

News digest and look ahead to TD-Info Events

Please note all links provided are to our website at 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 a Sign-In code in a welcome email, along with guidance on using the website. You may have to wait briefly for TD-Info staff to manually verify your application is bona fide.

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As you read this, we will all be coming out of the second lock-down period and entering the final month of 2020. We still have many interesting and informative virtual events throughout December and into the start of 2021.

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Launch of the MOD Defence Support Strategy – 10 December 2020

With the advent of the Defence Support Operating Model (DSOM) and the appointment of **Lieutenant General Richard Wardlaw OBE** as Chief of Defence Logistics and Support (CDLS), the UK has a new functional owner for Defence Support. CDLS has been busy consulting widely on what the future of Defence Support should look like and he is now ready to share his strategic vision with Industry.

On 10 December, TD-Info will be hosting a virtual event to launch the MOD Defence Support Strategy. The event will be co-hosted by **MOD Strategic Command**, **tech^{UK}** and sponsored by **Leidos**.

MOD Defence Support Strategy Launch Event - 10 Dec



THURSDAY
10
DEC 2020

CONFERENCE ** ONLINE **
MOD Defence Support Strategy Launch Event
TIME: 10:00 - 17:00
On 10 December Lt Gen Richard Wardlaw will be launching his Defence Support Strategy



Ministry of Defence

tech^{UK}



leidos

In addition to Lt Gen Wardlaw's presentation there will be other keynote speakers from MOD Defence Digital, MOD DE&S, and across the UK Defence Industry providing their different perspectives on the Strategy. In addition, **Lieutenant General Darrell K Williams** (USA Army, Retired) from Leidos will be a guest speaker providing a US view of Defence Support. The programme of speakers is available [here](#). It includes ample opportunities for Q&A throughout the day facilitated by **Matt Wiles**, Strategic Advisor Leidos UK and Europe.

Registration The Conference is open to any organisation involved in the Defence community by registering on the tech^{UK} website [here](#).

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Defence Sustainability Conference – 19 and 20 January 2021

In the first of its kind, the **Defence Sustainability Conference** will showcase the extensive work currently underway across the MOD, Industry and Academia to optimise operational advantage and support the target of Net Zero 50 (NZ50).

It will highlight the need for clear policy developments and provide a platform for innovative ideas and projects being delivered in support of a more sustainable future. The event is designed to spark opportunities for developing best practice and collaboration, as well as creating a pan-sector network of stakeholders to help raise awareness of opportunities to challenge the current ways of working.

2 Day Event

Defence Sustainability Conference
 Online Seminar
“Creating a more sustainable defence network to optimise operational advantage”

MOD staff - *Free of charge*

Joint Event Organisers

Sponsors

Presenter Organisations

Virtual Seminars and Trade Stands

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Book Delegate & Exhibitor places at www.teamdefence.info

Keynote Speeches will be provided by **Lieutenant General Richard Nugee CB CVO CBE**, Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy Lead, and **Lieutenant General Richard Wardlaw OBE**, Chief Defence Logistics and Support, who will provide his vision on a Sustainable Defence operating model.

Agenda The agenda and timings for the **Defence Sustainability Conference** is now available [here](#).

Joint Organisers



Sponsorship The conference is kindly co-sponsored by **Babcock** and **KBR**.



Pricing The following prices apply for delegates to attend or exhibit at the Conference (excluding VAT):

Delegate (Per Person)	MOD	Free
	Team Defence Information Member	£20.00
	Guest (Non Member)	£40.00
Exhibit (Per Virtual Stand)	MOD	Free
	Team Defence Information Member	£150.00
	Guest (Non Member)	£250.00

Registration The Conference is open to any organisation involved in the Defence community by registering [here](#).

Virtual Trade Stands To book your Virtual Trade Stand on the Kahootz cloud collaboration service and register your stand cover staff (2 per stand) click [here](#).

Further Information If you require any further information please contact [Luca Leone](#).

