

Team Defence Information

- facilitating Industry/MOD collaboration in secure information sharing

TD-Info in a nutshell

Optimised delivery of operational capability requires successful collaboration between military, civil service and industry - the basis of the Whole Force concept, or 'Team Defence'. Accelerated pace of change across the defence enterprise supply chain/support network makes TD-Info's role central to coherence work. We are the trusted 'organisation-of-choice', facilitating Industry and the Ministry of Defence (MOD) working together, developing and implementing common solutions in secure information sharing for efficient and effective collaboration. We report to the Defence Suppliers Forum (DSF), the major conduit for MOD-industry relationships, chaired by the Secretary of State for Defence.

Context

Military capability has always combined technology and know-how to deliver effect. Today, a rich and complex network of MOD and industry partnerships builds and operates our modern defence capability, underpinned by secure information sharing. This network we term 'Team Defence' and it needs joint, coherent information management to achieve results that drive superior capability.

Involvement of industry in the defence supply chain and support network increasingly has deepened and become more extensive, adding to the imperative for communication and coherence. Responding to pressures for more military effect at reduced cost, Team Defence faces many challenges which drive the need for transformation, including: agility (ours and our adversaries'), innovative technologies, the peer threat, budget constraints, levels of interoperability, volatile political scenarios, international regulations, cultural resistance to change, outmoded skills and commercial/political shifts.

TD-Info is a unique and trusted environment for MOD and industry. We aim to engage early to inform policy and help shape requirements. We jointly assess, trial and de-risk on changes to systems that affect Team Defence. We jointly explore innovative capabilities and technology exploitation, new processes and ways of working, coherent information management and enhanced skills. Participating stakeholders gain the opportunity to understand individual and collective priorities and align investments in capabilities for their mutual benefit

We're a collaborative association of 'do-ers' and influencers

We are a collaborative association that employs the collective insights, knowledge and innovations of our members to help the MOD deliver its objectives for equipment and information. Collaboration with the MOD gives members invaluable business intelligence to align and enhance their products, services, skills development and working practices.

Industry & MOD working together

Our membership spans original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) plus technology and service providers - from large-scale to small-to-medium enterprises (SMEs). As well as 'Industry' members, we have the active participation of key military serving personnel, leaders, policy and subject matter experts from a range of pertinent areas in defence, including: Information Systems and Services (ISS), Defence Equipment & Support (DE&S), Through-life Support, Commercial and Procurement, Accreditation, Education and Skills, Standards and Innovation.

What do we do

- TD-Info operates a range of forums, events and projects where members work alongside MOD counterparts to shape defence policy and pilot new capabilities and ways of working.
- Our services give members increased insight into 'ecosystem challenges' to better align their products and services, while helping the MOD increase its appreciation of the 'art of the possible', and better use industry know-how and emerging technologies.
- Contributions and findings are shared – with members gaining added-value from the 'multiplier effect' – i.e. the diversity and multiplicity of expertise and inputs. Our joint work makes the defence enterprise more resilient and agile; and, helps deliver optimal solutions benefits for all stakeholders.

How TD-Info works

- We speak with a coherent voice, and without commercial bias, to enable the successful exploitation of information by the defence enterprise.
- TD-Info members work across organisational boundaries to share perspectives, build common standards and deliver common goals, providing mutual benefit and cost-effective solutions.
- We share expertise and experience in a trusted environment and use industry know-how, continuous improvements and emerging innovation to develop defence capability, including equipment and its engineering support, logistics and sustainability.

Our Approach is to...

- Employ a 'best for enterprise' approach, so members can align their business models and processes with the needs of the defence enterprise.
- Nurture collaboration, aggregate, curate and share information, giving members the opportunity to challenge and inform decision making, policies, working practices and standards to maintain information dominance while minimising commercial risk.
- Facilitate activities that build consensus, introducing members to decision makers, potential partners and supportive colleagues. Thus, we reduce the friction of doing business within the defence ecosystem.
- Enable members to be well-informed through curated content on our website and timely communications, with opportunities for members to tailor content they are most interested in.

Why TD-Info is unique

- Technical experts and senior stakeholders from industry volunteer their time to collaborate with each other and with MOD counterparts to develop effective, efficient solutions to shared and specific problems.
- Through TD-Info, the MOD and industry agree annual objectives and openly share deliverables to maintain a focus on outcomes that benefit the whole of Team Defence.
- TD-Info is a convenient, commercially unconstrained forum for the MOD to discuss issues with industry, seek feedback and engage industry expertise to optimise the equipment support chain and information management throughout the defence ecosystem.
- TD-Info reduces duplicate effort in the MOD and industry through co-ordination and by providing corporate memory, such as in the content on its website.
- We support opportunities for learning and skills development, exposure to cross-organisational perspectives both inside and outside defence, to challenging innovative thinking and secondments.
- TD-Info is a not-for-profit organisation; we harness and co-ordinate volunteer contributions from our members and the MOD, making no financial gain from our activities.
- Our members tell us the opportunities we create for engagement within the defence enterprise bring them great value - and the more they put in, the more they get out.