International Data Links Society
One Network, One Team

Welcome to the International Data Links Society's e-mail bulletin. The bulletin covers topical news and events that are of interest to the Data Links community. To contribute or advertise, contact the Editor at communication_secretary@idlsoc.com.

The Society contributes to the Typhoon Haiyan Relief Effort

I am sure you will be pleased to hear that the backpacks left over from IDLS2013 are being put to good use. Angie Kropp has organised a 'feed a family' campaign and the response has been tremendous.   She aims to fill each bag with enough food for a family of four.   She has received a lot of support and at the last count Angie believed she had enough donations to feed 100 families.

Society News

Swedish Chapter

The Swedish Chapter held its last meeting for this year at Saab SDS in Järfälla/Stockholm on Wednesday 20 November with around 45 members in attendance.   It was an informative meeting with a good programme of presentations which included:
- Next edition 20, of JAS39 Gripen, new capabilities for TDL L16
- C2STRIC, the latest versions and capabilities for TDL L16 compared with JAS39
- Plans for TDL Training Courses for technical and tactical personnel
- Review of the IDLS2013 Symposium held in Norfolk, USA

AS/NZ Chapter

The MilCIS Conference held in Canberra from 12 to 14 November was attended by some 1,000 delegates over the three days. The event was organised by AS/NZ IDLSoc Chapter and the TIE Integration Office.   This year's conference consisted of plenary sessions in the mornings and presentations in the afternoons, with six simultaneous streams running. One of these streams was dedicated to TDLs with nine presentations from a mix of Government and Industry speakers.

- Day 1 - focussed on the TIE domain and the Australian Multi-TDL Network.
- Day 2 - presented the land and ground networks.
- Day 3 – discussed Link-16 MIDS developments.

The presentation papers will be available for download from the MilCIS website in the near future.

On 14-Nov the AS/NZ Chapter held their Annual General Meeting in Canberra where the new committee was elected.
The officers for 2014 are:

- Defence Co-Chair: Mike Kenderes (Director TIE IO)
- Industry Co-Chair: Graham Priestnall (QinetiQ)
- Treasurer: Amanda Lumsden (Lockheed Martin)
- Secretary: Daniel Caon (Saab)

The committee took the opportunity to thank the outgoing Co-Chair, Jock Mc Manus (ViaSat) for having held the post for several years.

After the AGM, attendees adjourned for the Annual Chapter Dinner. Mike Kenderes had the pleasure of introducing three guest speakers:

- Mr Graham King   Director, Joint & Combined Interoperability and Info Exchange
- Wg Cdr Mark Simpson   Chief, C4 Air Operations Centre, Headquarters – Joint Operations Command
- Col Sheldon Kidd   Director Special Projects, Capability Development Group - Integrated Capability Branch

Mr Graham King   Wg Cdr Mark Simpson   Col Sheldon Kidd

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IDLS2013

Certificate of Attendance

Certificates of Attendance have been sent out by email; if you have not received yours please contact: Emma Jane Taylor.

IDLS2014 News

Important dates for your calendar!

Training Day – Tuesday 4 November 2014
Symposium – Wednesday 5 – Friday 7 November 2014

Training Day
Call for Courses for the 2014 Training Day
The Training Day will take place at the **Andel's Hotel, Berlin** on 4 November 2014. The plan is to offer a maximum of 6 courses but the response will obviously dictate the actual number to be delivered.

Offers from **Corporate members** wishing to propose and run any of the courses would be welcomed. Such proposals should be submitted by **31 January 2014** to Emma Jane Taylor.

Our target audience ranges from those looking for an introduction to well established subjects to those with an interest in 'cutting edge' techniques and approaches. We are hoping that proposals will enable us to offer a balanced training programme which would appeal to all sectors of the Data Links community. We are open to new content as well as established favourites.

An attendee will be seeking to gain some or all of the following:
   o   A good grasp of the subject matter;
   o   An understanding of the benefits and potential applications of the technology;
   o   Sufficient knowledge of a technology to enable it to be put into practice;
   o   Pointers to books, courses and other resources to enable further study of a subject.

