Q: What is the relationship between the NRO's Distributed Common Ground System (DCGS) effort and the DNI-led Information Integration efforts?

A: Information Integration, making all information visible, retrievable and understandable anywhere in the enterprise, is a key component of the DNI's overall vision of transforming the Intelligence Community (IC) into an integrated enterprise from a mission, customer-focused and business perspective. To achieve this vision, the Information Integration Program (I2P) funds activities that bring together technology, common services, standards, governance structure and policies that permit people to people, people to information, and information to information interaction across agency boundaries, as well as transform business process and systems to improve decision-making capabilities.

The National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) initiated the Distributed Common Ground System – Intelligence Community (DCGS-IC) in early 2007 to understand how NTM multi-INT data and information could be exposed and services provided in a net-centric environment consistent with emerging Department of Defense standards, including common metadata tagging schemas.

As part of its oversight responsibilities, the DNI I2P is reviewing a number of information sharing initiatives, including DCGS-IC and DIA's IC Data Layer (ICDL), to eliminate overlaps and ensure an efficient use of IC resources.