JSP 815 Volume 2 Annex A

Applicability of Instructions for SEMS (Element 2)

Annex A - Applicability of Instructions for Safety and Environmental Management Systems (SEMS)

Purpose

1.	The fluid nature of Defence requires units or individuals from Military Commands or Defence organisations to be embedded in or assigned to other Military Commands or Defence organisations; all of which have differing Safety and Environmental Management Systems (SEMS) which could lead to confusion as to applicability.

2.	The purpose of this Annex is to provide the direction for all Service and civilian personnel that are embedded in or assigned to other Military Commands or Defence organisations which have differing Safety and Environmental Management Systems (SEMS) from their parent Command or organisation.

3.	JSP 815 Volumes 1 and 2 define the Defence Safety Management System (Defence SMS) (this volume) and JSP 816 Volumes 1 and 2 define the Defence Environmental Management System (Defence EMS). The two JSP's combined form the Defence Safety and Environmental Management System (Defence SEMS).

Direction

4.	The Defence Safety and Environmental Committee Steering Group (DSEC-SG) has considered the differing SEMS applicability of instructions and have agreed the following direction for all Military Commands and Defence organisations to follow:

    a.	All Military Commands and Defence organisations are responsible for developing and maintaining their own Safety and Environmental Management System (SEMS). These set out how the Defence SEMS and underpinning policy and regulations will be delivered in a specific Military Command or Defence organisation context and, wherever possible, are complementary to each other.

    b.	The applicability of instructions for the SEMS of Military Commands and Defence organisations (Service and civilian personnel) sitting outside their Full Command (FULLCOM) command or organisation are governed by the following principles:

        (1)	That assigned / visiting units / personnel should maintain their own parent Military Command or Defence organisation SEMS, whilst ensuring compliance with the host units Standing Orders and supported by the host.

        (2)	That formed units, mixed units or singleton posts from one command or organisation embedded at another commands or organisations site under Operational Command (OPCOM), should follow the host command's or organisation's SEMS – unless a specific formal agreement is reached between the two commands or organisations.

        (3)	That Tri-service units or single Services (sS) that are embedded within a Command or organisations structure shall maintain that Command or organisation's SEMS[1] unless a specific formal agreement is reached between them.

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[1] Such as the Defence Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Centre sits within the Army TLB but with rotating sS Commandants, should maintain ACSO 1200.

(4)   That units that 'lodge[2]' on another command's or organisation's site must continue to follow their FULLCOM Commands or organisations SEMS, whilst ensuring compliance with the host unit's Standing Orders[3].

(5)   That units assigned OPCOM, or personnel posted into the UKStratCom (including joint ops), must adhere to UKStratCom policy and SEMS (see Related Info).

(6)   That the Commands or organisations identified as the lead for maintaining the SEMS, will also be responsible for ensuring that appropriate assurance is undertaken, either directly by their own competent teams; or via formal agreement with another command or organisation, where specialist competence is more readily available (i.e. Aviation, OME, Port Ops, etc)".

c.   These principles cover almost all units employed outside of their FULLCOM Command or organisation.

d.   Those units that are not catered for will require specific bilateral Command or organisation action to secure an MoU to clarify the Audit and Inspection of the appropriate SEMS by the appropriate Command or organisation.

5.   The application of Duty Holding and Assurance are to follow these same principles.

6.   The glossary of the terms, definitions and abbreviations used in NATO documents and publications can be seen in the following Extract to ASCen/CESO/Informal to Applicability of Instructions (SEMS).

Related links to Defence organisation's SEMS

7.   The fluid nature of Defence requires units or individuals from Military Commands or Defence organisations to be embedded in or assigned to other Military Commands or Defence organisations; all of which have differing Safety and Environmental Management Systems (SEMS) which could lead to confusion as to applicability. These can be seen by following the links below.

a.   BRd 10 - Navy Command Safety and Environmental Management System (NC SEMS).

b.   ACSO 1200 - The Army's Safety and Environmental Management System (SEMS).

c.   AP8000 - Air Safety and Environmental Management System (SEMS).

d.   SOP 001 - UKStratCom Safety and Environmental Management System (SEMS)

e.   DE&S Safety & Environmental Management System (SEMS).

f.   DIO Safety and Environmental Management Systems.

