

12th ICCRTS

“Adapting C2 to the 21st Century”

Scientific Support to the Development of the UK’s Future C2 Concept

Topics: C2 Concepts, Theory and Policy or Organizational Issues

Georgia Court
Defence Science and Technology
Laboratory
Ively Road
Farnborough
Hampshire
GU14 0LX
United Kingdom
0044 1252 455971
gccourt@dstl.gov.uk

Sally Boddington
Defence Science and Technology
Laboratory
Ively Road
Farnborough
Hampshire
GU14 0LX
United Kingdom
0044 1252 455856
sboddington@dstl.gov.uk

As part of its process of transformation, the UK Ministry of Defence (MOD) is considering whether it is possible to enhance Command and Control (C2) in the networked era. Evidence from a broad range of studies, experiments and operational lessons suggests that Network Enabled Capability (NEC) will allow UK forces to operate quicker and better, and with reduced risk of fratricide. It also highlights that enabling dynamic collaborative working can improve operational capability, particularly when agility of command and control (C2) is combined with improvements in the quality of information available.

In 2006, the UK MoD held a senior workshop to explore how C2 might be adapted and optimised for expeditionary operations in the 2020 timeframe. A co-ordinated programme of science (analysis, experimentation and human factors research) was put in place to test the ideas for future C2 that emerged from the workshop. This involved a diverse range of methods to address the impact of ideas across all lines of development.¹

The workshop and its associated programme of scientific testing was described at ICCRTS11. This follow-on paper presents further detail of the testing now underway and the emerging findings that are supporting the development of the UK MOD’s Concept for Future C2.

¹ Training, Equipment, Personnel, Information, Doctrine, Organisation, Infrastructure, Logistics