Multi-Link Service Gateway (MLSG)

Enabling Link 16, Link 22 and VMF communications on new and existing platforms
Northrop Grumman’s Multi-Link Service Gateway (MLSG) is a modular, scalable data link processor that provides standalone capability and an upgrade path to Link 16, Link 22 and Variable Message Format (VMF) tactical data links (TDLs). MLSG is suitable for maritime and headquarters installations.

The MLSG processes Joint Range Extension Application Protocol (JREAP) A, B and C; Link 22; Link 16; Link 11; and VMF messages. It allows upgrade to full Link 22 or Link 16 capability that is interoperable and backwardly compatible with Link 11. By delivering full gateway functionality among installed links, MLSG offers an incremental upgrade path for existing investments in Link 11 platforms. Newer Link 22 or Link 16 platforms can be added to operations while still using Link 11 in older platforms.

MLSG’s rugged industrial design meets most maritime environmental requirements.

Proven Performance

Northrop Grumman is the only U.S. vendor of Link 22 processing recognized by the Link 22 international program office. As a result, all of the Link 22 message sets are coded and available.

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MLSG’s modular, scalable, affordable multilink solution upgrades Link 11 community to multilink capability tailored to platform and command center requirements. Proven hardware and software

Reliable Hardware

The MLSG hardware configuration offers a low-risk solution. Required hardware interfaces have been developed and certified on other programs. Based on COTS products, MLSG’s open architecture uses standard interfaces.

Common TDL Interface

The MLSG system offers a common middleware solution from Multi-TDL Networks to host systems. A key attribute of this architecture is a common host interface. Incoming TDL messages are normalized into a common link-neutral format. New TDLs are easily added because all TDL data, regardless of the source, are presented to the host in this common link-neutral format. The extensibility of this architecture is based on the generic nature of the link-neutral transactional model. New TDL messages are added as transactions in the same format as existing messages, while new TDL fields are added as attributes within the transaction.

Adaptable to platform-specific requirements, the MLSG ensures the reliability and affordability of proven performance.

MLSG Advantages

- Modular, scalable, affordable multilink solution
- Upgrades Link 11 community to multilink capability
- Tailorable to platform and command center requirements
- Proven hardware and software

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