead and Initiative Participants who will be conducting the Initiative should any clarification or changes impact; ▪ CFBLNet Lead (CLR or GLR) and his/her CFBLNet Partners who will be involved; ▪ National Accreditation Authority; ▪ Multi-National Security Accreditation Board (MSAB); ▪ CFBLNet Security Working Group; ▪ CFBLNet Network Working Group; ▪ CFBLNet Initiative Working Group; ▪ CFBLNet Secretariat; ▪ CFBLNet – Executive Group.
Input	The CIIP
Procedure	Initially the CIIP is distributed/available to all CFBLNet/Initiative Leads involved for formal agreement. The approval process can then be considered on two separate and simultaneous planes. ▪ One being the CFBLNet Networking Working Group review to establish the feasibility of the connectivity, services and Initiative timelines upon CFBLNet resources. Concurrently a CFBLNet Security Working Group review to consider and approve the Security architecture. ▪ The other being the Security accreditation axis to gain site(s) and Initiative(s) security accreditation and approval, this can be a long lead time therefore it is imperative to start early (involving NAA and MSAB). The CFBLNet Executive Group will finally endorse the Initiative with any relevant caveats.
Output	▪ An approved CIIP scheduled for execution; ▪ Initiative - National Accreditation Approval Certificate (I-NAEC) from MSAB. This is the mandatory Initiative security approval required from all participants; ▪ Site – National Accreditation Approval Certificate (S-NAEC) from MSAB. This is the mandatory Site security approval required from all participants

Execute Phase

Participants	▪ Initiative Lead and Initiative Participants who will be conducting the Initiative; ▪ CFBLNet Lead (CLR or GLR) and his/her CFBLNet Partners who will be involved; ▪ CFBLNet Mission Partnering Networking Community; ▪ CFBLNet Secretariat for any re-scheduling.
Input	▪ An approved CIIP scheduled for execution (test, execution and tear-down); ▪ I-NAEC – mandatory before connection; ▪ S-NAEC – mandatory before connection.
Procedure	The Initiative participants with the CFBLNet Engineering community will prepare the environment for testing and execution as specified within the CIIP. Key Material distribution will also be implemented by DISA, NATO or National authorities as appropriate.
Output	Execution results.

Final Report Phase

Participants	▪ Initiative Lead and Initiative Participants should it be appropriate to let them review the feedback questionnaire; ▪ CFBLNet Lead (CLR or GLR); ▪ CFBLNet Secretariat.
Input	Results of the Initiative execution.
Procedure	Initiative Leads will be requested to fill-in a questionnaire via the CFBLNet Lead (CLR or GLR) to the Secretariat within 20 days of Initiative completion. This incorporates feedback to the CFBLNet community on any ways to improve its performance and also provides information with respect to operational benefits achieved by the Initiative.
Output	Completed questionnaire.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - FAQ

Question	*Answer*
Who is responsible for security and Intellectual Property Rights?	*The project known as an Initiative (i.e CWID) is responsible for liaising with Initiative Participants to ensure that all data sharing agreements, MOUs to include Intellectual Property Rights, information exploitation, together with security aspects at an Initiative level.*
Who helps me throughout the process to gain approval to use the CFBLNet?	*Your CFBLNet Lead (CLR or GLR) will assist you to populate the CIIP and give advice on elements such as Security accreditation and CFBLNet connectivity and services provided.*
How does CFBLNet accredit a site?	*Your national/organizational accreditation authority accredits the site. You must work with them to prepare the paperwork. The National Accreditation Authority (NAA) sends a certificate to the MSAB. The MSAB issues a certificate to connect known as the S-NAEC.*
How does CFBLNet accredit an Initiative?	*The Initiative Lead deals with this with the CFBLNet lead (CLR or GLR, through the Local or National Accreditation Authority. The MSAB issues a certificate to connect known as the I-NAEC.*
Do I need accreditation for UNCLASSIFIED Initiatives?	*Yes.*
When should I start the security paperwork?	*As soon as you can. It can take from one to four months to get accredited.*
Where do I send the security paperwork?	*To your National Accreditation Authority (or NATO Office of Security for NATO). Your national/organizational lead can help you. In turn it will be forwarded to MSAB.*
How much does it cost?	*Discuss with your CFBLNet (CMP or GMP)*
What nations/locations are connected to the CFBLNet?	*Your CFBLNet Lead can provide the high level CFBLNet Point of Presence topology and give guidance to the lower level national and organizational infrastructures.*
Is my partner site already online?	*Liaise with you CFBLNet Lead (CLR or GLR) who will check.*

Question	***Answer***
I want to connect to a particular nation, is this possible/how do I do that?	*Scope the situation with your CFBLNet Lead (CLR or GLR) who will know the contacts to ask about particular nations and site. If CFBLNet is the answer to the question a CIIP will be required.*
What are the advantages of using CFBLNet as opposed to the Internet?	*Managed Service/Charter in Place/Experience level of support/different levels of classifications are available/established community and sites.*
How do I acquire technical details?	*Through your CFBLNet Lead (CLR or GLR)*
I am a potential GMP that wishes to participate in an Initiative(s) or connect to the CFLNet from my own - soil how do I go about this?	*The CFBLNet Charter welcomes potential GMPs to participate in Initiatives from CMP sites and/or their own soil. You need to approach a CMP that maywish to sponsor you and guide you through the process. This will include GMP Site nominations and the Security procedures for enabling GMP participation.*