We will publish information about the training day courses on the IDLS2014 website.

Symposium
Exhibitor Packages
The Exhibition and the Exhibition area has become an integral and important part of any IDLSoc Symposium.   During this three day event delegates and exhibitors have the opportunity to come together in a relaxed and informal setting that allows in-depth discussion to take place regarding various products and their capabilities. The Packages are designed to facilitate the attendance of companies at the event.

As in the past, the Bronze, Silver and Gold packages include paid delegate registrations, hotel rooms including breakfast and promotional opportunities. To download a copy of the exhibitor packages click here.

Currently three Gold packages, one Silver package and two Bronze have been reserved.

Corporate News
Tactical Communications Group Announces Award for Royal Saudi Arabian Air Force Ground Support System Maintenance

On 8 October 2013 Tactical Communications Group (TCG), were awarded the contract to service and maintain TCG's Multi-TDL Ground Support System (GSS) throughout the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This contract will run until the end of 2017. TCG will provide technical support and training to personnel from the Royal Saudi Arabian Air Force (RSAF) and their contractors and deliver hardware, software, and documentation supplements, spare parts, and warranty for the Multi-TDL GSSs in the Kingdom. To read the full press release click here.

BAE U.K. Selects ViaSat Small Tactical Terminal for DA20 Falcon
Component of airborne tactical communications network for UK Defence

BAE Systems, UK has selected ViaSat Inc. (NASDAQ: VSAT) to provide the Small Tactical Terminal (STT) KOR-24 for installation on the Cobham Falcon 20 for support of Link 16 network pre-deployment training. Having passed the UK Ministry of Defence (MOD) safety case certification in December of 2012, the STT, a co-development of ViaSat and Harris Corp., is the first certified VHF/UHF and Link 16 two-channel radio authorised for transmission in the UK airspace on any platform that has the same clearance approval. To read the full Press Release click here.

JCSYS - Reflections on 2013

With the end of the year fast approaching the team have been looking back at the highlights of 2013.

We are pleased to have been able to continue to support our long established customers, especially those in UK, Sweden and Finland and we look forward to a continued partnership in 2014 and beyond.

We have also been successful in terms of new contracts won and new customers served. We were particularly please to be selected by the UK MOD Situational Awareness Command and Control Delivery Team to provide support services for Aerospace Battle Management Safety (teamed with our trusted associate, Osprey Ltd) and also specialist TDL support services to the assessment of NATO CSI as part of the ERCS/IJMS Replacement Programme.

Further extending our support to the UK MOD, we also enjoyed success in having been selected by the UK MOD Technical Engineering Group to provide support to 4 primary work packages covering TDL, VMF and MTF (inc. IER Harmonisation and Symbology), standards management and TDL interoperability management.

To complement our consultancy projects and tasks we have also delivered numerous training courses, on a variety of specialised subjects, to customers and organisations across our networked community. In October 2013, we took part in IDLS2013 in Norfolk, Virginia, USA and enjoyed meeting up with customers, past and present, as well as making new contacts.

There were many highlights at this year's event, but, we particularly enjoyed sharing our experience and knowledge through:

- The training day, during which we covered important pre-development considerations for TDLs, as well as those interoperability management/sustainment activities that are key to maintaining a relevant TDL capability state through-life.
- Briefings in both the main and educational sessions on the TDL Acquisition Lifecycle, Synthetic Training, JREAP and the Application of Operational Context to TDL Interoperability Evaluation.

We were also proud to have one of our team, Mark Johnson, selected to be the Chairman of the IDL Society Technical Committee; a role which we believe Mark will relish.

We look forward to 2014 and what it may bring and we would like to wish all our friends, colleagues and associates in the community Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year.

NCS - NATO Interface Control Officer (NICO) Training Course

The next NATO Interface Control Officer (NICO) Training Course will be hosted by the UK JDLMO at RAF High Wycombe, 10-28 February 2014. There are only a few places still available, so please register your interest as soon as possible. To read the full Press Release click here.

