



TEAM DEFENCE INFORMATION BULLETIN

December 22/January 23

News digest and look ahead to TD-Info Events

Please note all links provided are to our website at www.teamdefence.info and many are accessible to registered members only. To register please go to the top right-hand side of the home page, click on Register, complete the form and you will receive login details in a welcome email, along with guidance on using the website. We avoid images in this bulletin as many defence-related organisations apply email filters that reject emails containing them.

Introduction from our Managing Director, Phil Williams

Dear TD-Info,

As the year draws to a close and we adjust to working face-to-face again, TD-Info remains as busy as ever. And 2023 shows no sign of slowing down! We have four conferences planned for 2023, starting with the Supply Chain Seminar (SCS) in January. Stand by for a busy year ahead.

I hope that you all enjoy a Christmas break with friends and family and come back raring to go!

International Fund for Ukraine - Urgent Bidding Round

As the Secretary of State announced in Parliament on the 20th October, the International Fund for Ukraine (IFU) Secretariat is pleased to formally launch an Urgent Bidding Round to ensure the continued supply of essential military support to Ukraine. Interested parties are now invited to submit Expressions of Interest for funding against the IFU. Full details provided [here](#). Expression of Interest template found [here](#).

New TD-Info Members

This month we are delighted to welcome Faculty Science Ltd and Tim Lai as new members of Team Defence.

Major Conferences of 2023 (Hold the Dates)

Support Chain Seminar 2023

Digital Engineering in UK Defence

18-19 January 2023 - Aerospace, Bristol

Day One - Delivering better equipment faster and at lower cost

Day Two - Digital Asset Management

“End to End Digital Engineering in the fourth industrial revolution promises the most profound change to the way we procure and support defence equipment in 50 years.”

Adrian Baguley

Deputy Chief Executive Officer & Director General Strategic Enablers

The Programme

Day One (includes discussion panels, networking breaks/lunch and exhibition)

- **Stephen Wilcock**, DE&S Dir Engineering & Safety, MOD
- **Adrian Baguley**, DE&S Dep CEO. MOD - Keynote
- **Lt Gen Richard Wardlaw** CDLS Strat Com, MOD - Digital Engineering to deliver operational advantage
- **Industry DSF** Keynote
- **Anton Burford**, Capability Director, Aeralis - Building the digital Aircraft
- **Dr Alex Rose-Parfitt**, Engineering Director, Raytheon UK - Building the digital Missile
- **Richard Wray**, Engineering Director, MBDA - Building the digital Missile
- **Nick Smallwood**, CEO, Infrastructure & Projects Authority, MOD - Digitalising Government Business
- **Prof Duncan Kemp**, DE&S Digital Engineering Team Leader, MOD - Lessons from DE&S Digital Engineering - DE&S Policy and guidance

- **Craig Spacey**, Group Support & Services Director, BAE Systems - BAE Systems Digitalisation Journey
- **Rolls-Royce** (invited to speak) - Intelligent Engine Services at Rolls-Royce
- **Mark Walker**, Application Engineering Manager, MathWorks UK - Making A Digital Twin a Reality – From Engineering concept to Through Life Technical Support

NETWORK EXTRA - HOT BUFFET AND BAR

Vanguard and Young Professionals session and Exhibition

Day Two (includes discussion panels, networking breaks/lunch and exhibition)

- **RAdm Andy Kyte** (invited to speak) - Improving Defence Outputs - The role of Digital Engineering
- **Dr Richard Drake**, CTO, Babcock International - Engineering Support Transformation and Digital Asset Management
- **Ryan England**, Head of Service Transformation (UKL), Thales - Making Digital Transformation a Reality: An OEM's Journey
- **Dr Will Roper** - A US Perspective on the Digitalisation of Defence
- **Airbus** (invited to speak) - Digital Engineering Experience
- **Andy Start**, CEO DE&S (invited to speak) - Finale Speaker

SCS23 will provide the opportunity for the 'Team Defence' community to hear, first-hand, how Digital Engineering is transforming Defence. Digital Engineering offers the potential to reduce development times for new equipment, improve availability of in-service equipment for less money and reduced risk. The event will give an opportunity to understand the opportunities that Digital Engineering offers, discuss the key initiatives, exchange information, strengthen relationships, and become engaged in collaborative MOD/Industry Working Groups.

