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OPEN STANDARDS, MULTI-DOMAIN INTEGRATION AND THE NATIONAL PROSPERITY AGENDA

October 12, 2021   **Andy Jubb | Senior Principal Engineer**

Open Standards, MDI and the National Prosperity Agenda

"The nature of war remains constant: it is visceral and violent… and it is always about politics. What is changing is the character of warfare, which is evolving significantly due to the pervasiveness of information and the pace of technological change."

General Sir Nick Carter, Chief of the Defence Staff

"The UK's Defence & Security industries lead the world in many areas… they make an enormous contribution to the economy through jobs, skills, research and development, and exports. They underpin our national security and play a crucial role in maintaining the UK's global influence"

Jeremy Quin, Minister of Defence Procurement

Embracing a truly open standards approach to capability development provides a force multiplier in the race to achieve MDI and grow national prosperity

What is an Open Standard?

- Developed using

  – Collaboration between all interested parties, not just individual suppliers
  – A transparent and published decision-making process that is reviewed by subject matter experts
  – A transparent and published feedback and ratification process to ensure quality

- Must be

  – Well-documented, publicly available, and free to use to provide fair access
  – Mature, unless they are in the context of creating innovative solutions
  – Supported by the market to demonstrate the independence of platforms, applications and vendors
  – Released for use with a royalty free licence which is irrevocable unless there is a breach of conditions
  – Compatible with both open source and proprietary licensed solutions

Open Standards principles - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

What are the Benefits of Open Standards?

Components, subsystems and systems can be reused across products, solutions and capabilities with through-life cost benefits
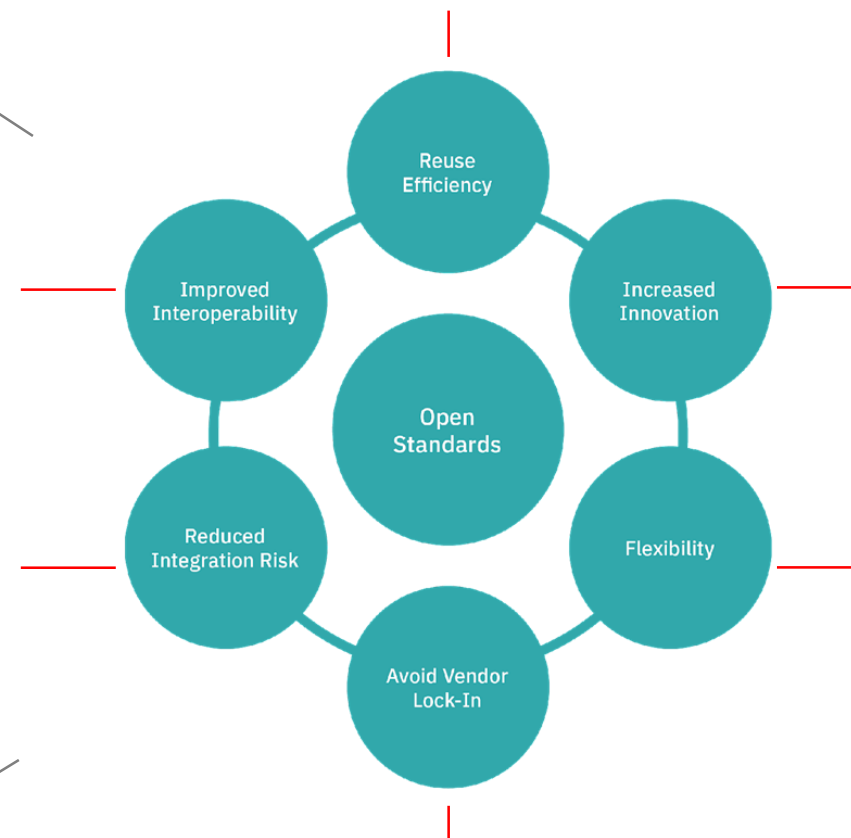
Greater market competition and diversity drives new and improved systems and services

Barriers to free flow of data and information between systems and operational partners are removed

Architectures based on open standards allow specific components to be interchanged and upgraded with ease

