Abstract
The goal of this research is to explore potential efficiencies and cost savings implementing fleet maintenance centers and mission generation bases for the KC-46A enterprise. AMC/A4 is proposing a KC-46A enterprise-level management strategy focusing on maintenance and sustainment. This management strategy leverages new ideas and commercial fleet management concepts with the intent of maximizing efficiencies and aircraft availability while reducing potential redundancies and excess in infrastructure, maintenance personnel and operations and sustainment costs.

The KC-46 fleet would have primary fleet maintenance centers with other bases serving primarily as mission generation bases. It is assumed that implementing this type of strategy will create efficiencies and cost savings for the program.

Research Questions
Primary Question
1. Should AMC/A4 utilize mission generation bases and fleet maintenance centers for KC-46A maintenance?

Secondary Questions
1. Are there efficiencies that could be realized utilizing mission generation bases and fleet maintenance centers?
2. If consolidation should occur, what current maintenance functions should be consolidated?
3. Can the overall infrastructure be reduced?
4. Are there any personnel cost savings? Will the cost savings be realized or transferred?
5. What are some potential roadblocks to consolidation?

Methodology
A three round Delphi survey was used to gain insights from maintenance officers in the MAF community. The voluntary panel consisted of 33 officers in the ranks of Maj – Col and assigned to various positions from Headquarters to the unit level.

Round One survey collected narrative responses which were analyzed and used to shape questions posed for quantitative rating in Round Two.

Round Three presented raw score averages from Round Two and asked the panel to rate their concurrence with final recommendations based on scores and analysis. All quantitative scoring for Round Two and Three were based on a 5 point Likert Scale.

Research Questions Answered
Primary Question
1. Based on the panel recommendations from round two and round three, AMC/A4 should utilize mission generation bases and fleet maintenance centers for KC-46A maintenance.

Secondary Questions
1. Overall the panel feels that centralizing maintenance functions for the KC-46A can provide efficiencies and reduce redundancy in the maintenance enterprise.
2. The panel recommends consolidating ISO/HSC, C-Checks and Composite/Paint for the KC-46A enterprise.
3. The panel feels the overall infrastructure can be reduced by implementing fleet maintenance centers and mission generation bases.
4. The panel agrees consolidating maintenance functions can lead to personnel savings however there are concerns that the savings would not be realized and the manpower would just be transferred elsewhere.
5. The panel identifies Congress, states interests and the Air National Guard as potential roadblocks to consolidation.