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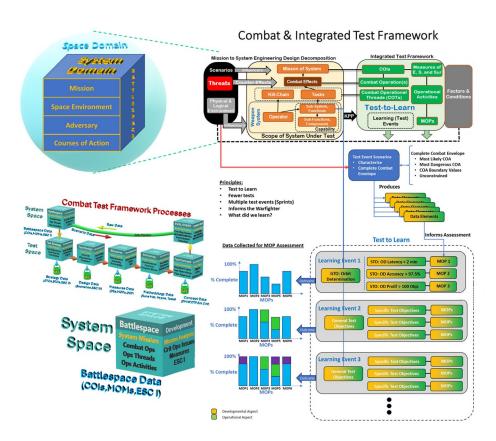
In October 2023, Secretary Kendall released his guidance for the DAF's effort to reoptimize for Great Power Competition (GPC). The reason is simple: we must be ready for war. In the nation's first State of the Union Address, President Washington said, "To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace." But that which has made us ready for the counter-VEO wars of the last two decades will not ready us for the challenges of the Great Power Competition.

The greatest risk the Space Force faces today is that of being too late. With a fast-moving adversary, standing still is the same as falling behind. From a technological perspective, great powers have the resources to field advanced military technologies that increase the tempo, range, precision, and destructive capacity of military operations.

To verify and validate the technology we deliver to the warfighter is the task of test and evaluation. We are the gatekeepers that must broker the development and delivery of technology needed by the warfighter today. This is a paradigm shift, and we must not miss the mark at the center of the target. Everything we think about and do is for one purpose: Prepare for and fight our nation's wars.

The part played by the acquisition system in general and tester specifically has fundamentally changed: deliver required capability to the warfighter error-free and faster than we have before. Hence, the Combat Test Framework.

## Statistical Methods for Test & Evaluation, Volume 1: The Combat Test Framework



**Jeffrey Strickland**