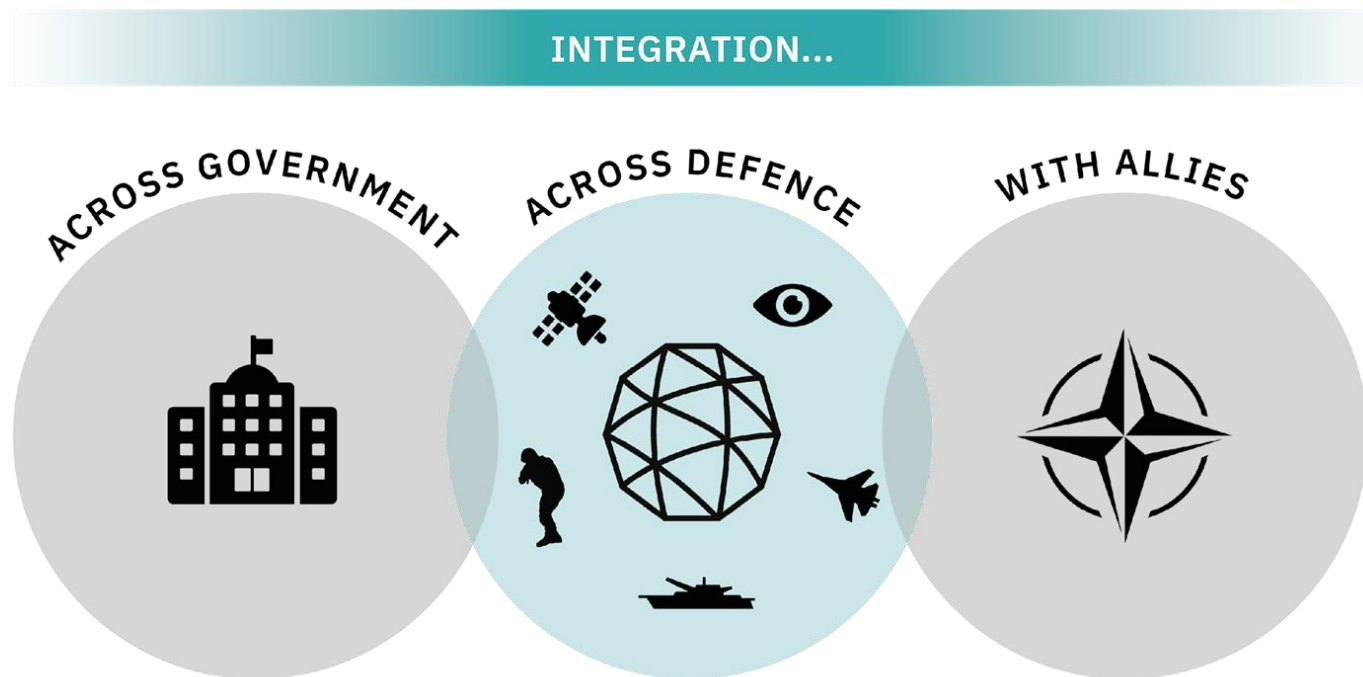Collaboratively and transparently developed, mature standards ease integration

