The combat operations division (COD) should be ready to respond with new targeting information in order to provide seamless operations when changes occur. These include:

- Responding to changes in friendly operations. For instance, if an aircraft that was tasked to prosecute a target has to abort for maintenance reasons, the COD should know the target’s relative priority in order to provide appropriate targeting guidance. If the target is low priority, it may be best to place it on a subsequent day’s air tasking order (ATO). If it is of higher priority, COD personnel may determine how best to direct or divert resources to prosecute it. COD personnel may have the best picture of what resources are available to prosecute it and what diverting resources may cost. Likewise, if an aircraft or package is diverted to prosecute a time-sensitive target (TST), the COD should identify the target(s) which may no longer be struck, as well as the new target which may be attacked. This information should be passed to the targeteers and collection managers to ensure coordinated collection and assessment on these new targets.

- Responding to changes in weather. A target planner’s actions may be similar to when he or she responds to changes in friendly operations. Further, changes in weather may require changes to the platforms and/or weapons required to engage a particular target. Target planners should ensure that the AOC weather specialty team is engaged.

- Re-targeting. If a target that was to be prosecuted is no longer a viable target for whatever reason, targeteers should have alternate targets to assign to a strike mission. Time is important because assets may already be airborne.

- Responding to TSTs. When a TST is identified, the COD should decide the best time to engage it. COD targeteers are involved in these efforts and provide guidance to planners concerning the characteristics and vulnerability of the target. Targeteers should be familiar with possible targets so that quick assessments and guidance can be given before the window of opportunity to strike the TST is gone.
Dynamic targeting has two significant limitations compared with deliberate targeting: the lack of detailed capability analysis and increased threat exposure. Commanders and the COD should consider these limitations when deciding whether to prosecute a target using dynamic targeting methods.

- **Capability Analysis.** Due to the reduced planning time available, targets prosecuted using dynamic targeting may be engaged with less consideration given to key employment issues such as fuse settings or axes of attack. In some cases, assets may be diverted to prosecute these targets with munitions that are not optimum for the given task. Since these considerations may carry increased risk of mission failure, collateral damage, or even harm to friendly troops, commanders should weigh the potential benefits gained by prosecuting the target quickly. COD personnel should work with their targeteers to ensure that proposed capability analysis solutions are sufficient for the given task.

- **Increased Threat.** Denied environment targets are normally attacked by packages with dedicated support, such as electronic jamming and suppression of enemy air defense capabilities. The shortened dynamic targeting planning window may not allow for the same level of support, thereby exposing aircrews to greater risk. Time for target area threat analysis is also reduced, further increasing risk to aircrews and weapon survivability.