

Who We Are

The Center for Asymmetric Warfare, or CAW, is a federal government research and field experimentation center aligned under the Naval Postgraduate School's National Security Institute.

CAW was established in 1999 to support U.S. military forces in identifying, countering, and controlling the effects of asymmetric warfare. We are a leader in our field, partnering with a diverse spectrum of organizations to increase the ability of the United States and our allies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from any potential threats to safety and security.





What We Do

CAW facilitates the improvement of the preparedness and response capabilities of military and civil authorities through training and education, test and evaluation, and technology integration programs.

These programs focus on improving interagency collaboration and the civil/military interface at all levels of operation, enhancing the overall effectiveness of emergency response and disaster relief capabilities.

This is done through the following activities:

- Development of Requirements and Operational Thresholds
- Assessment of Capabilities
- Development of Plans, Procedures, Personnel, and Infrastructure
- Training and Education
- Exercise and Evaluation of Capabilities
- Incorporation of Operational Feedback



CAW programs are a result of partnerships with organizations across a wide spectrum of jurisdictions:

- Local, state, and federal government
- Military
- Private sector and non-governmental
- Academia
- International governments

Our Resources

CAW maintains a wealth of unique experience and resources that enable one-of-a-kind training and education, test and evaluation, and technology integration programs.

- Recognized subject matter experts
- Extensive props and simulation tools
- Access to training sites and test vehicles
- Red team and opposition forces
- Video production for scenario enhancement or event documentation
- CAW-1, 85-foot research vessel
- CENIC network, 1-gigabit backbone
- Sensor Island and mobile technology support











Our Focus Areas

CAW's programs are conducted with the aim of deterring, defending against, and mitigating the effects of the full range of asymmetric threats to safety and security – from natural disasters to organized crime and terrorism.

In order to encompass the unpredictable nature of these threats, we focus our programs and research in the following areas:

Domestic Preparedness, Emergency Response, and Emergency Management

The safety and security of our homeland depends on a complex network of law enforcement, public safety, and military organizations. CAW focuses a number of its programs on reinforcing the core capabilities, compatible planning efforts, and the interoperability of these emergency response and management agencies to keep us safe at home.

Port and Maritime Safety and Security

Ninety percent of all global commerce and ninety-five percent of U.S. foreign trade travel by sea. To ensure that the United States and its allies are capable of protecting this critical trade and commerce, CAW focuses a number of programs on assessing, developing, and validation technology and capabilities in the maritime domain.

Military Readiness and Defense Support of Civil Authorities

CAW was established to assist military forces in addressing the emerging threat of asymmetric warfare and integrate with the civilian response in the event of a catastrophic incident. Continuing with that heritage, many of our programs are focused on bringing the resources of the military to bear to ensure our safety and security at home and overseas.

International Assessment and Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief

The asymmetric threat to safety and security is a global concern and requires global perspective. Therefore, CAW has developed programs to facilitate the improvement of preparedness and response capabilities through focused events that stress attention to the requirements, capabilities, and culture of our nation's strategic partners.

Technology Integration and Evaluation

CAW makes it a priority to integrate emerging technologies into its programs at all levels. This technology combines with staff ingenuity to provide a robust and realistic operational environment for agencies to test and showcase new systems concepts and applications.

Our Partners

CAW is a federal government sponsored program organization and can partner with any entity through one of multiple vehicles. Whether you are a military command, private corporation, or a city fire department, CAW is willing and able to help you achieve your objectives.

Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request

A MIPR allows a Department of Defense organization to request products or services from CAW.

Inter-Agency Agreement

An IAA allows any U.S. Government agency to request products or services from CAW. Through an IAA with the Department of State, CAW can also partner with international governments.

Cooperative Research and Development Agreement

CAW is unique as a government organization, in that it can utilize a CRADA to partner on a program with any local or state government agency, private corporation, or non-governmental organization.



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