

Standards Coordination Working Group Meeting

3rd September 2026

Meeting Notes and Actions

Introduction

The hybrid meeting was facilitated by Julian Dayment (JD) from Team Defence Information (TD-Info) and attended by 18 with 2 in the office and 16 on-line. This included representatives from Allan Webb, Aleido, Andromeda Systems, Eurostep, Rolls-Royce (x2), MBDA, BMT, Red Scientific, Pennant, Collins Aerospace, the MTC, MOD (x2) and TD-Info (x4).

Meeting Purpose: Review actions from the previous meeting, provide updates on standards-related activities, discuss S-Series adoption and contracting challenges, progress standards coordination activities, and consider the future scope of the working group.

Meeting Agenda

- Last meetings notes and actions review – Julian Dayment
- Updates
 - NATO / SVC meetings - Phil Williams
 - Updates from other meeting participants
- S-Series Contracting Discussion
- Case studies for S-Series implementation
- Working Group activities discussion - all
- Actions, next step, AOBs - all

After introductions, the slides interspersed below were used to provide background and direction for subsequent discussions.

Last Meeting Notes and Actions

There was no feedback on the last meeting's notes.

Actions Review

A review of the May meeting actions was performed. The majority of these are completed. Outstanding actions were;

Action 5 Rail Sector interest in the S-Series - this was discussed, with PW aiming to close the action before the next meeting in December.

Action 8 – Gareth Walsh has left ASD and has been replaced. PW will link up Michael Horncastle of Arcadis with Gareth’s replacement.

Key Takeaways

ALP 10 adoption and implementation remains a major focus

Discussion covered ongoing work to improve the readability and structure of ALP 10. Participants noted that the recent effort is mainly focused on document structure and language improvements rather than substantive content changes. There was also discussion about the need for clearer guidance on how the UK Ministry of Defence and industry will implement ALP 10 following NATO adoption.

Growing international interest in standards

Several notable developments were discussed:

- Rail industry engagement is progressing through discussions with the International Union of Railways (UIC), with a proposed memorandum of understanding to encourage railway participation in S-Series activities.
- Japan continues to be a strategic focus, with significant attention on an Integrated Product Support (IPS) conference planned for February 2027 and increasing defence collaboration opportunities.
- Ukrainian participation in some standards activities was noted through involvement in ALP 10-related working groups.

Simplified Technical English (STE) experienced significant growth

[Ciaran Dodd](#) reported exceptionally high download numbers for the STE standard following social media and AI-related publicity. Downloads increased from typical levels of around 300-350 per month to several thousand per month. The group viewed the increased awareness positively, while acknowledging concerns that some users may misunderstand or selectively apply the standard.

S-Series contracting remains an unresolved challenge

A substantial discussion focused on how organisations contract for S-Series implementation. Key themes included:

- S-Series specifications are intended primarily to support delivery and data management rather than serve as direct contracting frameworks.
- Tailoring remains essential.
- Better guidance on applying standards and contracting approaches is needed.

- Several participants argued that requirements, outcomes, verification approaches and supportability evidence are more important than prescribing detailed execution methods.

More implementation case studies are needed

The group repeatedly highlighted the difficulty of obtaining real-world presentations and case studies from organisations implementing S-Series standards. Participants agreed that practical examples would help improve understanding, training, adoption, and international engagement.

Software conformance checklists are becoming available

[Mark Willis](#) reported that software checklists for S1000D, S2000M and S3000L have been published and updated, with additional checklists for S4000P, S5000F and S6000T expected by year end. These checklists are intended to help organisations assess whether software products support the required standards.

Scope of the Working Group remains centred on support-related standards

The group discussed broadening scope but generally agreed to continue focusing on support-related standards, including S-Series, ALP 10 and closely related standards. Cyber security was recognised as important but considered better suited to other forums rather than becoming a core focus of this group.

Action Items

Open / New Actions

Action	Responsible
1. Continue pursuing engagement with Martin Frobisher regarding railway activities and coordination.	Phil Williams
2. Obtain and share contact information for Greg Kotecha , Head of Engineering at South Western Railway.	Adrian Wood
3. Continue promoting and collecting implementation case studies showing practical use of S-Series standards.	Phil Williams and Working Group Members
4. Develop a more structured approach/template for requesting implementation case studies to improve responses from industry.	Julian Dayment (following suggestions from Ciaran Dodd)
5. Explore obtaining senior-level support to encourage organisations to present implementation experiences and case studies.	Phil Williams / Services Commission discussion

Action	Responsible
6. Investigate possible case studies from current projects and contacts.	James Irwin-Brown
7. Provide an update on ALP 10 implementation and related NATO working-group activity at the IPS CoP meeting in late September and at the Standards Coord December meeting.	Katie Renton (or alternatively Mike Barter)

Next Meeting

The group intends to meet again in **early December**, after November NATO activities, so that updates from those events can be shared with the working group.

Overall theme: The meeting focused heavily on practical implementation of support standards, international collaboration opportunities (especially rail and Japan), improving guidance around S-Series adoption and contracting, and finding real-world case studies to help organisations apply the standards more effectively.