New Updates of Lockheed Martin UK's TDL Test and Analysis Software Tools

MANDRIL – the leading data link and analysis and test tool for multiple data links will see the next version released to customers in January 2014 (version 14.1). This version will see updates to include MIL-STD-6016E, decode of SIMPLE Link 22 blocks, ability to export FlyWire 3D tracks into a Google Earth format (KML file) and various user interface and report functions enhancements as well as minor fixes.

CIVET – this highly capable Link 16 near real-time recording, monitoring and analysis tool is currently undergoing development to add an additional Link 11 capability (CIVET 2.0). LMUK are interested in speaking with organisations that may be interested in partaking in a complimentary "trial period" with this new product, to help provide valuable product feedback and drive future enhancements. Please contact Ben.J.Massey@lmco.com for further information.

CIVET – Combined Interoperability Validation Evaluation Tool

NCS - EJCC Working Paper

In an effort to support the unique Tactical Data Link (TDL) training requirements within Europe, NCS has developed a tailored package of training courses that are designed to satisfy the recommended training established in the EJCC Working Paper – "Common Set of Training and Educational Requirements for Personnel Conducting TDL Management and/or Design in Europe". To read the full Press Release click here

Northrop Grumman Successfully Demonstrates New Low-Cost Next-Generation Avionics Capability Meeting FAA Mandates

Northrop Grumman Corporation (NYSE:NOC) has successfully demonstrated a low-cost, certified avionics system designed to provide U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) aircraft next-generation capabilities that will be required by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) under its airspace modernization initiatives.

Northrop Grumman's Communications, Navigation, Surveillance/Air Traffic Management (CNS/ATM) solution provides a low-cost and effective way to integrate the new FAA mandates into mobility aircraft, enhancing the ability of DOD aircraft to carry out missions worldwide in both tactical and civil airspace. The company said its CNS/ATM particularly addresses the new U.S. Air Force requirement to meet many of the requirements of the C-130 Avionics Modernization Program with something more affordable.

During the flight test, Northrop Grumman integrated CNS/ATM with its Real Time Situational Awareness (RTSA) system. RTSA provides a tactical common operational picture to all aircraft in a participating area of responsibility.

CNS/ATM uses the T ^{3}CAS $^®$ Traffic Management Computer from ACSS, an L-3 Communications & Thales Company based in Phoenix. ACSS also provided the C-12 surrogate airframe used in the demonstration. To read the full Press Release click here.

Engility Wins $20.7 Million Award to Support USMC Ground and Aviation Communications

Engility Holdings, Inc. (NYSE:EGL), announced on 5 November 2013 that it had been awarded a $20.7 million contract to enhance current "Beyond Line of Sight" communications for U.S. Marine Corps ground and aviation operations. Engility will provide life cycle support to include software maintenance and mission support services under this contract, which was awarded by USMC Systems Command, Quantico, Va.

"We are proud to support the United States Marines and are honored by the opportunity to continue to support USMC operations," said Engility President and CEO Tony Smeraglinolo. "The men and women of Engility have done outstanding work for our Marine Corps customers and this award reflects that performance."

Engility engineers and software developers will support the "Beyond Line of Sight" program during the length of this fixed-price, five year contract. "Beyond Line of Sight" is an important system that allows communications connectivity and coordination to the Marine Corps during air and ground operations.

EVENTS DIARY

Date/Time	Event & Location	Description
23 January 2014 Evening	**IDLSoc Swedish Chapter Annual Meeting** **Stockholm**	This Meeting will be held at FMV SmartLab in Stockholm.
31 March to 03 April 2014 Full Days	**17th NTDLS** Calpe, Spain	The NTDL event provides an excellent networking opportunity for industry and military to debate the importance of Tactical Data Links and formatted messages as tools in today's information exchange and information assurance environment.
4 November 2014 A Full Day	**IDLSoc Training Day** Andel's Hotel, Berlin	A call for Training Day Courses has been issued and replies are due in by 31st January 2014.
5 – 7 November 2014	**IDLS2014** Andel's Hotel, Berlin	The IDLS2014 website will be launched during December 2013.

For more details visit the events page at www.idlsoc.com