The event will include presentations and Q&A discussion panels on:

1. The operational and business benefits MOD wishes to achieve through Digital Engineering
2. Key lessons from different countries and different sectors on their Digital Engineering journey
3. How existing and new suppliers are using Digital Engineering to deliver battle winning solutions, faster and at lower cost

TICKETS (subject to VAT)

TD-Info Members:

- One Day - £250
- Two Days - £420
- Virtual - £150

Non-Members:

- One Day - £400
- Two Days - £750
- Virtual - £375

Ministry of Defence: Free of Charge

Network Extra: £50

CLICK HERE TO BOOK YOUR TICKET



Calling all Sponsors and Exhibitors - if you would like to support the event, please contact [Sue Russell](#) for more information. Prime, standard and exhibition packages available, please book early. Already supporting SCS23 are:



Operational Energy Conference - 2-3 March 2023

Development of the Defence Operational Energy Strategy is commencing and the new Operational Energy Authority will stand up from 1 April 23

Building on last year's Defence Fuels and Sustainable Energy Conference a Defence Operational Energy Conference will be held 2 - 3 March 2023 at Worthy Down.

Intent

The conference will share developments across a range of energy vectors and consideration for how these could be exploited to assure future energy provision to the deployed force. The insights gained will increase understanding of energy options and help inform Defence's operational energy transition.

Outline

This will be a 1.5 day conference with sessions consisting of 3 speakers followed by panel Q&A while allowing plenty of time for networking.

The agenda on day 1 will consider energy developments by sector/command (aviation, maritime and land). Day 2 will provide an international Defence perspective (5 eyes /NATO) before closing with briefings on the CC&S Sectoral Approach, Operational Energy Authority, and the Defence Operational Energy Strategy

Evening Reception

There will be a networking event on the first evening.

Attendance

Tickets to the physical event and evening reception are limited.

- MOD attendance is by invitation only. This will be managed by DSFA, FTP and DFAC
- There will be a nominal charge for Industry who will be able to purchase tickets through the Team Defence Information Website.

Sponsorship

There are four sponsorship opportunities. Sponsor packages include:

- 2 tickets for both days and evening reception
- Stand 6-foot table
- Compare one of the sessions (air, land, sea, international)
- Thought leadership piece in brochure
- Logos on marketing and slides

Trade Stands

There will also be opportunities for trade stands:

- 1 ticket to both days and evening reception
- Stand 6 foot table

Further information to follow.

If you would like to know more, or if you would like to sponsor/are interested in speaking at the event, please contact [Steve Green](#).

Support Net – 18-19 May 2023

Building Resilience By Design

On 18/19 May 23 the Chief of Defence Logistics and Support – Lt Gen Richard Wardlaw – will welcome you to the Raddison Blu Heathrow for SupportNet23.

The proposed theme of SupportNet23 is 'Building Resilience by Design' and planned topics on resilience include: delivering a resilient organization; resilience and the industrial base; designing a resilient support network; increasing defence outputs and resilience; building personal and cognitive resilience; and sustainability and resilience.

A diverse range of speakers will come from across Defence, industry, and academia to outline thinking, plans and strategies to build resilience in the Support Network and promote thought, debate and the sharing of ideas. There will be an update on the agenda in early 2023.

Sponsors and Exhibitors: If you would like to sponsor the event, please contact [Julian Dayment](#).

Speakers: If you are interested in speaking at the event, please contact [Steve Green](#).

Defence Information 2023 (DI23) – 5-6 July 2023

Delivery of the Defence Digital Strategy

DI23 will be on 5 and 6 July at The Active Leisure Centre, Thornbury (like DI22 this year). It will again be hybrid for in-person and remote attendees. In the next few months, we'll bring you more information about the theme and content of DI23.

Sponsors and Exhibitors: if you would like to support the event, please contact [Sue Russell](#).

Speakers: please register your interest with [Steve Shepherd](#).

Upcoming Conferences

Team Defence Information Town Hall – 14 December 2022, 10:45 – 15:00

On 28 September 2022, we had our first Team Defence Information Town Hall event since the COVID outbreak. There were important updates from both MOD and industry, with special thanks to Rear Admiral Andy Kyte for his talk on Improving Defence Outputs. For a comprehensive look at what you missed last time, please see our [Town Hall Executive Summary](#).

