

**ABSTRACT**  
*Logistics Challenges with an Aging Fleet*  
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**Background**

The Navy is operating a fleet of aging aircraft. With replacement aircraft programs being reduced in procurement quantities increases in the average age of aircraft are anticipated in the future. In order to determine the historical extent of these cost impacts and to develop methodologies to estimate their effects in the future, the Naval Air Systems Command has conducted research on aging aircraft cost trends and the associated impacts on future operational costs. The Aging Aircraft Integrated Product Team (AAIPT) was chartered to address the associated problems in a cross-functional manner.

**Study Contents**

The presentation addresses ongoing NAVAIR and AAIPT efforts to evaluate reliability and maintainability trends, impacts on major Operations and Support (O&S) cost elements, aging trends for various types of equipment, and to transition processes/technologies to mitigate adverse trends. To build the foundation for evaluation of trends it is imperative that an understanding of the relevant cost and usage databases be provided. The presentation will touch on several areas that the AAIPT has identified as affording significant challenges/opportunities; Airframe (Inspection, Corrosion), Wiring, Avionics (including obsolescence), and Subsystems. Specific emphasis will be given to discussion of the analysis process and solution methodology required to address the growing problem of avionics obsolescence.

As a result of the information provided recommendations will be made associated with the types of areas that represent significant investment opportunities to control future Operations and Support cost growth. Opportunities for cross platform cooperation or joint service action will be highlighted.