New TD-Info Lead Sponsors We are pleased to announce that **Google Cloud** and **Anham** are now Lead Sponsors for TD-Info. **Google Cloud** provides organizations with leading infrastructure, platform capabilities and industry solutions, delivering enterprise-grade solutions that leverage Google’s cutting-edge technology to help companies operate more efficiently and adapt to changing needs. **Anham** is a US company with extensive

experience of delivering complex logistics in challenging environments and are developing solutions for automated warehousing involving the exploitation of IOT technology.

New TD-Info Member We are also pleased to welcome **Sephera** as a new Member of TD-Info. **Sephera** specializes in the design and realisation of modular testing solutions for critical electronic microwave, optronic, and mechatronic systems.

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Other Forthcoming 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 TD-Info **Engineering Support Transformation User Forum (ESTUF)** has continued its work developing a **Digital Twin Roadmap** and is aiming to launch to interested parties during a series of **Digital Twin Implementation Awareness** webinars over the period 25 to 29 Jan 2021. Further details and how to register is available [here](#) or by contacting [Steve Green](#).

The inaugural meeting of the **Sustainable Defence Support Sub Working Group** will be held on 8 Dec 2020. This will primarily be a virtual event with a limited number of attendees invited to attend in person (Covid-19 restrictions permitting). Please register for the event [here](#); for further information please contact [Steve Green](#).

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

Following the postponement of the planned **Defence Sustainability Conference**, TD-Info hosted an **Interim Briefing** on 11 Nov 2020 to provide an overview of the key themes that will be covered in depth at the full conference. Guest speakers included **Lieutenant General Richard Nugee CB CVO CBE**, Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy Lead, and representatives from UK Defence Solutions Centre, KBR and Babcock. The video presentations are available for registered attendees to review [here](#). For further information please contact [Luca Leone](#).

The TD-Info **Supply Chain and Support Engineering Working Group (SCSEWG)** hosted a briefing event with **MOD** to outline the proposed phases of the recently launched **Support Solutions Envelope (SSE) Betterment Project** and discuss how the defence community can support the project. Over 70 people attended the event and the feedback was very positive. The next step will be to carry out a survey to identify touchpoints that would benefit from a 'deep dive'. You may well have received a link to the survey. If you haven't and you would like to be involved please contact [Leyton Lark](#).

The **South West Regional Defence & Security Cluster (SW RDSC)** was successfully launched in November with over 160 organisations registered to attend. The Cluster aims to raise the profile of regional defence and security capabilities across the South West Region (Cornwall & Ios, Devon, Dorset & Somerset). The **SW RDSC** is the first such cluster in the UK and forms a collaboration led by industry and academia with the support of **MOD** and its innovation directorate, the **Defence and Security Accelerator (DASA)**. For further information please contact [Leyton Lark](#).

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Dr Tim King receives British Standards Institute (BSI) Standards Maker Award

We are very pleased to announce that **Dr Tim King**, TD-Info Delivery Continuity Executive, has been recognized by the BSI for his contribution in developing the **"Safe working during the COVID-19 pandemic – General**

guidelines for organizations” document which brings together core elements of government and scientific guidance about the pandemic, supporting organisations of all sizes and sectors in how to protect the health, safety and well-being of workers.

Dr King was a member of the advisory group that rapidly developed the first draft in 15 days, achieving an unprecedented timescale for delivering a BSI document to the public. As a result, all sixteen members received the prestigious **Standards Maker Award** at the annual **BSI Standards e-Conference** that was held in November. A copy of the document **BSI Flex 45005** is available for free from the BSI website [here](#).

Dr King commented *“I was lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time to be a member of the group. I am very far from being a health and safety professional. But that was one of the exciting features of the work. We were a very diverse group and the document reflects the collective expertise of all involved”*. His ongoing Standards activities include leading the international working group that has developed **ISO 8000** for Data Quality.