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[2] Lodge – a unit that shares a Defence site and is ADCON or LOGCON but is not/does not have Head of Establishment (HoE) responsibilities.
[3] Noting that this is reliant on regular communication required between HoE and lodger units and an appropriate SME support.

Extract to ASCen/CESO/Informal to Applicability of Instructions (SEMS)

Defence Command States

Reference:

A.   [Army Field Manual (AFM) Command](#)

Command States:

1-38. A common understanding of the degrees of authority is a prerequisite for effective cooperation. Command arrangements must always be qualified by the DTG at which they begin. They should also specify the DTG at which they are likely to end and must accommodate the situation prior to and after transfer of authority (TOA). Note that when working in a multinational environment, the authority granted through command states must be clarified with the issuing commander.

1-39. Command States explain the status of formations, units and commanders, relative to each other. States of command are concerned primarily with the ability to assign an independent mission, to reorganise a unit to suit its task, or to direct specific tasks within an agreed mission. They exist in order to:

    a.   Allow a higher headquarters to prioritise resources and effort.

    b.   Protect the integrity of force structures and where appropriate to protect the independence of non-organic forces.

    c.   Assist with force packaging when working with limited resources.

In general, the command state should be set at the highest level possible, whereas control should be held at the lowest level possible. Control at too high a level can result in a loss of flexibility and tempo. Conversely, command at too low a level can result in the inability to concentrate resources and will hamper the ability to rapidly switch priorities.

1-40. Full Command (FULLCOM). FULLCOM is the military authority and responsibility of a commander to issue orders to subordinates. It covers every aspect of military operations and administration and exists only within national Services. The term 'command', as used internationally, implies a lesser degree of authority than when it is used in a purely national sense. No NATO or coalition commander has FULLCOM over the assigned forces of other nations. Only OPCOM or OPCON (see below) can be delegated across national lines.

1-41. Operational and Tactical Command States:

    a.   Operational Command (OPCOM). OPCOM is the authority granted to a commander to assign missions or tasks to subordinate commanders, to deploy units and to reassign forces and to retain or delegate operational and/or tactical control as may be necessary. It the authority to assign separate employment to components of the units concerned. It does not include responsibility for administration or logistics (see ADCON, below).

b.   Operational Control (OPCON). OPCON is the authority delegated to a commander to direct assigned forces so that they may accomplish their specific missions or tasks, usually limited by function, time, or location, to deploy units concerned and to retain or assign tactical control to those units.

OPCON allows a commander to issue missions and tasks to subordinates, within the scope of the mission issued by higher authority[4]. It does not include the authority to assign separate employment of components of the units concerned. Nor does it include administrative or logistic control.

c.   Tactical Command (TACOM). TACOM is the authority delegated to a commander to assign tasks to forces under their command for the accomplishment of the mission assigned by higher authority.

d.   Tactical Control (TACON). TACON is the detailed local direction and control of movement, or manoeuvre which is necessary to accomplish missions or assigned tasks.

1-42. Control and Coordination Terms. The following terms may be ascribed independently to operational and tactical command states to delegate elements of authority:

a.   Administrative Control (ADCON). ADCON is the direction or exercise of authority over subordinate or other organisations in respect of administrative matters such as personnel management, supply, services and other issues not included in the operational mission of the subordinate or other organisations. Therefore, ADCON is assigned separately to a given command state.

b.   Logistic Control (LOGCON). LOGCON is the authority to execute logistics functions and activities within the agreed limits of logistic control in accordance with the Transfer of Authority[5].

c.   Coordinating Authority (CA). CA is the authority granted to a commander, or an individual that assigns responsibility to them for the coordination of specific functions, or activities, involving forces of two or more countries, or commands, or two or more services, or two or more forces of the same service. The CA has authority to request consultation between the organisations involved or their representatives, but not to compel agreement. In the event of irreconcilable disagreement, the CA shall refer the matter to the appropriate higher authority.

d.   DIRLAUTH. DIRLAUTH is most commonly used by UK and some allied forces (US) to mean direct liaison authorised[6]. However, there is the potential for confusion with this term when operating with multinational partners. AJP-3(B) uses the term DIRLAUTH as Direct Liaison Authority, which is a synonym for CA. AAP-6[7] does not recognise the term DIRLAUTH.