Our next Town Hall will be at Thornbury Active Leisure Centre on the 14 December 2022. We are excited to have James Daniel give the keynote address, which will be an overview of Defence Support Transformation. There will also be special emphasis on our Futures work, led by Steve Green.

Come and join us to learn about the major activities happening around Defence, how Team Defence Information and industry can best contribute and, of course, to network over a delicious buffet lunch.

Moving forward, we want to inspire a wider diversity in our audience, so please invite your early-career colleagues to come too.

We'd like to encourage as many people to attend as possible, to maximise the opportunity to network, especially for those early in their careers. However if you can't come in person, it is possible to attend virtually.

Agenda (subject to change) available [here](#).

Register [here](#)!

Recent Conferences

Operational Energy (OpEnCoE) COI Hydrogen Network Event – 16 November 2022

On the 16 November, Team Defence Information facilitated an event for the Future Capability Group on 'Hydrogen within the context of Operational Energy' at Rolls-Royce in Bristol.

This event investigated developments in hydrogen as a potential energy vector and brought together different perspectives with presentations from: Rolls-Royce, BP, Ryze Hydrogen, the European Marine Energy Centre, UK KTN, and the MOD, whose Future Capability Group, Defence Strategic Fuels Authority, Support Transformation and DASA also presented on areas of relevant activity.

After the presentation in the morning, the 83 attendees participated in an extremely useful and productive networking lunch and afternoon workshop on this topic.

Defence Supply Chain Strategy Launch – 17 November 2022

“Consecutive global disruptions ranging from the COVID-19 pandemic to state-led aggression in Ukraine to the environmental threats borne from climate change have highlighted the fragile nature of supply chains in Defence and industry.”

Major General Simon Hutchings

On 17 November, at the Leidos Defence Fulfilment Centre, Team Defence Information facilitated the Launch of the Defence Supply Chain Strategy, outlining how Defence plans to build resilience within our Supply Chains. The full policy paper can be found [here](#).

The event opened with an address from Maj Gen Simon Hutchings, outlining the context behind the strategy and what the MOD needs going forward. Shaun Goodman of DE&S then talked about the work happening within the MOD on supply chain risk and resilience by design. Marco Sandrone, Senior Director of Supply Chain at Gartner, then presented on how and why we need to build ‘offset strategies’ to counteract targeted, urgent and uncontrollable disruptions in our supply chains. Before the panel answered questions from the industry attendees, Roger West gave a presentation on the emergent thinking and lessons learned from Ukraine, informing the UK Military Capability.

After a networking lunch, attendees toured the Leidos facility.

Presentations from the day can found [here](#).

Future Events

(Check the [What's On](#) section of the website for the up-to-date list of events and links to register.)

Team Defence Information Council Meeting – 13 December, 13:00 – 15:00

The Council reviews TD-Info’s performance against agreed strategic goals and helps to TD-Info’s future agenda. The Council’s members are senior figures from TD-Info’s membership who are invited to the Council. This hybrid meeting is by invitation only and MS Teams links are emailed before the meeting. To find out more, contact [Philippa Arter](#).

DAIC Assurance Model kick-off workshop - 14/15 December, 12:00 - 14:00

The Defence AI Centre’s Production and Assurance model (DAIC ProMA) project kicked-off on 15 November and will complete (report writing aside) end-February/early-March 2023. The Production Model workstream activities commenced on 29 November – an **Assurance Model workshop** will be held – with grateful thanks to the DE&S Future Capabilities Group – at the Abbey Wood Innovation Bridge on **15 December** (noon-2pm).

A separate briefing session – Method’s **AI Centre of Expertise Service Framework** – will be held at TD-Info’s Briarlands office a day earlier (**14 December** - also noon-2pm): essential context for MOD’s approach to AI.

Please get in touch with [Tony Butler](#) if you would like to attend either, or both, events (in-person or Teams options available). Project participation is entirely voluntary and members

may join, or leave, at any time. Please also contact Tony if you would like more details about the project or about the two current workstreams.

Industry Customer Engagement Forum (ICEF) – 9 January, 13:00 – 15:00

The Industry Customer Engagement Forum is a regular industry engagement meeting, hosted by the MOD, to address issues affecting industry-based consumers of MOD-provided services. For further information, please contact [Tony Butler](#).

