



TEAM DEFENCE INFORMATION BULLETIN

April 2023

News digest and look ahead to TD-Info Events

Please note most links provided are to our website at www.teamdefence.info and many are accessible to registered members only. 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 Easter Holiday approaches, after the wettest March for decades, I hope the April showers will not be needed for the May flowers and we can all enjoy some Spring sunshine.

With the Operational Energy conference and a Townhall behind us, thoughts turn now to Support Net in May: packed agenda as ever and an opportunity to pitch innovation ideas at the Dragon's Den with Gen Richard Wardlaw, CDLS, reprising his Deborah Meaden role; please [get in touch if you have a "bright" idea](#).

Jack, our communication lead, is looking to revamp our output, giving members an opportunity to showcase their activity – please [contact Jack with your input](#).

New TD-Info Members

This month we are delighted to welcome **Mitie** as a new Lead Sponsor and **Flightaware** as a new member of Team Defence.

Exhibit in our new Quarterly Newsletter

After May's SupportNet, we will launch our new quarterly newsletter. This newsletter will provide a deeper insight into the work of Team Defence, with contributions from our team and, hopefully, you!

We are looking for contributions from our members - articles and initiatives which demonstrate your organisational capabilities, and how your work can benefit the industry as a

whole. This will be an opportunity to exhibit to over 4000 people across the defence landscape.

With the first newsletter building on the back of May's SupportNet, we would welcome contributions which are relevant to the conference theme - 'Delivering Greater Resilience.' However, please do not hold back your submissions on this basis, as there will be room to demonstrate your capabilities throughout the year.

The submission deadline for the first Newsletter is May 19th, and the word limit for each article will be 500 words. With limited space in the newsletter; in the case of many potential contributions, we will have to filter the selection based on a criteria of relevance and benefit to the defence sector.

If you are interested in showcasing in one of our newsletters, please contact [Jack Thompson](#).

SME and Members Showcase Events

TD-Info are planning to run a series of showcasing events on behalf of our members over the coming months, initially designed to help our SME (Small and Medium Sized Enterprises) community to demonstrate their organisations' capabilities to the wider TD-Info membership base. This initiative also aligns to the MOD's commitment to help and promote the SME community in the Defence sector.

We will then run similar events for the rest of our members over the course of the next few months, providing the cross-fertilisation and sharing of capabilities and opportunities amongst the TD-Info Membership.

These events will run as as one or two hour sessions for 4-8 organisations at a time (a slot of around 15 minutes each) to provide a brief overview of their company, services and capabilities. There will be MOD, Industry and TD-Info representation at the events, providing the governance and continuity.

We will be sending out an invitation to join these events in the next few days, please watch out for the communication and register your interest.

To apply for our first SME Showcase, please contact admin@teamdefence.info to register your interest.

A look back at recent activity

Defence Operational Energy Conference 2023

In early March, we held the Defence Operational Energy Conference at Worthy Down Camp in Winchester.

The conference painted a stark picture of the energy challenges facing defence and industry as we try and navigate a path towards net zero, while maintaining operational advantage through readiness: availability, capability, and sustainability. The challenges are clear, but so are the opportunities.

What is evident is that these challenges will need to be overcome collectively and will require bravery and investment from decision makers.

Thanks to all who joined us for the two days. A special thanks to the speakers as well as [Rikki Marr](#), who brought the conference to life with his live illustration.

All presentations and illustrations from the conference can be found on the [event page](#).

Many thanks to our sponsors Appian Corporation and KBR, Inc. who made the event possible.

Team Defence Townhall - March 2023

Last week we held our first Townhall of 2023, which provided a comprehensive look at some of the most pertinent areas of focus within Defence.

Our Managing Director, Phil Williams opened with a brief rundown of TD-Info and the work we are doing, followed by MOD updates from Ed Cole and David Hawken.

Phil Tullit gave the MOD perspective on Engineering Support Transformation (EST) and Business Modernisation for Support (BMfS) before Andrew Burden covered the Business Function Model (BFM).

