



## ANNEX 3-17 AIR MOBILITY OPERATIONS

### AIR MOBILITY DIVISION AUGMENTATION UNITS

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Most theater [air operations centers](#) (AOCs) are manned to support day-to-day theater [air mobility](#) requirements. As a result, [Air Mobility Division](#) (AMD) augmentation units provide a rapid, tailored, worldwide, operational level [command and control](#) (C2) of intratheater air mobility assets to a combatant commander's (CCDR's) needs. An AMD augmentation unit extends an existing theater AOC's AMD infrastructure, through both in-place employment and rapid forward deployment capabilities, and presents forces to warfighting unified commanders by focusing on meeting our nation's global air mobility requirements. Each AMD augmentation unit presents trained personnel in the areas of [airlift](#), [air refueling](#), [C2](#), logistics (airlift requirements/aerial port and aircraft maintenance), and [aeromedical evacuation](#) planning and execution. Additionally, an air mobility operations squadron (AMOS) can provide limited combat airspace, [intelligence](#), C2 systems administration, and supply, to augment an AOC's support and specialty teams.

#### AMD Augmentation—Phased Approach

Each AOC is sized and tailored to its specific mission/theater of operations. The AOC usually plans, exercises, executes, and assesses across normalized steady-state operations. Availability of AMD augmentation capability should consider probable strategic warning as well as response time of augmentation sources (regular and Air Reserve Component [ARC] augmentation units). There are four phases (A through D) of AMD augmentation:

✦ **Phase A—Pre-conflict Steady-state Operations (day-to-day operations).** This is the existing AMD manning and team composition prior to contingency operations (i.e., the “going-in” state). Different theaters present different steady state operations depending on the number of theater assets owned or the type of missions being performed.

✦ **Phase B—Build-up and Initial Response.** Once a contingency operation begins and the existing AMD is unable to meet its demands, a cadre of AMD augmentation personnel arrive to execute the AMD's core competencies of airlift, tanker, and AE planning and execution. AMC, working with Air Combat Command, has postured two regular AMOSs to meet this initial response need as part of the rapid augmentation team concept. Additionally, there are ARC AMOSs available for AMD augmentation. Normally, the focus of the effort is on [time-phased force and deployment data](#) (TPFDD) closeout and supporting movements for initial [beddown](#) of forces. The timeframe

associated with this phase is most likely on the order of weeks, until the TPFDD close-out date and initial beddown are complete.

✦ **Phase C—Major Operations.** The AMD manpower may dramatically increase based on the given scenario. Replacing regular AMD augmentation forces deployed during phase B operations with ARC AMD augmentation personnel enables the initial augmentation forces to redeploy and reconstitute for other contingency requirements that may arise and sets conditions for the transition to phase D—Sustainment Operations.

✦ **Phase D—Sustainment Operations.** During phase D operations, the AMD is more robust than the phase A steady-state, but usually has fallen into a more predictable routine. Operations remain on a wartime footing; however, theater taskings and manning requirements are relatively stable. Augmentees may still be required, depending on the baseline, pre-contingency manning for the applicable AMD, but these individuals can be trained and positions filled using ARC AMD augmentation units or extended temporary duties.

Regular AMD rapid augmentation units are not designed or manned to provide long-term phase D sustainment augmentation to the AMD. Their core competency, and the capability they provide, is a short-term rapid response to global contingency air mobility C2 needs. The manning requirements of phase D may become the “new normal” and come to define the augmented AMD’s new phase A—steady-state operations. At this point, the AOC may decide that long-term augmentation of sustainment operations is warranted.

The phases described above are not necessarily linear. Phase D, sustainment operations, can roll back into phase B, initial response, for another portion of the theater, or phase C, major operations.

A theater AMD can be tasked to support a wide variety of missions along the spectrum of conflict. This diversity of requirements inhibits mobility air forces (MAF) from identifying one “standard” AMD profile capable of supporting all of the AOCs. Instead, examining AMD augmentation from a phased perspective offers a way to tailor AMD augmentation with the right forces, in the right place, at the right time.

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