



BIOGRAPHY

Claude Roche
Executive for Europe and NATO
Network Centric Operations Industry Consortium



Dr. Claude Roche, a consultant for defence and security systems, is the Network Centric Operations Industry Consortium executive for Europe and NATO. In this leadership role, he develops and coordinates relationships between NCOIC and organizations and agencies from NATO and the European Union to promote the consortium's mission of fostering network centric operations and cross-domain interoperability.

Roche is a retired colonel in the French Ministry of Defense. He served as procurement officer for the General Director for Armament (DGA). He created the DGA's image processing and smart weapons activities and directed its initial studies on observation satellites and cruise missiles, which led to coherence between French cruise missiles and observation satellites, including both civilian SPOT and military Helios satellites. He then developed and managed the Helios satellite program within DGA, which was the first military intelligence satellite in France.

After his military career, Roche moved to the private sector. He worked at Alcatel Space, where he headed strategy and planning, then led the aerospace department. He was vice president of marketing at Société Européenne de Propulsion (SEP), vice president of defence systems at MATRA, and vice president of Strategy France at EADS Cassidian (now Airbus Defence and Space). In these positions, he helped lead France's activities and programs in smart weapons, space, ballistic missile defence, large systems and net-centric warfare.

Through the years, Roche represented France in several NATO groups and also served as president of the Paris Chapter of Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association International (AFCEA). He is a member of the European Air and Space Academy and Chevalier de l'Ordre de la Légion d'Honneur.

Roche has written a number of scientific articles on image processing, pattern recognition and artificial intelligence as well as a computer science book, *Le Basic et le Temps Partagé* (Dunod 1970). He has also contributed to several books on missile defence, space and airborne intelligence, and command-and-control systems.

Roche graduated from Ecole Polytechnique, Ecole des Transmissions de l'Armée de Terre and Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Télécommunications. He received a doctorate degree in computer science at Paris University, where his research focused on image processing, pattern recognition and artificial intelligence.

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