



## TEAM DEFENCE INFORMATION BULLETIN

February 2023

### News digest and look ahead to TD-Info Events

Please note all links provided are to our website at [www.teamdefence.info](http://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.

#### TD-Info website - logging in

If you have not visited our website for a long while, and you have issues logging in, you may need to re-register at this [link](#).

#### Introduction from our Managing Director, Phil Williams

As the days get longer, we turn our thoughts to the year ahead. We had an excellent start at the Support Chain Seminar at the Bristol aerospace museum in January, great feedback from the attendees both physical and virtual – many thanks to the TDI team.

We also had the first 3 Star board of the year and post the meeting we held a round table conversation which is now available to watch, please see the link below.

As you can see from the number of events and meetings described below, 2023 will be a very busy year for us all, I thank you all for your support.

## 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 back GPSL and Red Scientific as members, and Mitie as a new Lead sponsor of Team Defence.

### A look back at Support Chain Seminar 2023

We began the year in style, as we assembled under the looming wings of Concorde at Aerospace Bristol. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to SCS23 - We hope that you left feeling as energised and inspired as we were.

Stephen Wilcock, Director Engineering & Safety at DE&S and truly the Master of Ceremony, provided us with some very cherished words which we would like to share with you:

“The broad range of speakers, the venue and the engagement from the delegates made for an engaging and highly valuable event which has shaped our thinking and will act as a springboard for future developments in digital engineering. After such a long time without these kind of events, the ability to be able to reconnect and meet new colleagues was invaluable and the mix of speakers, Q&A and networking opportunities came together superbly.

I was particularly impressed by the smooth running of the event, from arrival through to the seamless transition between speakers facilitated by the excellent A/V team, all of which made my role much easier and provided a rich environment to focus on the key topics. This was complemented by the range of sponsors, which I am most grateful for your help with organising. Given the interest in digital engineering and the engagement from our industry colleagues, there are certainly plenty of opportunities which we will now be following up on.”

For those who attended: to look back on the presentations, and to provide us feedback for our future conferences, you can find everything on our events page [here](#).

### Introducing the new Team Defence Podcast Series!

We are thrilled to raise the curtain for the launch of our new podcast series, opening in conversation with our 3\* board, who sponsor the overall TDI Portfolio and 'Areas of Focus'. Lt Gen Richard Wardlaw, MOD CIO Charlie Forte and Deputy CEO of DE&S Adrian Baguley discuss their vision for the year, surrounding influences and where their focus will be.

Find our first podcast, 'The 3\* Board,' [here](#) or [here](#).

Soon we hope to have the audio only versions available on all the usual podcasting platforms, so please standby for that.

We have plenty more content planned for you throughout the year so subscribe to our new YouTube channel for the easiest way to access all future videos. If you'd like to get involved, please contact [Philippa Arter](#) or [Jack Thompson](#).

# Major Conferences of 2023 (Hold the Dates)

## 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

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

### 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 the 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 with a six foot table

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

## Team Defence Information Town Hall – 27 March 2023

Last September 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.

At our Town Hall in December, we were grateful to have James Daniel CBE along as our keynote speaker, giving an address on Defence Support Transformation. There was also special emphasis on our Futures work, led by Steve Green.

On 27 March 2023, we are looking forward to another chance to congregate. Join us at the Thornbury Leisure Centre to learn about the major activities happening around Defence, how Team Defence Information and industry can contribute and to network over a delicious buffet lunch.

Looking to the future of Defence, we want to inspire a wider diversity in our audience, so please extend this invitation to your early-career colleagues. This meeting will provide a key context for work going on throughout the sector, and so will be a great platform for career development and networking.

We'd like to encourage as many people to attend as possible, with emphasis on this event as an opportunity to network. However, if you can't come in person, it will be possible to attend virtually.

Agenda to come.

For further information, please contact Philippa Arter.

Register [here](#)!

## Defence Additive Manufacture Hackathon – 3-4 April 2023

**Defence Additive Manufacture Hackathon 3 & 4 April 23:** Dispersed collaborative teams from across sectors who all have something to add from scanners and software to printers and engineers will digitally scan an item at the I-bridge, (Abbey Wood), transfer this to other member of the team for redesign, additively produce it and then have it delivered next day back to the I-Bridge for assessment. Those in the I-bridge will then work on secondary challenges using a range of additive machines

**Collaborative Team Creation:** Find out more and get involved at our [Launch & Network Event - 9 Feb](#), at Babcock Technology Centre. More details below, in the 'Future Events' section.

**Outcomes:** To combine digital scanning, collaborative design, and additive capabilities to building resilience through multiple points of supply, mobilise the industrial base and create support advantage.

**Prizes:** The teams that reduce the part count or weight while maintaining the same fit will win. Function will not be assessed

**Team Composition:** Teams will need design engineers, software, scanning and additive capabilities. These can be a mixture of MOD and Industry

**Who should take part:** Anyone who will be part of an end-to-end digital manufacturing transformation linking the forward edge with the industrial base.