Flexibility coupled with greater market competition creates vendor choice

Reuse Efficiency

Increased Innovation

Improved Interoperability

Open Standards

Flexibility

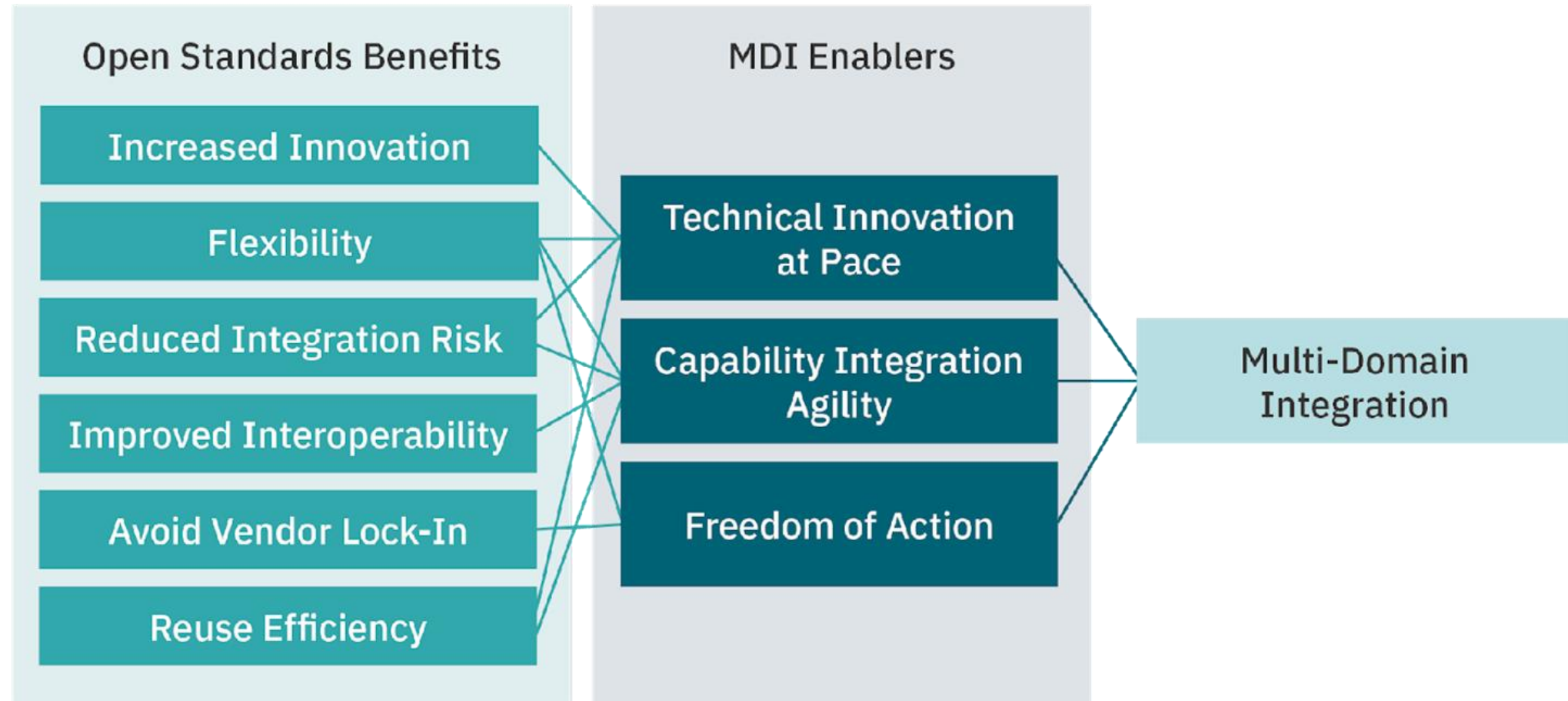**Reduced Integration Risk**

Avoid Vendor Lock-In

What is Multi-Domain Integration?

- UK Defence's response to the changing character of warfare brought about by the Information Age and the new era of persistent competition