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Simplified Technical English (STE) – Training Courses

Ciaran Dodd has recently been appointed as new UK representative to the **STE Maintenance Group (STEMG)** bringing 20 years of experience delivering **STE** training to organisations in aerospace, defence and other major sectors. Ciaran is also Chair of the **UK STE Working Group** which exists to represent the UK position on STE to the STEMG, negotiate any changes to the STE specification and promote the use of STE.

Ciaran is keen to create a hub of STE expertise where users can ask questions, share best practice and learn how STE supports efficiencies in technical documentation and **Integrated Product Support**.

Our face-to-face **STE Training Courses** have been affected by COVID so we are delivering our first virtual STE course this month. In January’s newsletter we will have more information on our programme of STE Training for 2021 with details of how you can book.

For further information on STE and how to get involved please contact [Ciaran Dodd](#).

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Publications and White Papers

The MOD Strategic Supplier Management Team recently issued guidance on the actions needed by suppliers to ensure they are ready following the **EU Exit Transition** period and prepared for the new regulations from 1 January 2021. If you require further information, please review the Gov website [here](#) or contact [Aimee Pugh](#) at the Strategic Supplier Management Team.

In early October the MOD announced the upcoming implementation of the **Defence Sourcing Portal (DSP)**, the MOD’s new e-Sourcing platform, which is scheduled for launch in February 2021. The **DSP** will facilitate secure online tendering and modernise the way MOD interacts with suppliers, becoming a one-stop shop to access all MOD opportunities. For more details on the **DSP** and proposed Implementation Milestones please visit the Gov website [here](#).

On 11 Nov, the **National Security and Investment (NSI) Bill** was introduced to Parliament, providing the government with new powers to screen investments. The Bill marks the culmination of the process that began with the 2017 Green Paper on the National Security and Investment Review. It is intended to provide the Defence Industry with a clear and predictable process to do business in the UK with confidence. Further information on the Bill and supporting documents is available [here](#); if you would like more on what to expect from the regime to assist in business planning please email [BEIS](#).

Rich Crowther, Head of the Defence Digital Service (DDS), recently presented a **Blog** on why he thinks government and industry can secure OFFICIAL workloads better in the **Public Cloud** than on-premises. He describes how Defence is starting to make more use of the public cloud for handling sensitive information and argues that the cloud can be 'just as secure' as on-premise data centres. The article is available [here](#). If you would like more information on **MODCloud** please contact [Andy Whatman](#).

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](#).

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The **Defence Digital Commercial Marketplace Digest** is produced fortnightly 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](#).

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Key Dates for December 2020 and January 2021 Please check the TD-Info website Calendar [here](#) to confirm details and how to join as these are subject to change:

- 1 Dec – Team Defence Strategy Team Meeting
 - 1 to 4 Dec – Simplified Technical Training (STE) Courses (Fully Booked)
 - 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 – Trading Forum Meeting
 - 8 Dec – Supportability Modelling and Analysis Working Group
 - 8 Dec – Sustainable Defence Support Sub Working Group
 - 9 Dec - JISCOT
 - 10 Dec – Launch of MOD Defence Support Strategy (Combined event with tech^{UK})
 - 16 Dec – Team Defence Information Council Meeting
 - 16 Dec – MODCloud Technical, Security and Accreditation Workstream Meeting
 - 19 to 20 Jan – Defence Sustainability Conference 2020 (Postponed from Nov 2020)
 - 25 to 29 Jan – UK Defence Digital Twin Awareness Event
 - 28 Jan – UK Simplified Technical English (STE) Working Group
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Forthcoming Events - Non Team Defence-Info

- **Disruptive Technology for Defence Transformation** (9 – 11 February 2021). TD-Info members can obtain 15% discount for this event organised by **Defence iQ** via the TD-Info website [here](#) (login required).
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COVID-19 – TD-Info Remote Working

Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions, the TD-Info administrative staff continue 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](#).

Our **Podcast page**: available as [Apple Podcast](#); [Browser version](#); [Spotify](#)

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