

Fusion Centers

*Fusion: Turning Information-Intelligence
Into Actionable Knowledge*

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What is Information Fusion?

- Fusion of information or data consists of combining information originating from numerous sources in order to improve decision making.



What is a Fusion Center?



- A fusion center or cell is a location that can be used as an effective and efficient venue to:
 - Exchange, collate and share information and/or intelligence
 - Maximize the use of limited resources
 - Streamline operations
 - Improve the response capability of a government to identify and interdict threats to a State's sovereignty, natural resources or territorial waters.

Fusion Center Defined

- A *fusion center* is a “collaborative effort of two (2) or more agencies that provide:
 - Resources, expertise, and information to the Fusion Center with the goal of maximizing their ability to detect, prevent, investigate, and respond to criminal activity or threats.
 - Through which information is collected, integrated, evaluated, analyzed, and disseminated.
 - Sense-Share-Contribute



What types of Information?

- Government, International Organizations, Public and Private Sources and Databases
- Government Registries of vessels and recruiting companies
- Systems data such as Sea Vision or other vessel tracking mechanisms
- Open Source Information
- NGO's
- People
- Reports and analytical products



US Lesson of Failure to Communicate

We **FAILED**

Currently, we have approximately 80 IFC's

ALL are multi-agency

Specifically focused

US Maritime IFC's may include Coast Guard, Navy, NOAA, DOJ, DHS, DEA and State and local law enforcement when appropriate

Most are small **multi-agency** units who share information on a specified high priority target or crime

All agencies retain control of their information, databases and sources





vs. Reality, Pragmatism and Functionality

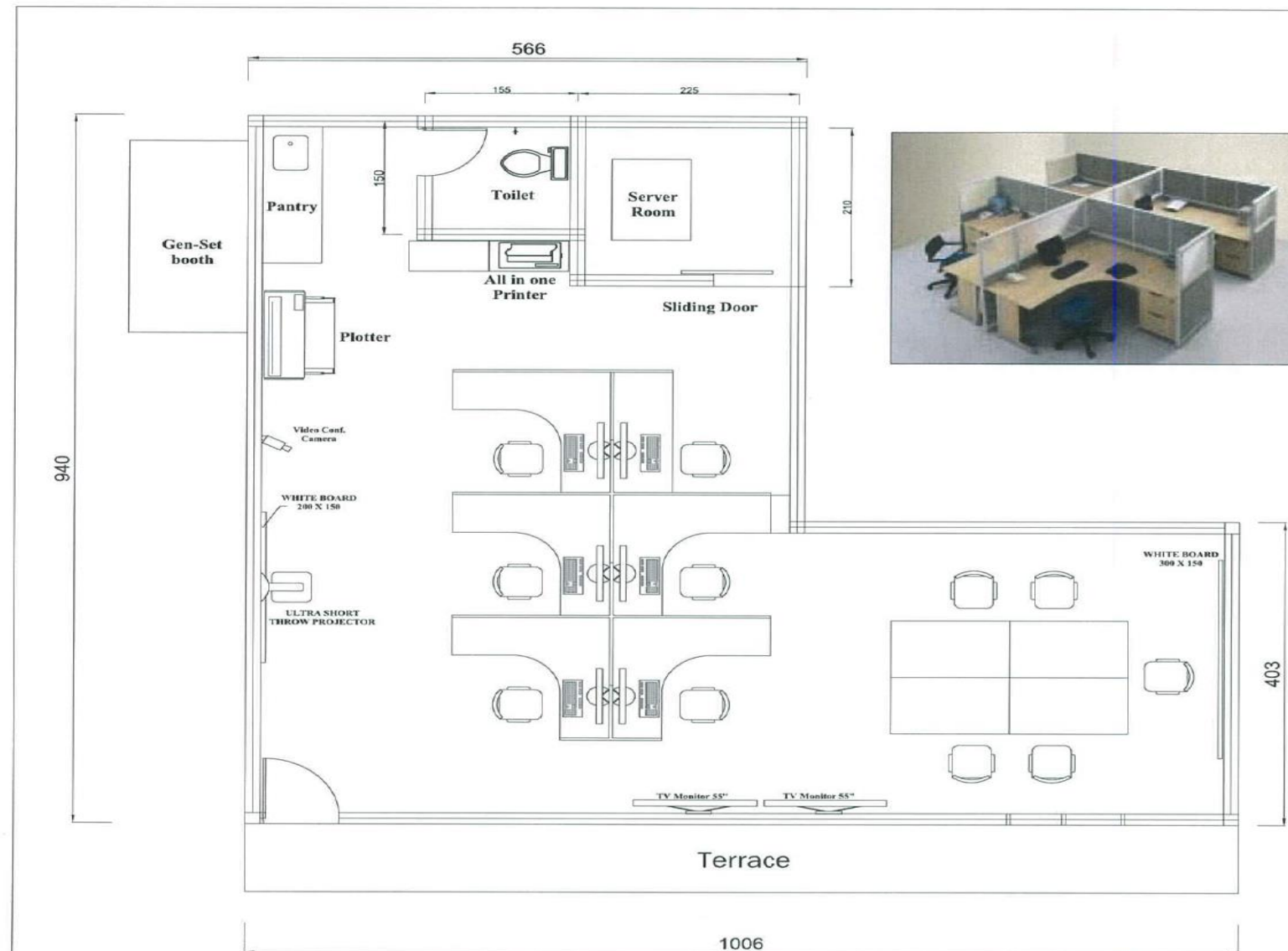


Fusion Centers are **not** Command and Control (C2) Centers

Fusion Center Examples



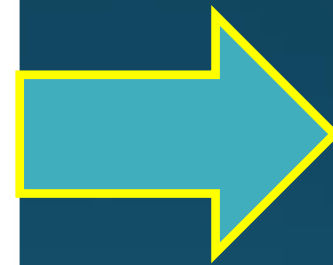
Small-Secure-Pragmatic-Functional



Fusion Center Layout

Fusion Process

*Turning Information-Intelligence
Into Actionable Knowledge*



Action-Interdiction

"80-10-10"

80% Intelligence/Information Collation
10% Investigative Process
10% Action-Interdiction-Execution

Fusion Centers Summary

- Information/Intelligence Fusion Centers or Cells are an effective means to leverage the capabilities of various organizations and agencies in pursuit of a particular mission or objective.
- FCs are designed to bring together analytical/intelligence expertise from multiple agencies and focus their efforts specifically on a 'dark target' or suspect activity.
- The need to identify, prevent, monitor, and respond to criminal activities remains a significant need for governments, law enforcement, intelligence and public safety agencies cannot be understated.