



AIRBASE OPENING PLANNING

Last Updated: 5 January 2020

Airbase opening is a critical task for military operations and requires significant attention during [planning](#).

CONTINGENCY PLANNING

Requirements for airbase opening should be included in contingency planning. Long range planners and current operations planners can assist in the exploitation of both classified and unclassified venues and maintain contact with the Air Force component headquarters. If possible, planners should include personnel from the applicable airbase opening force, representatives from the seizure force, and liaison elements to minimize operational seams.

THEATER CAPABILITIES PLANNING

Airfield assessment in support of theater capabilities planning is a process to accomplish airfield surveys and determine relevant support requirements. Before deployment, numerous capabilities exist to create an accurate picture of the airfield in question and associated infrastructure. If an accurate picture of the airfield is unavailable and forces will arrive shortly, a contingency response force would be employed to survey the airfield to develop the necessary site plans and airfield suitability and restrictions report.

JOINT INTEGRATION PLANNING

The [joint force commander](#) may establish a joint airfield planning and coordination team to address number, type, and location of all bases in the operational area. The team's efforts provide an opportunity for airbase opening forces to obtain evolving information regarding theater requirements.