- A military concept that seeks to change the way Defence operates and war fights, from joint operations to integration across all three levels of warfare, all operational domains and across the 'Whole Force'
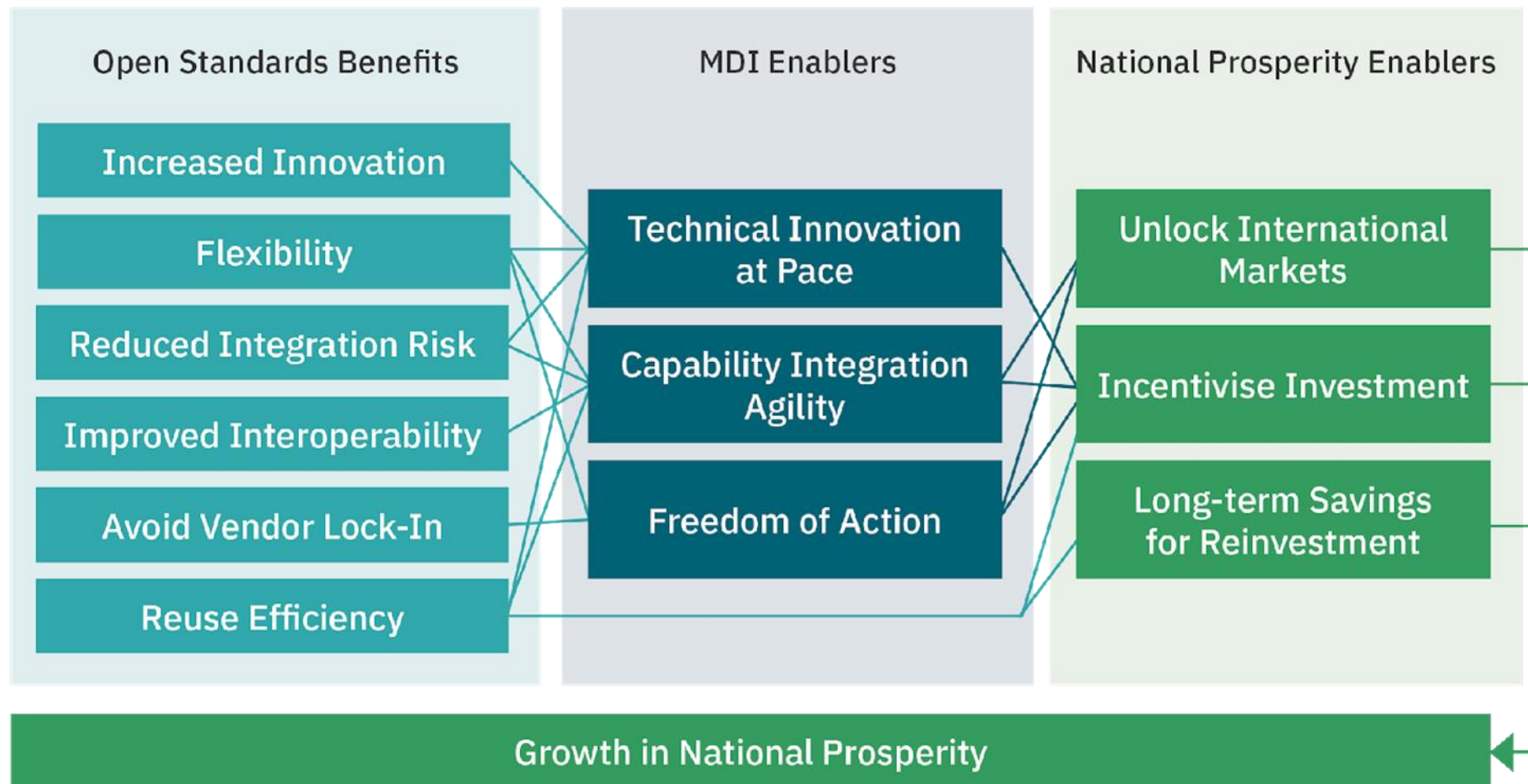
INTEGRATION...

ACROSS GOVERNMENT

ACROSS DEFENCE

WITH ALLIES

Multi-Domain Integration Enablers

Open Standards Benefits
- Increased Innovation
- Flexibility
- Reduced Integration Risk
- Improved Interoperability
- Avoid Vendor Lock-In
- Reuse Efficiency

MDI Enablers
- Technical Innovation at Pace
- Capability Integration Agility
- Freedom of Action

Multi-Domain Integration

MDI becomes instantly more achievable by embracing the many benefits of truly open standards

What is the National Prosperity Agenda?

- UK Government intention to **promote the economic wellbeing of the United Kingdom and its people**

- Increasing national prosperity has been an **explicit objective for Government** since the 2015 Strategic Defence and Security Review

- **Recovery** from the COVID-19 pandemic has **boosted priority**

- 2020 Integrated Review – a Government vision to **"build back better"** placing **Science and Technology at the heart**

- Defence and Security Industrial Strategy (DSIS) makes it clear that ensuring **"the UK continues to have competitive, innovative and world-class defence and security industries"** is a key enabler

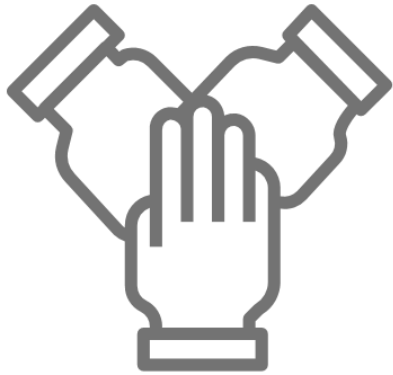# Role of Open Standards in National Prosperity

Open standards capabilities significantly enhance UK defence industry contribution to national prosperity
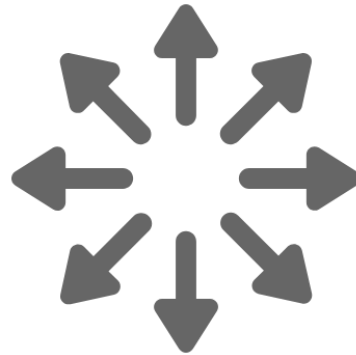
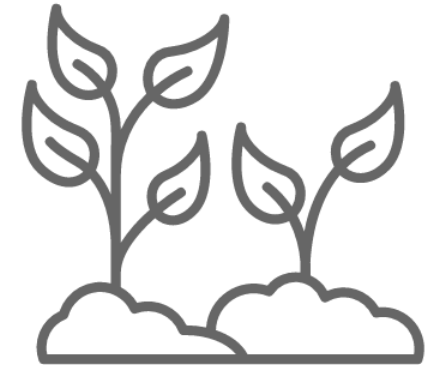# Maximising the Benefits of Open Standards

