



NCOIC Update to Members – June 2016



Still Time to RSVP for July 13 Panel Discussion

Register now for the second in a series of executive discussions on interoperability and achieving mission success in a joint operation set for Wednesday, July 13 in Arlington, VA. Discussing "Interoperability: Addressing the Unknowns of Global Collaboration" will be:

-Maj. Gen. (Ret) Koen Gijbbers - General Manager, NATO Communications and Information Agency and former Chief Information Officer, Netherlands Ministry of Defence

-John Grimes - Former Asst. Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration, Department of Defense Chief Information Officer, and US Representative to NATO Communications-Electronics Board

-Gen. (Ret) Harald Kujat - NCOIC Advisory Council Chairman and former Chief of Staff, German Armed Forces and Chairman, NATO Military Committee

-Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Lofgren - Deputy Chief of Staff for Capability Development, Headquarters Allied Command Transformation

NCOIC members and guests in the area are welcome to attend and hear how to plan for the unexpected. Go to: http://www.ncoic.org/images/news/NCOIC_July2016panel.pdf

Join the NCOIC Interoperability Verification Effort

Early in June, CFO Tip Slater described the new NCOIC Interoperability Verification (IV) concept at a conference in Estonia organized by the NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCIA). He talked about the goal for IV to be used by NCIA in the acquisition processes for its Federated Mission Networking (FMN) capability. He explained the NCOIC verification process will assess the extent of interoperability in different products and services offered by industry to help NCIA lower integration cost and risk in the modernization of its IT environment. Based on the positive response to his talk by global leaders, Slater expects great interest in the IV initiative. He encourages interested NCOIC members to get involved early in the initiative by joining the IV Integrated Product Team. For more information, contact Ken Cureton at kenneth.l.cureton@ncoic.org. To check out Slater's presentation and get more details on IV, go to the NCOIC website: <http://www.ncoic.org/about-us/interoperability-verification>

Federation Management for NCOIC Incubator in Spotlight

Dr. Craig Lee of The Aerospace Corporation will offer a presentation on federation management using virtual organizations and the approach the NCOIC is using on the Rapid Response Incubator (RRI). All NCOIC members are invited to attend the online briefing set for July 6 at 2 p.m. Eastern US time.

Missions and agencies increasingly need to share information and resources to achieve national goals, yet the vast majority of their IT systems are stove-piped silos. Federation is a mechanism that enables sharing to be securely managed and bridge these silos. Virtual Organization (VO), a key concept for managing federation among different groups that have different users, services and policies; it is a

security and collaboration context that is not owned by any one organization but enables joint security, discovery and access policies to be defined, agreed upon and enforced. Dr. Lee will illustrate federation management using VOs through KeyVOMS, a VO management system based on OpenStack's Keystone authentication and authorization service. KeyVOMS is part of NCOIC's Rapid Response Incubator for disaster response, which is a "poster child" use case for federation management.

To access the one-hour briefing via GoToMeeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/319302101>. Or using your phone, dial: US +1 (224) 501-3412
Access code for the meeting is: 319-302-101.

MERLIN Provides Interoperability Expertise and Showcase for Member Products

NCOIC has begun making presentations to prospective customers on MERLIN, an interoperability service that gives them access to the consortium's on-demand demonstration, test and evaluation environment, known as the Rapid Response Incubator. MERLIN grew out of the successful community cloud demonstration NCOIC conducted for the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency in 2013. It leverages the RRI as well as NCOIC's technical toolkit and proven approach to addressing the governance, cultural, business and technological aspects of creating cross-domain interoperability.

MERLIN can support exercises, verifications and continuing operations and benefit a range of industries and needs. A MERLIN project would begin with a SCOPE™ assessment of the customer's situation and development of a governance document that establishes trusted participants, access, rules, processes, etc. Next the RRI would be configured to give the customer a secure federated-cloud infrastructure, then databases and applications would be added to get the information flowing.

MERLIN customers will receive the governance documentation as well as exercise/evaluation reports and verification of the interoperability achieved. The customer will also have an important takeaway: a persistent cloud-based infrastructure and applications that it can use to verify interoperability, conduct exercises, evaluate potential solutions and create a lasting capability for operational needs.

The technical capabilities to be used will be a combination of market-ready solutions on loan from their owners (NCOIC member-companies) and commercially acquired ones purchased by NCOIC as needed. In this way, MERLIN events will give large and small companies a platform where they can showcase their products, services and concepts. Pat Ryan, Chief Technical Officer, leads the MERLIN business development effort; email him at pat.ryan@ncoic.org.

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Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Help spread the word that NCOIC does what other organizations can't – because of our robust legal environment, proven products and services, experience in implementing net-centric operations, and valuable input from experts in a range of industries and disciplines.