Our Executive Team MOD Chair Steve Lammiman then ran through the latest on the Defence Availability Control Centre (DACC).

Before lunch, Julian Dayment gave an action update for the Support Advantage Charter, and Steve Worsnip covered Multi Domain Integration (MDI).

After an extended lunch, Phil Williams covered the importance of the of the Defence Continuity Executive role, and Rob Guegan talked Secure by Design. We closed with a look ahead to our conferences to come.

Many thanks to the speakers and to all who joined us on the day. Members can access slides from the day [here](#). We will look to upload videos in the future.

Software Enabled Defence Workshop - QinetiQ Malvern - March 2023

The Software Enabled Defence Workshop was arranged for end of March, under DE&S Software Acquisition Management Improvement leader Steve Hyde, developed to inform a funded programme of Software Acquisition Management Improvement (SAMI) next year and an intended series of more strategic and disruptive steps on Digital and Software through an intended MOD/Industry Working Group and Network, facilitated by Team Defence Information. The workshop certainly informed both programmes and much more, thanks to the active participation and engagement of around eighty MOD and Industry representatives.

We opened with a keynote address from Sir Julian Young on the paucity of Digital and Software skills and experience, followed by a demanding call to arms to be bolder in pursuit of delivering digital and software success from Paul Hollingshead of Anduril. The conference closed with Phil Jolley (Independent) giving a well informed wake up call to work together to develop a more strategic, disruptive and value focused framework, and Richard Maguire (SQEP Limited) offering an impressive window into existing knowledge and capability. Needless to say, the event proved to be of huge value.

A list of key takeaway's has been sent to those who registered and a full workshop activity review, report (including access to releasable material) and campaign plan for 2023/24 will be published by mid May 2023 confirming a more regular and routine series of engagements and activities through the SAMI funded programme and a new TDI driven MOD/Industry Working Group.

In the meantime, this summary is aimed at marking and recognising a great event and the contribution of all that attended and supported.

In conclusion. thank you to all who supported, presented and participated in the workshop. An outstanding event in all respects and a great start to digital and software enablement.

If you would like to get in touch about the conference, please contact [Steve Worsnip](#).

Conferences of 2023 (Hold the Dates)

SupportNET

18 – 19 May 2023

Join the Conversation online using [#SupportNet23](#)

The Defence Support organisation, within the UK Ministry of Defence, are hosting their annual SupportNet conference in May. Please find details on the event, including how to register, below.

Delivering greater resilience

SupportNET23 is an opportunity for Defence leaders, industry, academia, and international partners to discuss and reflect on how we can deliver greater resilience for UK Defence Support. Consecutive global disruptions from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ever Given blocking of the Suez Canal, the war in Ukraine and the environmental threats borne from climate change, have highlighted the fragile nature of the Support network in Defence and industry. These disruptions alongside ongoing workforce and financial pressures are combining to create a more challenging environment.

SupportNet23 aim

SupportNet's aim is to critically evaluate and challenge our understanding of resilience and the Defence Support Network (DSN) to help improve our planning and response. Over the course of the conference a range of Support experts will share their insights around how we can become more resilient, as well as share their insights on the work that is already underway.

Attendance benefits

- Opportunity to conduct business with Defence partners.
- Understand the direction of travel in Defence Support.
- Receive thoughts and observations from International and Partner Nations.
- Understand industrial key performance initiatives and new strategies.
- Opportunity for attendees to interact with speakers.

Event details

Team Defence Information are supporting the conference hosts, the Defence Support organisation. It is an in-person event for circa 500 delegates. Details as follows:

- At: Radisson RED hotel London Heathrow
- On: 18 – 19 May 2023 (ending lunch time on the 19 May 2023).
- Cost: Registration and attendance is free. Trade stand and sponsorship opportunities are also available. Lunch and refreshments are included.

See the website for further information and registration: [SupportNET 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](#).

