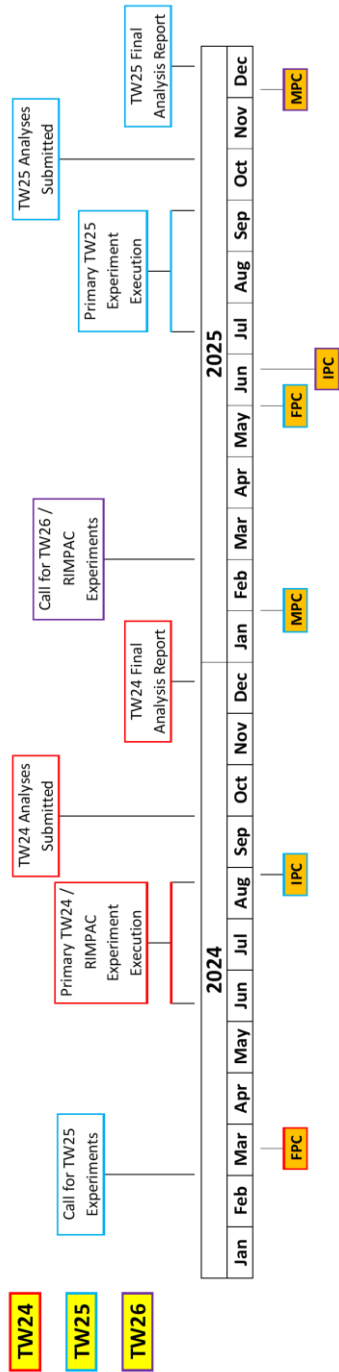


Annual Trident Warrior (TW) Cycle



Trident Warrior planning, execution, analysis, and reporting activities overlap across TW annual cycles, with slight variations as shown between RIMPAC and non-RIMPAC years (even- vs. odd-numbered)



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TRIDENT WARRIOR
is the singular Information Warfare-focused maritime operational experimentation venue in the US Navy

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A:
 Approved for public release, distribution is unlimited (19 JANUARY 2024)
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What is FLEX (Fleet Experimentation)?

- A coordinated Navy-wide process, with centralized leadership by the Navy Warfare Development Command (NWDC), that identifies and examines materiel and non-materiel solutions to the Fleet's most pressing warfighting capability gaps
- An opportunity to expedite the delivery and improvement of capabilities to naval warfighters, by involving them in early-stage evaluations
- More than a simple demonstration or test, and more flexible than Operational Test & Evaluation

What is Trident Warrior (TW)?

- TW is a FLEX venue, held annually since 2003, focused on Information Warfare capabilities
- TW is sponsored by OPNAV N2N6, and planned and executed by NAVWAR in close coordination with Commander, Third Fleet (C3F)
- TW puts emerging technologies into the hands of the Fleet, for evaluation in an operational environment using live data
- TW allows participating initiatives to gain valuable insights about developing technologies, reduce fielding and integration risks, obtain warfighter feedback, and collect operational data sets for future study
- In odd-numbered years, TW executes in the SOCAL OPAREA; in even-numbered years, it executes in Hawaii (including transits) as part of RIMPAC, the world's largest multinational maritime exercise (Rim of the Pacific)
- TW initiatives align with Fleet warfighting priorities, per biennial Commanders' Guidance in COMUSFLTFORCOM / COMPACFLT Instruction 3900.1 (series)



TRIDENT WARRIOR 2022, observed at sea aboard USS WILLIAM P LAWRENCE by current and former NAVWAR Chief Engineers SES Rob Wolborsky and RADM Eric Ruttenberg

TW Process Value

Before Trident Warrior (prior to 2003):

- Systems Commands managed independent experiment programs
- Technologies / procedures were tested one or two at a time
- Each test required separate planning, design, network development, asset coordination, and data collection and analysis
- No formal reporting process or event data repository existed

After Trident Warrior (annually since 2003):

- Navy Warfare Centers, SYSCOMs, and other DoD organizations use TW as a dependable venue for Fleet access in an operationally relevant experimentation environment, to advance Technology Readiness Level (TRL) and reduce fielding risks
- The TW team supports and oversees each initiative in their planning, engineering, scheduling, data collection, and analysis
- Web-based experimentation repositories allow consistent description and future discoverability of experimentation initiatives and their metadata

Tangible TW Products

- The TW team produces a classified (GENSER) Final Analysis Report each year, endorsed by the NAVWAR Chief Engineer and distributed to stakeholders including OPNAV N2N6, COMPACFLT, US Fleet Forces Command, the Defense Technical Information Center, the NAVWAR Enterprise, and each initiative team
- The TW Team also provides a one-page summary of each initiative in an unclassified Initiatives Synopsis (CUI)
- TW produces detailed technical analyses and risk reduction opportunities for acquisition program managers, technology developers, and researchers, including actionable DOTMLPF-P recommendations (Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leadership and Education, Personnel, Facilities and Policy)

TW Participation

- Each TW initiative must be sponsored by a DoD organization, such as a Navy Warfare Center, systems command, program of record, Navy Research Lab, or the Office of Naval Research (Joint and Coalition initiatives are welcome)
- Industry partners can only participate in TW via a sponsoring DoD organization (see above)
- The best time to begin the annual TW process is at or before the Initial Planning Conference (IPC), in the summer of the year before TW execution, or soon afterward (see timeline)
- Depending on the required degree of accreditation, authorization, and integration testing, additional initiatives *may* still be able to join TW as late as the Main Planning Conference (MPC)
- Interested DoD organizations are encouraged to contact the TW Operations Lead or TW Director to discuss their objectives and requirements