Background

Meeting the Army’s need for its Force Generation processes to sustain global responsiveness and regional engagement, while protecting the precious time soldiers have at home with their families, is a complex challenge. To accommodate this ever-growing challenge, the United States Army has transformed its internal structure, organization, and process to create a joint and expeditionary army that synchronizes resources and predicts the impacts of future requirements. The Army needed innovative technology to complement this recent transformation. ProModel Corporation was selected in 2006 to partner with U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM) to develop a toolset that simulates the Total Army moving through the Army Force Generation (ARFORGEN) process and provides the necessary predictive capabilities. The resulting technology developed by this partnership is the ARFORGEN Synchronization Toolset (AST).

Objectives

The four major objectives to be supported by AST are as follows:

1. Gather all Army conventional force requirements worldwide in one location and review validated requirements over time.
2. Assess the forces inventory (Army units) flowing through the Force Generation process.
3. Source force requirements with the available Army inventory to fulfill missions, while complying with deployment policies for units.
4. Model units flowing through the Force Generation process to synchronize the key events required to optimize readiness for return to deployed status.

Benefits

Before AST was developed, there was no single location where Army requirements and unit inventory could be viewed and managed. Planning and managing of force rotations was done with commercially available spreadsheet and presentation software. With AST, FORSCOM can now set up proposed courses of action (COAs) and make more effective, predictive sourcing decisions to support missions. Additionally, Force Generation events can be better synchronized to achieve higher unit readiness. Force Generation processes can now be executed within a few hours rather than the multiple days that were previously required. AST functions and deliverable products include the following:

- Requirements Tracking - Through integration with the Joint Capabilities Requirements Manager
- E-Sync – Event Synchronization within and between unit Force Generation cycles
- ASL – Army Sourcing Laydown Chart
- Patch Chart - Shows the rotation of units

Organizational Inputs and Outputs for AST

U.S. Army and Joint Entities
Personnel, Training, Services & Infrastructure Funding
Dynamic Army Resourcing & Prioritization List (DARPL)
Program Executive Officer (PEO)
Lead Materiel Integrator (LMI)

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Requirements Module -
Pull in new, modified, or cancelled Joint Staff validated requirements from the Joint Capabilities Requirements Manager (JCRM) and capture Army institutional requirements for sourcing action. Source nonstandard requirements and submit sourcing nominations to JCRM. Track requirements as they flow through the sourcing process.

Units Module -
Enter, edit, view, and manage unit inventory. Organize units to support sourcing and E-Sync assignments.

Sourcing Module -
Source units to meet forces requirements.

Unit Cycle Manager Submodule -
Access unit inventory by type and/or specific unit, and manage the ARFORGEN cycle.

CTC Scheduler Submodule -
Schedule Combat Training Center rotations along with rotation enablers.

Portal Module –
Access external web applications.

Scorecard Submodule -
Provide statistics on the status of sourcing, with drill-through to sourcing details and graphics.

Reports Module -
Generate reports to facilitate and communicate decision making across the Army.

Admin Module –
Set up and manage data for policies, system users, security, rights, roles, and many other functions.

Units Module -
Enter, edit, view, and manage unit inventory. Organize units to support sourcing and E-Sync assignments.

E-Sync Module -
Synchronize ARFORGEN events during dwell time. Schedule events and identify critical paths for producing fully equipped, manned, and trained units that are ready for deployment.

This document is subject to the disclaimer located on the title page.
ARFORGEN is the model for generating Total Army forces. The necessary manning, equipping, resourcing, and training processes are synchronized to generate ready forces from all components, thus achieving an alignment of Total Army forces to satisfy the requirements of geographical combatant commanders. AST synchronizes all applicable resources and formations, and it helps implement transformation strategies to support the success of the U.S. Army’s missions.

How Does AST Support ARFORGEN?

- Majority of the operational forces
- Deployed and other Joint Requirements where sufficient inventory exists to rotate forces
- Readiness progresses to meet mission
- High-demand, nondeployed Joint Requirements with a low-density inventory
- Theater-committed nonrotational units
- Readiness is sustained based on mission

**AST’s Impact on Army Decisions**

- Increased visibility of requirements, total capabilities, and requirement-based capability shortfalls.
- Increased visibility of units within their various sustained and progressive readiness cycles and force pools.
- Increased visibility of critical shortfalls early in the Program Objective Memorandum and ability to influence the force management process.
- Greater ability to conduct “what-if” and “course-of-action” analyses on long-term unit utilization, policy decisions, and business practices.
- The ProModel AST technology allows decision makers to make more informed decisions, while accounting for risk, constrained resources, and business rule/process changes.