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[4] Note that this is the authority to issue Missions and Tasks to OPCON subordinates is a UK interpretation reflecting the likelihood of the definition being revised by NATO in the near future.
[5] ATP-3.2.2. *Command and Control of Allied Land Forces*, Annex C.
[6] AAP-15. NATO *Glossary of Abbreviations used in NATO Documents and Publications*, 2016.
[7] AAP-06. NATO *Glossary of Terms and Definitions*, 2015.

	More authority → → → Less authority

Authority	FULLCOM	OPCOM	OPCON (2)	TACOM	TACON (7)
Task organise the assigned element (1)	X	X			
Assign missions to the assigned element (3)	X	X	X(4)		
Assign tasks to the assigned element for the purpose of which it has been assigned.	X	X	X	X (5)	
May further delegate command authority (6)	OPCOM OPCON TACOM TACON	OPCOM OPCON TACOM TACON	OPCON TACOM TACON	TACOM TACON	TACON
Coordinate movement, local defence, and force protection.	X	X	X	X	X
Planning and coordination	X	X	X	X	X
Administrative and logistic responsibility	X				

FULLCOM full command OPCON operational control TACON tactical control
OPCOM operational command TACOM tactical command

Notes:
(1) The gaining commander may task organise the assigned unit and thus assign separate missions to it and its component parts. This is limited to FULLCOM and OPCOM. A commander assigned forces under FULLCOM or OPCOM may employ those forces for any purpose.
(2) For forces allocated under OPCON the gaining commander may not break up the organisational integrity of the force for separate employment. Under OPCON forces assigned may only be employed within certain constraints such as function, time or location imposed by the higher authority. For example, the forces may only be assigned for a single phase of a particular operation. This may be done for national purposes in the case of a multinational context, where it is in a participating nation's interest to constrain in some fashion the employment of the contributed force. In other cases the assigning commander may require the force for other purposes later in the operation.
(3) A mission is defined as: A clear, concise statement of the task of the command and its purpose (AAP-06).
(4) Under OPCON the gaining commander may assign a mission to the assigned element that is distinct from, but related to, the gaining commander's overall mission. OPCON is normally applied to assigned manoeuvre elements such as infantry and armour forces.
(5) Under TACOM the gaining commander may only allocate to the assigned force a specific task consistent for the accomplishment of the mission and purpose assigned by the higher commander, that is, within the parameters of the current mission given by the higher authority. TACOM is used where the superior commander recognizes the need for additional resources for a task but requires the resources intact for a later role. Under TACOM the assigned force is allocated for specific tasks and is allocated normally for a limited period of time. This prevents the gaining commander from employing the assigned force in a role or manner not intended by the higher commander. When the task is complete or the specific time frame expires, the TACOM relationship with the gaining force ends. TACOM is usually applied to specific situations and to combat support elements that have unique capabilities. Example of forces and situations in which TACOM would likely be used is: an engineer sub-unit assigned to an infantry unit to assist in building field fortifications for a specific period of time.
(6) With the exception of FULLCOM, a gaining commander may further delegate the same or a lesser command authority over the allocated force to a subordinate commander, but within the same constraints initially given.
(7) TACON is generally used to indicate those units that will be located within another unit or formation's assigned geographical boundaries, and by so assigning, the gaining unit becomes responsible for coordination aspects within the shared area of operations. The gaining commander has authority to coordinate local defence, force protection and terrain allocation.

Table 1.1. - Summary of Command State Authorities