



VIRTUALAGILITY OPS CENTER RATED #1 AMID TOUGH COMPETITION AT CWID 2008, GLOBAL MILITARY TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION

WINCHESTER, MA **November 2008** CWID (Coalition Warrior Interoperability Demonstration) is sponsored by the Department of Defense Joint Chiefs of Staff. It's the largest series of wargames conducted each year and is attended by representatives of all branches of the American military, NORTHCOM, NATO and allied agencies. CWID has one objective: field test new technologies that might enhance operational capabilities. The most promising are fast-tracked for adoption.

This year, the system deemed best by the same personnel who would use it in action was VirtualAgility OPS Center (VOC). Dozens of privately developed systems were exhaustively evaluated. VOC was utilized in four different vignettes designed to highlight its capabilities under realistically demanding conditions. According to CWID's official release on results: (<https://www.cwid.js.mil/c/extranet/home>)

"VirtualAgility OPS Center performed very effectively...and received outstanding Warfighter and Technical Interoperability Assessments."

"The warfighters found VOC extremely effective at the crisis management continuum that was simulated, identifying critical risks and impacts, developing and maintaining critical data, creating and displaying contingency plans and checklists, discovering and mapping critical infrastructure, and enabling effective situational awareness..."

VOC was employed to improve combatant commanders' ability to conduct collaborative planning with partners, including joint and coalition forces, government agencies, NGOs and first responders. In scripted scenarios, decision-makers and staffs used VOC to plan, conduct time-sensitive operations and share data, specifically, to demonstrate emerging C4ISR interoperability solutions for coalition and interagency operations.

VOC's capacity to enable simple, streamlined planning among many agencies received high marks from all who evaluated it. As did the system's ability to translate paper-based plans into web-based action environments and to disseminate those plans—and updates—instantly.

User comments quoted in CWID's release encompassed many of VOC's unique advantages:

"This tool is much more powerful than we were able to demonstrate."

"It brings together mismatched technologies and...enhances presentation of information for situational awareness."

"This is one product that I have used that...I would recommend or immediate fielding."

Another benefit is that with VOC users can plan, train and respond on the same platform. Total operational integration is the new standard. Clearly, anything less unified introduces unnecessary complexity.

And, although more functional than any alternative, VOC can be set up and operational in a matter of weeks—and with minimal IT involvement and no disruption of existing systems. What’s more, VA overcomes traditional obstacles to inter-agency operations without reprogramming or compromising proprietary databases. VA uses the IBM Enterprise Service Bus to translate multiple non-conforming operating systems and disparate technologies and present them in a common operating picture. The impact on levels of interoperability and performance is unprecedented.

Everyone who comes to CWID is a realist. They know that crises are inevitable. And they subject every technology demonstrated there to point-by-point examination using specific checklists. Partial solutions, IT-intensive solutions, proprietary solutions—all are seen as less than ideal. What makes VirtualAgility OPS Center stand out wherever it’s demonstrated is its comprehensiveness, ease-of-operation and the fact that VOC can be deployed now. One system that can integrate many heterogeneous systems. One platform for planning, training and response. One route to true, no-glitches interoperability.

As one CWID user of VOC put it: *This really could not be any simpler or user friendly.*

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About VirtualAgility

VirtualAgility continues to apply its robust line of SOA solutions to the needs for improved situational awareness and coordination within and among agencies to organize, plan and track mitigation, preparation, response and recovery activities. To achieve the next level of virtual agility, collaboration and information sharing, VirtualAgility’s net-centric SOA solutions can be laid over existing “stovepipes” without disrupting day-to-day operations. VirtualAgility delivers easy- to-use, quick-to-install Web 2.0 solutions for creating interoperability and business continuity in government and industry.

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CWID 2008 site:

<https://www.cwid.js.mil/c/extranet/home>