



COVID-19 Update

Message from **Phil Williams**, Managing Director Team Defence Information: "As we go into a second period of lock-down across England, I wanted to reassure you that all of the TD-Info staff will be working remotely and doing our utmost to continue supporting the many Working Groups, webinars and collaborative projects across the Defence community. Unfortunately, the restrictions are going to have some impact and we have had to postpone the forthcoming **Defence Sustainability Conference** due to practical constraints. Nevertheless, you can see from this month's bulletin and calendar below that we still have many interesting and informative virtual events throughout November and into December, including our Town Hall on 10 December. In the meantime, stay safe and healthy."

Launch of South West Defence & Security Cluster – 4 Nov 2020

The **South West Regional Defence & Security Cluster (SW RDSC)** is set to launch virtually on **4 Nov 2020**. The cluster seeks to aggregate and raise the profile of regional defence & security capabilities to stimulate greater sector knowledge, collaboration, economic growth and productivity across the South West Region (Cornwall & Ios, Devon, Dorset & Somerset). The **SW RDSC** will be the first pan-Defence & Security (D&S) cluster in the UK and forms a collaboration led by industry and academia with the support of government and its ministerial departments such as the **MOD** and its innovation directorate, the **Defence and Security Accelerator (DASA)**. The Regional D&S Cluster aims to enable more joined up working between industry, academia and government, providing an efficient and accessible route to industry collaboration and the region's D&S value chain. To secure your place at the launch event please click [here](#).



Defence Sustainability Conference – Now Postponed until 19 – 20 January 2021

Due to the recent upgraded COVID guidance from the Government, TD-Info and our partners have taken the difficult decision to postpone the main Defence Sustainability Conference until **19 - 20 January 2021**.

TD-Info will host an interim Briefing on **11 Nov 2020** offering a high-level overview of some of the key themes that will be covered in depth at the full conference. Guest speakers will include Lieutenant **General Richard Nugee CB CVO CBE**, Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy Lead, and representatives from UK Defence Solutions Centre, KBR and Babcock. Details on

this will be sent to registered conference attendees shortly, for further information please contact [Luca Leone](#).

If you are unable to attend the main Conference in January 2021 we can refund your ticket fees otherwise your booking will be carried forward to the re-scheduled event. If you would like your fees refunded please contact [Sue Russell](#).

Places are still available to attend the Conference by registering [here](#).

New TD-Info Lead Sponsor

We are pleased to announce that **Deloitte** has now become Lead Sponsor for TD-Info. **Deloitte** is a leading global provider of audit and assurance, consulting, financial advisory, risk advisory, tax, and related services; it combines public and private sector expertise across defence to improve military capability delivery and operational thinking.

Forthcoming Key Events

We have numerous other events and activities scheduled for the forthcoming months. Please look for details on the TD-Info calendar [here](#) (note you will need to be registered and logged-in for full details).

The **MOD Defence Support** has launched a **Support Solutions Envelope (SSE) Betterment Project**. The aim is to improve support direction, guidance, and assurance. A plan is being formed to deliver better governance and lifecycle assurance and to encourage innovation. The scope is the support solutions for all equipment acquisition projects with a refined and mandated scope for the procurement of services and IT. All Defence Lines of Development governing policies will be reviewed with a focus on key areas including sustainable procurement.

There will be a four phased approach to delivery from Apr 2020 out to 2025. The approach will promote output standards that focus on working with industry to develop high-performing and sustainable Support Solutions for future acquisition projects.

The **SSE Betterment Project** team will be working with the TD-Info Supply Chain and Support Engineering Working Group (SCSEWG). A joint forum is being established to discuss how the defence community can support the project. The next step will be to carry out a survey to identify touchpoints that would benefit from a 'deep dive'. A briefing event is being planned for **26 Nov 2020**; for more information please contact [Leyton Lark](#).

Following the success of recent **Digital Twin (DT)** Awareness events, the **TD-Info Engineering Support Transformation User Forum (ESTUF)** is now producing a **Digital Twins Roadmap**; the mandate and proposed programme for developing the Roadmap is available [here](#). The purpose of the Roadmap is to provide a coherent vision, taxonomy, policy and standards utilising accelerator projects to advance the development of asset DTs, composite DTs and federated DTs across the defence enterprise.

The **ESTUF** will be hosting a further series of webinars on DT. Details are yet to be confirmed; for further information please contact [Steve Green](#).

The next **TD-Info Town Hall** meeting will be a combined event with **techUK** and **MOD Defence Support**. It will be held on **10 Dec 2020**. We are delighted to announce that **Lt Gen Richard Wardlaw OBE**, Chief Defence Logistics and Support, will be using this event to launch the Defence Support Strategy. A number of other keynote speakers have also been confirmed.

This will be a virtual meeting. Please watch out for further information in the coming days. The latest information can be found [here](#) or by contacting [Leyton Lark](#).

Phil Williams, Managing Director TD-Info, will be a guest speaker at the **Technical Documentation World (TDW) Conference** entitled 'Making the Case for Product Support'. As Chairman of the Integrated Product Support Council, Phil will be introducing the International team that produces the S-Series specifications. The TDW Conference is being held virtually from **17 to 19 Nov 2020**. Further details and how to register is available [here](#) or by contacting [Mike Ingledeu](#).

Recent Events

A number of key Working Groups (WG) and notable team meetings have recently taken place:

The Team Defence 3 Star Advisory Board Meeting recently convened under the chairmanship of **Jon Hall** and was attended by **Lt Gen Richard Wardlaw OBE**, Chief Defence Logistics and Support. The Meeting covered various topics including the importance and focus on building Defence's Digital Backbone and its ability to collaborate in a classified environment, the impending release of the Defence Digital Strategy and the Defence Support Strategy and the MOD appetite to hear more from Industry. For further information please contact [Will Tuohy](#).