Innovation Challenge 2023

How can greater resilience be achieved within either logistics, engineering or equipment support for the Ministry of Defence?

The MOD is seeking ideas on how it might build greater resilience by exploiting more innovative technologies and approaches.

On behalf of General Wardlaw, the TDI Vanguard team are proud to present the:

'Defence Support and Vanguard Innovation Challenge'

The Challenge

The challenge is open to individuals and teams with an innovative idea to share, from both within and outside of Defence who can submit a proposal, followed by an opportunity to pitch to a board of expert panellists, including the General himself – in a 'Dragon's Den' style event.

What areas do you think Defence can:

Do it better – improve on current practices

Do it differently – make a generational leap in how we operate.

Do something else – be radical and think of new ways to deliver improved outputs

The final event is part of the SupportNet23 conference, taking place on 18-19 May. SupportNet is UK Defence's leading conference for Support professionals, this year focussing on 'Delivering greater Resilience'; a theme covered in the Defence Support Strategy.

The Prize

The Panel will announce the winner of the competition on the night and the winner will be presented with £1000 and a trophy.

The winning idea will be taken on to a Ministry of Defence (MOD) feasibility study to investigate how likely it is that the idea could be implemented in practice for the MOD.

The end game is that the winning party may receive a contract to lead and implement the project for the MOD.

If you have an innovative idea on how we can deliver better resilience for Defence we want to hear from you.

Further details can be found on the TD-Info website [HERE](#) and submissions should be sent to vanguard@teamdefence.info.

Application Deadline is Thursday 28 April.

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

Delivery of the Defence Digital Strategy

Sessions

- Transformation & Acquisition
- Strategic Intent
- Developing Digital Skills – Defence’s whole workforce approach
- Digital Defence as a Force Multiplier
- Exploiting Digital Technologies for Campaign Advantage



DI23 also hosts a Vanguard/Young Professionals element, the TD-Info Excellence Awards and Network Extra (end of Day 1).

Among those invited to speak:

- Charlie Forte - Defence Digital, Chief Information Officer
- Maj John Collyer, Director Information & Chief Information Officer
- Caroline Bellamy – Defence Chief Data Officer
- Christine Maxwell – Defence Digital, Director Cyber Defence and Risk
- Dave France - Director, Core Information Services at UK Ministry of Defence
- John Linwood, Defence Digital, Chief Technology Officer– Project Accelerate
- Claire Fry – Defence Digital, Functional Integration
- Dina Kakaras, Defence Digital, Commercial Head of Software
- Major General Richard Spencer – Defence Digital, Director
- Richard Franklyn – Airbus and DSF Industry Lead
- Malcolm Carrie - Chief Digital Officer at BAE Systems
- 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)
- Gareth Hetheridge – Leonardo CIO
- David Thompson – Appian
- Dominic Davies - Chief of S&T Knowledge Management Systems, DSTL

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



DI23 is sponsored by:



Event Sponsors:



Exhibiting:

CAMCODE



GARRISON



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](#).

Multi-Domain Integration (MDI) Town Hall - Driving Integration through Partnership

This Multi-Domain Integration (MDI) Town Hall Event takes place on the 17th May 2023 between 10:30 and 15:30 (final timings to be confirmed).

We are delighted to announce our principal guest is General Tom Copinger-Symes, Deputy Commander UK StratCom, and the MDI Single Responsible Owner.

The focus of the event is driving integration through partnership, including the importance of cultural reform, digital transformation, innovation accelerators, the Integration Design Authority (IDA), standards, and DSEI.

Our partnership reach will extend from UK Gov towards NATO through to Industry.

The event is kindly hosted with lunch provided by Oracle Corporation UK Ltd. One South Place London EC2M 2RB.

After the event, we will grab the opportunity to network in the nearest pub. Please join us if you can.

We have limited capacity at the venue and ask all in-person attendees to take their secured place.

On registration you are requested to confirm your level of security clearance, nationality, and dietary requirements. These are mandatory fields.

Please register [here](#).