**DE&S:** those working in DE&S will get the chance to visit the i-bridge and see some of the technology first hand.

**Strategic Context:** This activity is aligned with the Defence Support Operating Concept, Defence Support Strategy, Sustainable Support Strategy and Supply Chain Strategy. These documents can be found on the [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) website

For further information, 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. We will update you each month as the agenda develops.

**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 5-6 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.

Among those that will be invited to Speak:

- Charlie Forte - Defence Digital, Chief Information Officer
- Richard Franklyn – Airbus and DSF Industry Lead
- John Linwood, Defence Digital, Chief Technology Officer– Project Accelerate

- Dina Kakaras, Defence Digital, Commercial Head of Software
- Major General Richard Spencer – Defence Digital, Director
- Christine Maxwell – Defence Digital, Director Cyber Defence and Risk
- Claire Fry – Defence Digital, Functional Integration
- Nigel Shaw, DE&S CIO
- Arif Mustafa, RAF CIO
- David Tagg-Oram, Defence Digital, Head of the Digital Foundry
- Air Commodore David Rowland, Defence Digital, Defence Artificial Intelligence Centre (DAIC)
- Caroline Bellamy – Defence Chief Data Officer
- Christine Maxwell – Director, Cyber Defence and Risk
- Gareth Hetheridge – Leonardo CIO
- David Thompson – Appian
- Dominic Davies - Chief of S&T Knowledge Management Systems, DSTL

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

Speakers: If you are interested in a speaking role, please register your interest with [Steve Shepherd](#).

Registration now open!  
[CLICK HERE TO BOOK YOUR TICKET](#)

## Future Events

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

### **Defence Additive Manufacture Hackathon, Networking and Launch Event – 9 Feb, 10:00 – 13:00**

As mentioned above, ahead of registration for the main FCG OIL AdM Hackathon - this launch and networking event, taking place at Babcock Technology Centre, will provide an overview of the hackathon that will take place on the 3-4 April 2023, with the purpose of allowing collaborative teams to form.

For further information, please contact [Steve Green](#).

Register [here](#).

**Supportability Modelling and Analysis Community of Practice (CoP) – 23 February, 10:00 – 15:00**

The Support Modelling and Analysis Community of Practice, (SM&ACoP), has long been campaigning for MOD to develop a Support Modelling Strategy. Happily, this need has been recognised in the Support Advantage Charter and Darron Jackson in Defence Support has joined the Support Modelling and Analysis Strategy working group. Darron has had early discussions with Frank Murphy and Jon-Craig Stuckey, the co-chairs of the SM&A CoP, and they're planning how to develop the strategy over the coming months. For more information about this important work please contact [Frank Murphy](#), or the TD-Info coordinator [Leyton Lark](#). For more information on the Support Advantage Charter, the TD-Info contact is [Julian Dayment](#).

The next meeting will take place at the Team Defence Information Head Office (in person and on MS Teams). Register [here](#).

**Team Defence Information Executive Team Meeting – 27 February, 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](#).

**Industry Customer Engagement Forum (ICEF) – 27 February, 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 Strategy Group – 7 March, 13:00 – 15:45**

The Strategy Group has been established to interpret the 3\* Advisory Board's bi-annual areas of strategic focus along with outputs from the Team Defence Information Council to sponsor and approve Team Defence Information activities which align to these top-level objectives.

For further information, please contact [Philippa Arter](#).

**Multi Domain Integration Town Hall – 8 March, 10:30 – 15:30**

The Next MDI Event will be a Town Hall event on the 8th March, with likely topics of Integrated Design Authority, DSEI and Cultural Reform. Marketing to start within the next few days.

For further information, please contact [Steve Worsnip](#). Register [here](#).

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

The 4th AdM As a Service Working Group (WG) will be held at the Manufacturing Technology Centre (MTC), Coventry on the 9th March 2023. The WG will provide attendees with the ability to engage with AdM colleagues across the UK 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). There will also be the opportunity to engage in the Working Group discussions on the key focus 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

### **Defence AI Centre (DAIC):**

Last chance to join the Defence AI Centre's production and assurance modelling (ProMA) project which completes end-March 2023. The project's Assurance workstream is developing a model to ensure that governance, reliability and performance are maintained in the dynamic and contested Defence environment. A separate, though closely connected, investigation into security aspects of the operational exploitation of AI and ML commences mid-February.

If you wish to take part in either initiative, or would like further information on the DAIC ProMA project, then please contact [Tony Butler](#).

### **Additive Manufacturing as a Service – request for Tier 1 participation**

As part of the CDLS Additive manufacturing (AdM) challenge, a number of Working Groups (WGs) are being run to identify and work through challenges and opportunities that this technology can bring to the UK Defence supply chain.

The Inventory Management Working Group (IMWG) is currently seeking Tier 1 and SME organisations that are using, or are seeking to use, AdM in Defence projects to share their experiences and any lessons learned, particularly around the Inventory Management aspects of these projects.

Meetings are held virtually every quarter (next is on 1st March). Should you wish to be involved, please contact [Stu Olden](#).

The next AdM as a Service Working Group face to face meeting will be held at the MTC, Coventry on the 9 March. Please register attendance [here](#).

## External Events and News

**[DSF Newsletter - January 2023](#)**

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