TD-Info hosted a series of webinars during October to outline the new opportunities for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to engage with the defence industry via the **Dstl SME Searchlight programme**. The webinars covered the separate topics of air systems and policing. For further information please contact [Steve Green](#).

TD-Info also hosted its regular monthly meeting of the 00-600 Working Group (SWG) which announced the publication of **Defence Standard 00-600 Part 1** and **Part 3**. Copies can be found here (Part 1) and (Part 3). For further information please contact [Leyton Lark](#).

The MODCloud Programme continues with active participation by the MOD and TD-Info members. The inaugural meeting of the **MODCloud Technical, Security & Accreditation Working Group (WG)** took place on 22 Oct and was co-chaired by **Nick Carter**, MODCloud Chief Architect, on behalf of the MOD and **Mark Pearson**, Air Chief Architect, BAE Systems on behalf of industry. The Terms of Reference for the **Technical, Security & Accreditation WG** have been agreed and the next meeting will be held on **18 Nov 2020**. For further information please contact [Andy Whatman](#).

Publications and White Papers

Following the success of recent **Digital Twin (DT)** Awareness events, the TD-Info Engineering Support Transformation User Forum (ESTUF) has produced a **Digital Twins Roadmap** which is now available [here](#). For further information please contact [Steve Green](#).

The **MOD Project THESEUS** aspires to define and deliver Defence with an end-to-end highly automated ground and air resupply network, enabled by a logistic information system; 24/7 and in all conditions.

The Project is currently accepting declarations of interest by **Fri 6 Nov 20**. Further details can be requested from [Bradley Hayward](#). Further information is also available [here](#).

The **MOD** recently published a revised version of 'How Defence Works' and is available to download here. The document replaces the previous version issued in Dec 2015 and explains how defence is structured and governed to deliver three outputs (defence policy, military capability, and military operations).

The UK Government recently announced the **Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund (ISCF) Faraday Battery Challenge** inviting businesses to apply for a share of up to £10 million in grant funding for innovation in electric vehicle battery technology. The competition opened on 28 Sep 2020 and closes on Wed **9 Dec 2020** at 11:00. Details on how to apply are available [here](#) or by contacting [Steve Green](#).

COVID-19 – TD-Info Remote Working

Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions, the TD-Info administrative staff continues to work remotely; postal mail is only collected periodically. With this in mind, please use [email](#) as primary form of correspondence should you need to contact our admin or finance department.

Our office is available to TD-Info Members for hot-desking or meetings, in accordance with current government guidelines. For further information and bookings please contact [Sue Russell](#).

Communications Update – Use of Third Party MailJet

We have heard from our Members that emails are often inadvertently blocked and sent to ‘spam’ folders. In order to prevent this and ease communications, TD-Info will now be using a third party called **MailJet** to send out the monthly newsletters and other correspondence. MailJet will be processing data on behalf of TD-Info using supplied email addresses only; no other personal information or data will be used by **MailJet**.

We have recently revised our Privacy Policy to reflect this change [here](#); if you no longer wish to receive our newsletters please unsubscribe.

The **Defence Digital Commercial Marketplace Digest** is now produced weekly by the MOD’s Defence Digital Commercial Continuous Improvement Team and is made available to MOD ‘customers’ and industry Members on the TD-Info website. All future (and previous) issues can be accessed via the Trading Forum [here](#) or searching under the keyword [Defence Digital Commercial Marketplace Digest](#).

Key Dates for November and December 2020

Please check the TD-Info website Calendar [here](#) to confirm details and how to join as these are subject to change:

- 2 Nov - DEFStan 00-600 Working Group
- 3 Nov – Team Defence Executive Team Meeting
- 4 Nov – South West Regional Defence & Security Cluster Launch Event (Non-TD-Info Event)
- **11 Nov – *Interim Briefing* on Defence Sustainability - new conference date 19-20 January 2021**
- 17 to 19 Nov – TDW Conference ‘Making the Case for Product Support’ (Non-TD-Info Event)
- 18 Nov - MODCloud Technical, Security & Accreditation Working Group
- 18 Nov - The Logistic Contribution to the COVID-19 Crisis (Non-TD-Info Event)
- 25 Nov – Team Defence Executive Team Meeting
- 26 Nov – MOD Support Solutions Envelope (SSE) Betterment Project Briefing
- 1 Dec – Team Defence Strategy Team Meeting
- 3 Dec - Supply Chain and Support Engineering Working Group (SCSEWG)

- 7 Dec – Industry Customer Engagement Forum (ICEF)
- 7 Dec - DEFStan 00-600 Working Group
- 8 Dec – Supportability Modelling and Analysis Working Group
- 9 Dec - JISCOT
- 10 Dec - Team Defence Town Hall
- 16 Dec – Team Defence Information Council Meeting

Forthcoming Events - Non Team Defence-Info

TD-Info often provides information on external events that may be of interest to MOD and Industry members:

The **IPS/ILS User Forum** that was scheduled to be in Vienna from 2 to 5 Nov 2020 has now been postponed until the 20 - 23 Sep 2021.

The **MOD Defence Support** in conjunction with the **Chartered Institute for Logistics and Transport (CILT)** are running a web conference on **18 Nov 2020** titled “The Logistic Contribution to the COVID-19 Crisis”. Further details are available [here](#) and the agenda is [here](#).

Accessing documents and publications To find these documents use the Search function (located at the top right of the TD-Info website Home screen) which will appear after you have [signed-in](#) to the TD-Info website.

To find all the documents published on our website from, say, March 1st, 2020 to now, edit the search parameters to your needs. In this case, edit the date Added On/After to 1 March 2020 and the Added On/Before to today's date.

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