Meetings this Month

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

Industry Customer Engagement Forum (ICEF) – 24 April, 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 – 26 April, 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](#).

Activity Updates

Monthly MDI Blog

For all Multi Domain Integration enthusiasts,

The MDI Working Group have committed to an MDI Monthly Communication Blog to keep the MDI Community and wider stakeholders informed of developments in the fast-moving world of integration associated with our operational state of constant competition.

The March blog can now be found [here](#), providing context for MDI and connection to our 2023 programme plan; associated policy documents; and signposts to future events.

Within the launch blog, the MDI Working Group provides clarity on the principles of MDI related cultural reform.

The working group leadership are incredibly grateful for feedback received to date.

ASD-STE100 Simplified Technical English® (STE) Training and other STE activities

Ciaran Dodd, our experienced and ASD-approved STE trainer, delivers our STE training. STE is primarily for technical publications, but all engineers can benefit from the principles of STE to produce effective technical documents.

We have scheduled two open online courses in June and October this year.

12-15 June 2023 09:00-12:30 (every day) live online. (5 places still available)

9-12 October 2023 09:00-12:30 (every day) live online (8 places still available)

For further information and to book onto a course, please contact [Ciaran Dodd](#).

UK STE WG aligns with the STEMG working patterns

The purpose of the UK STE WG is to provide a national forum to discuss the STE specification, in particular, any change requests that are under discussion at the STEMG level. Ideally we need a mix of people who already use STE and those who are interested in STE to generate effective discussion on the specification. To align with the other working groups, I propose to meet twice a year, online, to discuss the open issues on the STE specification. These meetings will happen before the STEMG meetings so that I represent the UK STE WG opinions at the STEMG meeting.

Proposed dates for UK STEWG (online) are:

23/05/2023 13:30 - 15:30

21/9/2023 13:30-15:30

If you would like to join UK STE WG, please contact [Ciaran Dodd](#).

External Events and News

MOD Launch of Future Defence Support Solutions (FDSS) Programme – Opportunities for Industry Engagement

The MOD are embarking on a Pre-Concept Study for a Future Defence Support Solutions (FDSS) Programme. TD-Info and DSIS will be support engagement from Industry, which will be sought for the two-year Concept Development Phase, commencing in the first half of 2023.

The FDSS programme will be a key component in the implementation of the [Defence Supply Chain Strategy](#) (published in Nov 22) and is a once in a generation opportunity to cohere Defence support services; potentially wider than the current Logistic Commodities and Services Transformation (LCST) scope.

The purpose of the FDSS programme will be to improve operational effectiveness through the deployment of agile, resilient, and integrated services. This will include effective and efficient commodities procurement and management, warehousing and distribution, and support services through the alignment and integration (or replacement) of current support activities carried out by the MOD and its industry partners.

Future Defence Support Services (FDSS) FAQs

Value – How much is it going to be worth? Initial indications show that the scope of activity currently under consideration may vary between £500M to £1.5Bn per annum. It is therefore likely that FDSS will be a Category A Programme.

Organisationally, where does FDSS sit? For the Concept Development phase and up to the Assessment phase (CADMID/T applies) FDSS will sit within UK Strategic Command under the Support Transformation pillar. It is likely that governance may move to a delivery organisation within MOD during 2025/26. This is to be confirmed.

What is the scope of FDSS? FDSS is likely to include, Warehousing, Distribution, Sourcing and Procurement, Inventory Management and Planning and Supporting IS. It is likely that scope, additional to that included in the LCST contract (let in 2015), will be included which will make FDSS one of the most significant Defence Change Initiatives in recent history.

What will be the lotting strategy? The lotting strategy is yet to be defined and we are interested to understand the market appetite for the structure and composition of the lots. There is no fixed answer now – there are numerous different potential commercial structures under consideration. We will carefully consider market capability, particularly in the more novel approaches.

