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Army Aviation Hosts Future Airborne Capability Environment (FACE) Technical Interchange Meeting (TIM)

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HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (February 10, 2016) – Over 480 government, academic, and industry representatives from across the country met last week to learn more about the work that the Open Group’s FACE Consortium has been developing since its inception in 2010.

The Open Group FACE Consortium, a partnership of 90 government (Air Force, Army and Navy), industry, and academic organizations, developed the FACE Technical Standard to define an open avionics software environment to be used on all manned and unmanned, military airborne platforms.

It is a vendor neutral and hardware agnostic approach, designed to enhance the U.S. military aviation community’s ability to address issues of rising development and integration costs and limited software reuse. Adoption of the standard helps increase warfighter capabilities, as well as enables the community to take advantage of new technologies more rapidly and affordably. The Technical Standard is the open avionics standard for making military computing operations more robust, interoperable, portable, and secure. In addition to a technical standard, the FACE Consortium has developed a business and contracting guide to assist in the acquisition of FACE conformant capabilities. The consortium saw this as a critical element in the overall success of implementing a technical standard.

Attendees had the opportunity to increase their knowledge of what the FACE Standard provides and how it is being applied by visiting over 30 booths, listening to the keynote address, and attending technical presentations. Ross Guckert, Acting Deputy Program Executive Officer, Program Executive Office (PEO), Aviation, delivered the keynote address. In his address he emphasized the importance of developing new capabilities designed to increase mobility, survivability, and lethality. The booth exhibits demonstrated capabilities developed to the existing FACE Standards to include several that used the forthcoming Edition 3.0 which is currently in review. Technical presentations were based on white papers containing lessons learned with Judy Cerenzia, Open Group - FACE Director and Terry Carlson, CIO/G6, PEO Aviation
both the technical and business aspects of applying the FACE standard to development efforts. Access to the papers and the latest FACE documentation are available at: [http://www.opengroup.org/face/information](http://www.opengroup.org/face/information).

Terry Carlson, Chief Information Officer, Program Executive Office, Aviation and Chairperson of the FACE Consortium Steering Committee, stated that the conversations that took place at the booths and during the paper briefings have advanced the Army Aviation efforts toward meeting the Army’s Common Operating Environment directive.

Additional information about the FACE Consortium can be found at [http://www.opengroup.us/face](http://www.opengroup.us/face).