



NCOIC Update to Members – July 2018

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Plan Set to Prove Value of IV Process for NATO

The NCOIC June 28 leadership meeting focused on the consortium's Interoperability Verification (IV) Initiative for NATO Allied Command Transformation. The IV Framework team briefed the draft plan and technical concept for the next phase of the project, which was developed and refined working collaboratively with ACT and others. The team will have additional information to discuss in late August. Here are some key takeaways for those who missed the meeting:

- Interoperable systems represent a time-saving and life-saving resource.
- Capabilities are multiplied when systems are brought together.
- This is a complex issue and nations will need to come together to champion it to move forward.
- NCOIC has created an industry-neutral process, not a separate agency or entity.
- IV process will give more flexibility to NATO and can improve procurement of products that are most like to plug-and-play against technical specifications.
- European vendors can use the IV process to increase business in their own and other countries.
- NCOIC has a five-step plan to prove the value of the IV process that includes determining a scenario, selecting 10 key attributes that are critical its success, creating guidelines for vendors, identifying and testing products, and determining results (time and cost savings).
- Money spent on integration could instead be used to buy additional products, services and capability.
- European nations understand what interoperability would mean to them and need NCOIC's expertise.

Velizar Shalamanov Joins Advisory Council

Welcome to Velizar Shalamanov, PhD., of Bulgaria, the newest addition to the NCOIC Advisory Council of senior government leaders and strategists with expertise in global interoperability. Dr. Shalamanov currently serves at the Academy of Sciences in Sofia as an associated professor in the Institute of Information and Communications Technologies and is a visiting professor at the Defense College on Transformation, Innovation and Interoperability. He has worked with NATO for more than two decades; most recently, he was Director of Demand Management for the NATO Communications and Information Agency. He also held leadership roles with the NATO Consultation, Command and Control Agency and the inter-agency NATO Integration Council. Prior to this, he had a distinguished military career and was an officer in Bulgarian Armed Forces. Currently, he is on the AFCEA International Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

“We are excited to welcome Dr. Shalamanov to the NCOIC Advisory Council. He has worked on interoperability issues for many years and has extensive experience in C4ISR projects for NATO, its member nations and partner countries. He also has a comprehensive understanding of the needs, expertise and common interests of the B9 countries. Dr. Shalamanov will play a key role in helping to move the IV framework forward,” said NCOIC CEO Harry Raduege.

Demos on Federated Cloud Interoperability Discussed

The Technical Council recently hosted presentations by Dr. Craig Lee of The Aerospace Corp. and Raj Mukherji of Mukherji Consulting on opportunities for demonstrations related to federated cloud interoperability for possible NCOIC participation. Discussions included cooperation with ORCA (Open Research Cloud Alliance) and the joint IEEE/NIST working group for federated cloud interoperability. A follow-up telcon with Khalil Yazdi and Martial

Michel of ORCA covered collaboration between NCOIC and ORCA. Recordings of the sessions are available. Contact Mark Bowler, Tech Team Chair, at mark.k.bowler@boeing.com.

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