When will a bid be issued? Noting the opening comment around the dynamism to be experienced in this process, the current intent is that the PQQ will come to market in June 2025 with an ITN to follow in January 2026. We stress, it is highly likely that these dates will change.

When will hear from you next? To be confirmed, our next step is to develop a Strategic Outline Business case (SOC) that is planned to be submitted in October 2023. It is possible we may come out to the market again after that point.

What role will Business Modernisation for Support (BMfS) play in FDSS? BMfS will be a critical enabler to FDSS. FDSS and BMfS will cohere to ensure that there is alignment and clarity between the two programmes.

What if we have follow-on questions? We welcome industry input and engagement but, at this stage, we need to manage any engagement carefully and fairly. With this in mind, we will receive any questions. Please be prepared to have answers and anonymised questions shared across industry. It is likely we will use an industry partner (who will not compete in the bid process) to facilitate engagement and question management, in order to provide an efficient process which is equitable and manageable for all.

For further queries, please contact the Team Defence Information point of contact [Steve Green](#).

Defence IQ events

IDGA Disruptive Technology for Defence Transformation 2023 – 18-19 April, 2023 - Airport Hilton Hotel, Austin, TX

DTDT 2023 will be held in Austin on April 18-19, welcoming senior military leaders, government officials, tech and defence industry, and academic specialists within the field; discussing how best to embed next generation technology into military capability.

[Register here.](#)

Additive Manufacturing for Defence Aerospace & Space - 13-14 June, 2023 - Marriott Orlando Downtown, Orlando, Florida

Am Additive Manufacturing
for Defense, Aerospace & Space 2023

Advancing Technological Dominance and Supply Chain Resilience Through Additive Manufacturing

Key topics include:

- Standardization, Scalability, and Production
- Cooperation, Licensing, and Interoperability
- Space, Hypersonics and Cybersecurity

JUNE 13-14, 2023

MARRIOTT ORLANDO DOWNTOWN, ORLANDO, FL

IDGA
INTEGRATED DEFENSE & SPACE

LEARN MORE

[To learn more please find the agenda here.](#)

Full Spectrum Air Defence - 27-28 June, 2023 - Hilton London Syon Park, London



The annual Full Spectrum Air Defence conference has returned, taking place in Hilton London Syon Park, UK, 27 - 28 June 2023. This conference will bring together senior Air Defence Commanders from Europe, the US and NATO to discuss the future of Air Defence capability.

Under discussion will be the evolving threats faced by UAS, ballistic missiles and hypersonic glide vehicles. Speakers will also discuss updated systems, as well as new system capabilities, to respond effectively to this full spectrum of threats.

This international gathering of Air Defence experts will come together to; determine strategy, establish capability requirements and identify future partners to deliver the full spectrum air defence.

To learn more please find the agenda [here](#).

To book your ticket, click [here](#).

ViTAL Living Lab Sustainability Expo - 26 April, 2023, RAF Leeming Station, Northallerton

The ViTAL Living Lab invites you to a Sustainability Expo at the RAF Leeming station. Please find more details on the expo flyer [here](#), which contains the form to secure your admission.

Connected & Autonomous Systems in Defence

This is an online survey of organisations across various sectors in the UK to inform the current value and future potential of the UK's Connected and Automated Mobility (CAM) sector.

The UK Society for Motor Manufacturers and Traders with the support of His Majesty's Government has requested that KPMG and Potloc execute this survey in order to gather anonymous insights that will help industry and government prioritise investment into CAM applications in specific sectors of the economy in order to unlock economic, social, and environmental benefits.

In-depth technical expertise is not required in the CAM or UK markets to participate in this survey; however, respondents should have a reasonable understanding of their sector's interest or involvement in CAM, and perspectives on where connected and automated mobility may benefit the sector.

Thank you for participating in this survey. It should take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Please answer all questions as completely and honestly as possible. Your input is anonymous and confidential. All your answers will be aggregated with others'.

Please find the survey [here](#).

DSF Newsletter - March 2023

The Defence Equipment Plan - 2022 to 2032

