Quality And Lack Thereof



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Agenda

- Introduction to Quality
- Three quality problem areas:
 - Constraints, Limitations & Assumptions
 - Methodology
 - Results Presentation
- Closing

- Analytical quality has many components, for example:
 - *Relevant*, applicable, significant.
 - Accurate, exact, precise.
 - *Thorough*, comprehensive, attention to detail.
 - Objective, unbiased, independent.
 - *Clear*, understandable, lucid.
- Quality must be *built into* a product by its producer, not added after-the-fact by others.
- The *analyst is responsible* for quality.

Quality

- What constitutes quality is not an intangible or simply a personal opinion; acceptable quality is defined by standards and codes of best practice.
- Learning and achieving quality is promoted by honest, frank, critical review and discussion.
- Like it or not, our customers judge the quality of your work based on what you report to them.

Quality

Quality is judged by the consumer based on what he/she perceives.



Constraints, Limitations & Assumptions

- TRAC Code of Best Practice (COBP), titled "Constraints, Limitations and Assumptions Guide" dated May 2005.
- Definitions:
 - Constraint: A restriction imposed by the study sponsor that limits the study team's options to conduct the study.
 - Limitation: An inability of the study team to fully meet the study objectives or fully investigate the study issues.
 - Assumption: A statement that is taken as true in the absence of facts, often to accommodate a limitation.
- Consists of a *full set* (analyst-to-analyst) and a *key set* (analyst-to-customer or stakeholder).
- Why important to the analysis:
 - Necessary precursor upon which to *base the methodology*.
 - Vital to properly interpret and use the study results.
 - An important contributor to and *indicator of quality*.

Not Quality CLA

- Limitations:
 - The model does not represent x, y, or z.
 - System x was modeled using surregate data.
- Assumptions:
 - Data for forces and/or systems are accurate for the timeframe portrayea.
 - The scenarios used in the analysis provide adequate range of METT-TC.
 - The models adequately depict x, y or z,

Constraints, Limitations, Assumptions

- Constraints
 - Deliver Excalibur Milestone C Spin-Off Analysis by 30 Jun 05.
 - Conduct analysis IAW Current (FY08) and Future Force (FY14) O&Os.*
- Limitations
 - PMMA considered combinations of Army precision munitions for the HBCT and FCS BCT force designs; schedule and resources precluded analysis of the IBCT and SBCT force designs.
 - PMMA mix affordability is limited to comparing mix program costs and precision munitions funding levels.
 - The suite of PMMA scenarios enabled an explicit simulation treatment of 65% of the 187 mission profiles; the remainder were investigated by other means.
 - Consideration of collateral damage relied upon the use of the "risk estimated distance" pertaining to limited personnel profiles (not structures).
- Assumptions
 - The set of scenarios, to include CS 20.0 (Full BCT Offense) and NEA 5.1 (Corps/Division Offense), is adequate to address operational shaping by the mixes.
 - Representation of critical battle command functions, including BDA, C2 of networked fires and fusion, are adequate reflections of future force concepts.

*The United States Army Future Force Operational and Organizational Plan Maneuver Unit of Action (DRAFT) 30 July 2004 & Army Comprehensive Guide to Modularity Volume I Version 1.0 October 2004.

- TRAC COBP in working draft, available for use.
- There is more than one good way to diagram a methodology.
- There may be more than one diagram version of the same methodology, depending upon intended audience.
- A high quality methodology diagram:
 - Conveys the *logical flow* of a process using its constituent building block components.
 - Identifies pertinent *input and output* for a component.
 - Identifies the *tool or means* used for a component.
 - May introduce extra information particularly relevant to the intended audience (e.g., timeline dates, agencies, # model runs).
 - May sparingly use embedded clip art or graphics.
- Why important to the analysis:
 - Necessary to gain customer confidence; *helps sell the analysis*.
 - An important *indicator of quality*.

Not a Quality Methodology Diagram



Not a Quality Methodology Diagram



Not a Quality Methodology Diagram



OM Analysis Methodology



UAS Mix Methodology



Presentation of Results

- TRAC Standard, titled "Slide Format & Standards," subtitled, "PowerPoint for Analysts," dated July 2003.
- TRAC Standard, titled, "Documentation," September 2006.
- Each slide should convey important piece of larger message; woven together, a briefing should tell a compelling story.
- Each slide should stand on its own merit.
- Be consistent throughout in terminology, format, layout, etc.!!
- Be concise.
- Use embedded pictures/images sparingly; avoid "eyewash," cartoon art, sound, etc. Be very conservative with animation.
- Use black as default for text, bullets, lines, box borders; and use colors sparingly and only for special purposes.
- Ensure file properties content is accurate and up to date.
- Why important to the analysis: *It delivers the analysis!!*

Not a Quality Presentation of Results



This slide has 6 common "code violations." Can you find them?

Closing

TRAC's identity and relevance is determined by the quality of your work!

- You will learn what constitutes quality.
- You will conform to quality standards.
- You and your chain of command will be evaluated on the quality of your work, and that track record of quality will strongly influence whether you:
 - Receive an award.
 - Receive a bonus.
 - Receive a pay raise.
 - Are promoted.

Questions?

Back-Up

Battle Command KPP Methodology



PMMA Methodology

