

All,

Here is the working version of my list of criteria for evaluating real-time data acquisition systems:

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Continuous acquisition for the duration

Very high up-time

Accurate capture and time stamping all of the data from every subsystem in it's native output format

Add, modify, remove, reconfigure a data "source" with no impact on the others

Real-time access to all data without risk to acquisition

Methods for detecting, logging, and providing warnings about problems

A single, logically structured, data archive onboard

A reliable and routinely tested method to deliver the raw data and all related metadata to the appropriate national archives expediently and accurately

Methods to automatically provide subsets, summaries, or snippets of data

User interface(s) to support a range of functions including watch standers, tactical, and strategic planning

Appropriate provisions for cyber/network/software/hardware security.

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-Dale