Team Defence Information Executive Team Meeting – 25 January, 10:45 – 13:00

The Team Defence Information Executive Team operate monthly sessions to support and mature opportunities and guide the broad portfolio of Team Defence Information activities, so that these activities align with the strategic direction and focus set by the Team Defence Information Strategy Group. For further information, please contact [Philippa Arter](#).

Multi Domain Integration (MDI) Virtual Event – 26 January, 10:00 – 13:00

This event will be the first MDI event in 2023 with more details coming soon. For further information, please contact [Steve Worsnip](#). Register [here](#).

Fourth AdM As A Service Working Group – 9 February, 10:00 - 16:00

The fourth AdM As a Service Working Group (WG) will be at the Manufacturing Technology Centre, Coventry on the 9 February 2023. The WG will give attendees an opportunity to engage with AdM colleagues across the MOD, academia and industry (OEMs & SMEs), and will consist of industry and MOD briefings on current AdM activities and the AdM as a Service Challenge (Project TAMPA).

You can also join Working Group discussions on the key topics of Certification, Inventory management and the Digital Thread. This will be an in-person meeting only. To find out more, contact [Stu Olden](#).

Register [here](#).

Activity Updates

Multi Domain Integration (MDI)

During October and November, the new MDI leadership team of Graham Ball (MOD Lead), Chris Parker (Industry Lead), and Steve Worsnip (TD-Info) have been incredibly active in driving forward the MDI quest.

The following events have been held:

- October – MDI StratCom Virtual Update
- October – supported the RUSI MDI ‘closed door’ conference, with informed MDI SME’s / disruptors.
- November – Town Hall Event at Airbus Defence & Space (Stevenage), MDI through the lens of acquisition

MDI Phase 3a report was issued and available for all to read [here](#).

The November Town Hall Event enjoyed thought provoking MDI inputs through the lens of acquisition from:

- Rear Admiral Andrew Kyte, Increasing Defence Outputs, MOD
- Dr Liesl Neale, Head of Portfolio, Directorate of Acquisition and Project Delivery, MOD
- David Kingdom-Jones, Head of Smart Connectivity, Airbus Defence and Space

And two lively panel debates:

Panel 1. What behaviours do we need to champion to promote integration?

Panel 2. What incentives are required within MOD and industry to generate better integration outcomes?

See the outputs from the event, including insights and access to speakers' presentations, [here](#).

We have two new dates for MDI Enterprise Engagements in early 2023:

26 January 2023 (Virtual)

8 March 2023 (Town Hall Event, in-person)

The working group leadership are incredibly focussed, and seeking wider engagement, to:

1. Champion **Integration by Design** – a focus on **campaign needs** (strategic priority) and the **benefit of Industry being involved** and engaged.
2. **Enhancing collaboration** and access to best practice.
3. UK Defence Sector (all) **cultural change** list to enable MDI benefits.
4. Supporting and **shaping the UK's Integration Design Authority**.

Business Function Model and Information Exchange Working Group

On 18 October, the Business Function Model and Information Exchange Working Group (BFM&IE WG) held a launch meeting. For some time, the Defence Support CIO, Richard Puttick has had a team of architects, led by Andy Burden, developing a business function model for Defence Support. The model has now reached such a level of maturity that it is time to engage industry in validating the model and for a joint MOD and industry team to develop it further

Further meetings are planned to begin the detailed work on the model. The TD-Info lead for this work is the Delivery Continuity Executive, [Paul Hudson](#).

Team Defence Information developing support for the MOD DE&S Future Capability Group (FCG)

TD-Info continues to actively support and assist the FCG in kick-starting key initiatives identified jointly by DE&S and MOD Front Line Commands (FLCs). This is called the **Open Innovation Laboratory (OIL)**. OIL in summary – **Joint Strategy**: Coherent, thought collaboration focal point for Industry engagement, consistent messaging, and communication across industry sectors **About**: Command focused and sponsored problems/opportunities that are outcome based to enable exploitation and acquisition of products, upgrades, and services. **How?** By the exploitation and utilization of the most appropriate existing Working

Group or community **Collaborating with:** MOD problem owners and funders, Defence Primes and OEMs, Established tier suppliers, Solution architects and systems integrators, other sector supply chain, SMEs. Current activities and those at the early planning stage include:

- **Futures Lab** – Team Defence Information is pleased to be working alongside Futures Lab, a Future Capability Group service that draws together bespoke, pan-industry and academic collaborative teams to deliver decision support to defence. Keep your eye out for events and opportunities we'll be sharing across our networks. Follow [Futures Lab on LinkedIn](#) to find out more.
- **High Value Manufacture CoE** – The launch event of the HVM CoE was hosted at AMRC Sheffield. With a broad range of attendees from across MOD, industry, and academia the discussions have helped shape the COE direction and areas for investigation. Future engagement will be facilitated through the creation of a community of interest that will be facilitated by TD Info OIL. Immediate main effort will be delivering AdM as a service (Project TAMPA), supporting the Challenge Workstream and co-chairing the digital thread future topics will include Advanced Materials, Composites & Light Weighting; Advanced Manufacture; In-Service Support; and Digital Thread. The next HVM COI will convene shortly.
- **Agile Commercial Practices** – Accessing talent and contracting for outcomes to deliver sprints and enable iterative development calls for new approaches to contracting. Earlier in August 22 small focus group workshops took place imparting knowledge of different commercial framework approaches. The best practice and pitfalls of each were captured and will be used to inform FCG route to market options.
- **Application Programme Interfaces for Robotic & Autonomous Systems (API4RAS) Task** – Team Defence is producing a paper to generate collaboration and a call to action around Application Programme Interfaces for Robotic & Autonomous Systems (API4RAS). Through collaboration, diversity of thought and learning from across sectors we will generate valuable insight to inform FCG's direction around Modular Open Systems Approaches to robotics and automation in the Battlefield. We will deliver our findings before the end of the year so please get involved, simply track our progress, or just read and exploit the outputs.

These activities build upon the new engagement approach outlined in the [FCG Industry Engagement Strategy](#) released in July 2021. If you would like more information on OIL, please contact either [Steve Green](#) or [Darin Tudor](#).

Additive Manufacturing (AdM) as a Service Working Group

On 9 November we held the third meeting of the AdM as a Service Working Group at the Defence Academy, Shrivenham. Over 50 people attended from across the MoD, academia and industry. The event started with an update on the MoD's AdM as a Service Challenge (Project TAMPA) and its move towards contract in January 2023. Eight bids have been accepted from PQQ submissions to go forward to the ITT stage, which is being led by the HVM team in FCG, DE&S. There were also presentations from industry and MoD on current and ongoing activities around the introduction of AdM into the Defence Supply Chain, including Project Convergence – a multinational exercise hosted by the US DoD in California, during which an additive manufacturing trial took place. The trial, which was supported by DSTL, compared a range of polymer and metallic advanced manufacturing technologies. This was the first time the UK have successfully shared and printed Additive Manufacturing files from another NATO nation. You can find out more on all British Army social media accounts. The second half of the AdM WG meeting focussed on 'hot topic' sessions, in which issues such as how to promote greater engagement between OEMs and SMEs and information sharing around AdM technologies, capabilities and activities were discussed.

The individual AdM Working Groups continue to make good progress alongside the AdM Challenge, led by the Defence Support Transformation Team, Strategic Command, and facilitated by Team Defence Information. These WGs cover a range of topics across the Digital Thread, Certification and Inventory Management areas, identifying key issues and

blockers to the enablement of wider AdM adoption within Defence. If you would like to know more about the Working Groups, please contact [Stu Olden](#).

External Events and News

BE PART OF CHANGING 15,000 FUTURES

Social impact firm WithYouWithMe have a vision for all 15,000-Armed Forces personnel who leave the military every year to find meaningful employment in civilian life. The '15,000 Futures' initiative is calling upon all UK employers to help service men and women and their families find high value, digital industry roles whilst also addressing the chronic technical skills shortage that many UK companies face today.

Find out more by visiting www.15000futures.co.uk

[**Congratulations to Rear Admiral Andy Kyte, who has been announced as the next Chief of Defence Logistics and Support!**](#)

[**DSF Newsletter - November 2022**](#)

[**The Defence Equipment Plan - 2022 to 2032**](#)

[**£15.4 million contract for first cutting-edge Navy crewless submarine**](#)