- Defence has recognised the benefits of open standards in high-level policy, concept, and strategy

- Defence often forgets that an open standard is most successful when the full definition laid out in Government policy is fully embraced
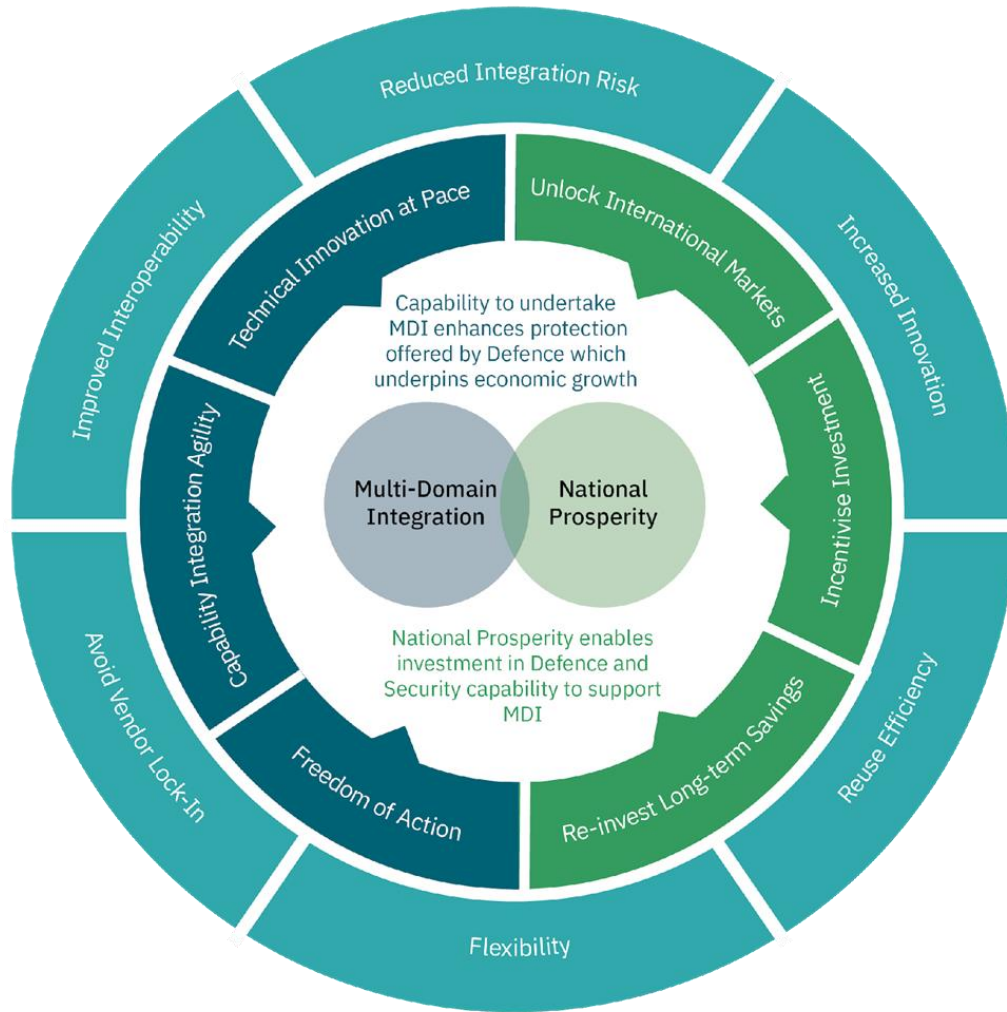
COLLABORATE EXTENSIVELY

DISSEMINATE TRANSPARENTLY AND PROACTIVELY

SELECT MATURE STANDARDS WITH MARKET TRACTION

Open Standards: A Force Multiplier

An era of persistent competition demands **persistent collaboration** between Defence and industry to truly **maximise the benefits** of open standards, **accelerate the implementation of MDI**, and **drive national prosperity**

Learn More…

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