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ITEC – Europe’s Largest Defence Training and Simulation Event



ITEC is Europe’s largest and most established Defence Training and Simulation Conference and Exhibition. ITEC 2010 provides expert insight into the opportunities and challenges driving developments in the Defence Training, Education and Simulation industry, along with hands-on experience of new and proven solutions from world leading defence companies and smaller specialist suppliers.

ITEC 2010 will this year be held in London. The UK is second to the US in terms of defence training spending and is ideal to play host to Europe’s annual defence training, education and simulation event.

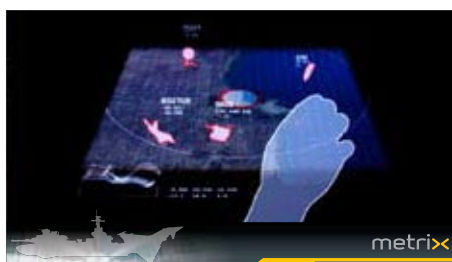
Metrix will be hosting a stand, stand number B120, and will be meeting journalists and leading figures in the training and simulation community.

Key to Metrix’s display will be a computer generated animation which will describe the Metrix/DTR story, the story around training transformation, how the future DTC will look and how it will operate. The display will be mounted on a 15-square metre screen located just in front of the Delegates Restaurant, and also on a screen located on the Metrix stand.

The images above give some insight into how the Metrix stand will look, and there’s a sneak preview below – conveyed through a series of still images – of the Metrix animation.

Metrix will be held at the ExCel Centre, from May 18 through 20. Raytheon will also be exhibiting. Their stand number is G112.

For more information about ITEC see: www.itec.co.uk





Flying high



DTR Update recently caught up with Air Commodore Green, Commandant of the Defence College of Aeronautical Engineering and Station Commander of RAF Cosford, as he reflects on his first year in the job and looks ahead to future challenges.

The old adage of ‘a change is as good as a rest’ is certainly true in the case of Chris Green, who was appointed to RAF Cosford in Shropshire in March 2009. Chris has enjoyed a distinguished 33-year career with the RAF and he now leads the Defence College of Aeronautical Engineering at Cosford – the focus for military training in this area for more than 70 years.

“There have been so many highlights since I took up my role here,” says Chris. “I look back with pride on the Cosford Air Show, the graduation ceremonies and the excellent trainee presentations that I’ve sat in on as just some examples of the many and varied things I get to do. Every day here is different and that’s what keeps my job interesting.”

Moving forward

Cosford’s training activities are due to relocate to RAF St Athan in 2014/5 as part of the DTR Package 1 Project. In recent weeks, Metrix CEO Jim Morrison, and DTR IPTL Brigadier

Tony Harking, and their teams have visited Cosford to talk about latest developments on the project.

“Over 500 people attended the presentations, which was encouraging and shows that people are taking a real interest in developments,” says Chris. Most of the questions from attendees focused on training delivery as well as transport and infrastructure issues around the St Athan site.

“This reflects the fact that people are thinking hard about the move and the practicalities involved,” says Chris.

“The presentations were well received and people felt that they got answers to many of their questions.”

“When it comes to the DTC, I see us as running our leg in a relay race,” explains Chris. “We are working hard to hand the baton of training excellence over to the DTC and Metrix.”

“Many of our people will still continue to be involved in training with the DTC and we want everyone to look back with pride at what’s been achieved. We want to give the DTC a hard act to follow.”

Rich heritage

Cosford first opened its doors in 1938 to provide additional aircraft storage and repair facilities for the RAF and to deliver technical training to meet an upsurge in manpower requirements. By the outbreak of World War Two, Cosford had 3,580 trainees ranging from airframe engineers through to armourers and flight mechanics.

Today, Cosford boasts the largest RAF presence in the West Midlands, employing both civilian and military staff from all 3 Services. The site is home not just to the training school but also to the No 1 Radio School, the RAF School of Physical Training, the Defence School of Photography and the University of Birmingham Air Squadron as well as a number of smaller units.

