WHY LINK 16?

GAIN 360° SITUATIONAL AWARENESS
Link 16 bridges a critical gap between air and ground forces by providing real-time fused situational awareness so all platforms/nodes have an integrated common operational picture, resulting in decisive actions for split-second, life-or-death situations.

COALITION INTEROPERABILITY
One of the biggest challenges in today’s battlefield is sharing relevant information in a joint operational environment. That’s why having a Link 16-enabled platform that can directly communicate with one of our coalition partners is critical.

APPROVED MILITARY TACTICAL DATA LINK FOR U.S. AND COALITION PARTNERS
Link 16 is the most widely used tactical data link worldwide and significantly enhances tactical employment of all Link 16-enabled platforms, providing technical and operational improvements to existing capabilities, including improved security, increased data rates, and much more.

PROVEN CAPABILITY
Link 16 was developed in the 1970s and became operational in the U.S. military during the mid-to-late 1980s. It is anticipated that the number of Link 16-enabled platforms will approach 12,000+ by 2017. Recent innovations, like Small Form Factor radios, have transformed missions and are enabling entirely new concepts of operation for the warfighter — contributing to the proliferation of Link 16 users to the battlespace.

AVOID BLUE-ON-BLUE ENGAGEMENTS
Throughout (recorded) military history, there have been thousands of friendly fire incidents with 2 - 20% accounting for casualties in battle. With Link 16, users have access to both air and ground (friendly and enemy) situational awareness data and can provide secure and reliable target information to the network. This not only leads to increased survivability, but also significantly shortens kill chain timelines – reducing the risk of fratricide and collateral damage incidents.

READY TO DEPLOY? HERE ARE ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:

1. Select a Link 16 provider that has an end-to-end, integrated approach to Link 16, demonstrating a complete understanding of the ecosystem. This includes not only the Link 16 terminal, but also the required software and support tools, comprehensive training, in-country/field support, as well as integration and installation support to minimize platform downtime and risk reduction.

2. Select a Link 16 terminal that has been in operational service in-theater, with worldwide deployments. Remember to measure the terminal’s reliability against its Mean Time Between Failures (MTBF).

3. Select a Link 16 provider that is forward-thinking and addressing future network-centric requirements with a software programmable approach that can meet government mandates like crypto modernization.