

MCWP 3-25.8

Marine Air Traffic Control Detachment Handbook



U.S. Marine Corps

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Subj: RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING MCWP 3-25.8,
MARINE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL DETACHMENT
HANDBOOK

1. In accordance with the Foreword to MCWP 3-25.8, which invites individuals to submit suggestions concerning this MCWP directly to the above addressee, the following unclassified recommendation is forwarded:

Page	Article/Paragraph No.	Line No.	Figure/Table No.
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3. Justification/source: (Need not be double-spaced.)

NOTE: Only one recommendation per page.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
Headquarters United States Marine Corps
Washington, DC 20380-1775

1 August 1997

FOREWORD

The Marine air command and control system (MACCS) provides the Marine aviation combat element commander with the means to exercise control of those organic and nonorganic aviation assets that are necessary to support Marine air-ground task force (MAGTF) operations. Fleet Marine Force Manual (FMFM) 5-60, *Control of Aircraft and Missiles*, addresses basic planning considerations for MACCS operations, employment, and inter-operability among MACCS and joint Service agencies.

Marine Corps Warfighting Publication (MCWP) 3-25.8, *Marine Air Traffic Control Detachment Handbook*, complements and expands on the information in FMFM 5-60 by focusing on the details of the Marine air traffic control detachment (MATCD) operations and the role it plays in MAGTF, joint, and multinational operations. Designated for MAGTF, naval expeditionary force, and joint force commanders and staffs, MCWP 3-25.8 highlights MATCD—

- Organization
- Equipment
- Planning considerations
- Operational fundamentals
- Employment options

By investigating these areas, MCWP 3-25.8 provides the requisite information needed by commanders and staffs to understand and evaluate the operational principles and capabilities of various MATCD employment options.

Reviewed and approved this date.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE
CORPS

PAUL K. VAN RIPER
Lieutenant General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding General
Marine Corps Combat Development Command

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Marine Air Traffic Control Detachment Handbook

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Chapter 1

Fundamentals

The Marine air traffic control detachment (MATCD) is the principal terminal air traffic control organization within the Marine air command and control system (MACCS). Two MATCDs are structured to operate as subordinate elements of the Marine air control squadron (MACS).

Each MATCD is organized and equipped to provide continuous all-weather air traffic control services to an independent and geographically separated main air base or air facility and one remote air site or point. Appendix A describes these forward operating bases.

The MATCD mission is to provide continuous, all-weather air traffic control services to a main air base/facility and to a remote area landing site as part of the MACCS.

The MATCD also functions as an integral part of a MAGTF's integrated air defense system (IADS). Marine air traffic control equipment is maintained by the MATCD and supported by the Naval Air Systems Command.

ROLE

The MATCD—

- Provides airspace control, management, and surveillance for its designated airspace sector.
- Provides navigational assistance to friendly aircraft, including itinerant air traffic control services.
- Interfaces with the MACCS, other military air control agencies, and/or civilian agencies/authorities.
- Provides required air traffic control services in support of MAGTF operations.
- Provides personnel to the survey, liaison, reconnaissance party team to ensure MATCD siting criteria and terminal instrument procedures (TERPs) are considered and addressed during the site survey.

TASKS

The MATCD—

- Provides control tower, radar, and non-radar approach/departure control services within its assigned airspace.
- Provides precision as well as nonprecision navigational aids (NAVAIDs).
- Provides automatic landing system approach and landing services under all-weather conditions.