“The vast majority of the RAF’s technical force is trained at Cosford and we are immensely proud of our engineering heritage,” explains Chris. So, how important is keeping pace with technological change? “It is utterly essential,” says Chris. “The RAF is a technologically driven service. The platforms that we use in the air and on the ground are cutting edge – you only have to look at our latest aircraft, the Typhoon, to see that we’re at the forefront of developments.”

“The pace of change is so rapid in some CIS areas that the equipment our trainees use at the start of their training can become obsolete within 12 months and we have to manage these challenges.”

Chris points out that technology alone is not the only consideration – there is also the regulatory environment. “In this line of business, there is always an element of risk,” says Chris. “You only have to look at the recent issues over volcanic ash to appreciate the vulnerabilities of aircraft. Our trainees need to have a deep understanding of aircraft engineering but they also need a good grounding in safety, risk analysis and other issues too.”

“Here at Cosford, we are training military aeronautical engineers – not just technical graduates,” says Chris. “It’s all about developing rounded people who have an understanding of the wider military context.”

“Working at this site is very different from working in a headquarters environment where people can get weighed down by the worries of the world and operational issues,” says Chris. “When I’ve had a long and stressful day, I just have to go out and talk to the trainees – their enthusiasm and keenness to get out there and do the job they’ve signed up for is truly inspirational. I’m very proud of our work here and I really couldn’t imagine a better job,” he concludes.

Photo: Courtesy of The Shropshire Star

Navy not forgotten

Whilst the design and construction focus for the new Defence Technical College has predominantly, and quite rightly, been on St Athan, the Package 1 Project has not forgotten the Royal Navy at HMS Sultan. It is recognised that this site will remain until at least 2020 and therefore investment in the real estate is also required.

The first initiative is to upgrade the Junior Rates Amenity Centre concentrating on refurbishing the ageing kitchens and improve the dining facilities in preparation for the introduction of Pay as You Dine. £2.4M of DTR money is going to deliver an environmentally friendly, food safety compliant facility and provide a high quality dining experience.

A temporary kitchen Port-a-Cabin has been installed for the duration of the works which commenced on 15 Mar and are anticipated to take approximately 22 weeks. Therefore all things being equal we shall feature the new completed complex in the September edition of the Package 1 Update!

The second essential improvement is to refurbish some very tired and dated single living accommodation. This will entail a rolling programme of updating 'mess decks and cabins'



Above: HMS SULTAN Dining Hall before refurbishment

Left: Temporary galley installed at HMS SULTAN for the duration of the works



Sultan original galley in need of refurbishment

from Service Commencement Date onwards to provide more habitable and homely environment for those conducting training at SULTAN into the next decade. Concept designs have already been produced and a proposed programme of work formulated. Metrix are now in the process of finalising detailed designs

and costing so that final agreement on an affordable way forward can be made and improvements commence during 2011. We will keep you updated on progress.

Below: A rolling programme of updating 'mess decks and cabins' from Service Commencement Date onwards ... providing a more habitable and homely environment for those conducting training at SULTAN



Roadshows to the DTE community

Presentations to the DTEs

The current round of presentations are now complete and Metrix and the IPT were very pleased with the turnout and would like to thank staff for making the time to attend and the Colleges for the effort they put into arranging the visits.

We were especially pleased to welcome contractors working at the colleges, who took the opportunity to come along and find out more about the project.

The presentations generated a number of questions, which we are

answering and will use to update the Frequently Asked Questions section on the website and there is a dedicated email address mailbox for any questions that are not covered.

Following the success of the presentations, our May newsletter will be an HR special, covering key areas of interest that arose during our visits.



Useful links

DTR P1 IPT Intranet Site

[Click here](#)

<http://defenceintranet.diiweb.r.mil.uk/DefenceIntranet/Teams/BrowseTeamCategories/Orgbased/centre/DefenceTrainingReviewPackage1IntegratedProjectTeamdtrP1Ipt.htm>

DTR P1 IPT Internet Site

[Click here](#)

<http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/AboutDefence/WhatWeDo/TrainingandExercises/DTR/>

Metrix Internet Site:

[Click here](#)

<http://www.metrixuk.com>

FAQ Mailbox:

DCDS PERS-DTR PKG1 FAQ MAILBOX