

The British Army's Warfighting Experiment 17

End-to-End Trial Management System



Background

The British Army's Warfighting Experiment 17 (AWE 17) was a cornerstone trial and experiment of novel products and solutions to inform key future concepts, organisations and requirements. Building on the previous Urban Experimentation (URBEX) programme and running in close co-operation with the US Army's Expeditionary Warrior Experiment (AEWE), AWE 17 allowed industry to show case candidate products to the MOD, Tri-service representatives and users, DSTL and US Military personnel.

4C Strategies was contracted to deliver Exonaut® to the Level C Evaluation Phase of AWE 17. This consisted of a 4 week field trial and experiment of down-selected candidate products, brought forward from the Level B test stage. 68 products were progressively evaluated in the field trial, which consisted of operating progressively at a Section (Sect), Platoon (Pl) and Company (Coy) context.

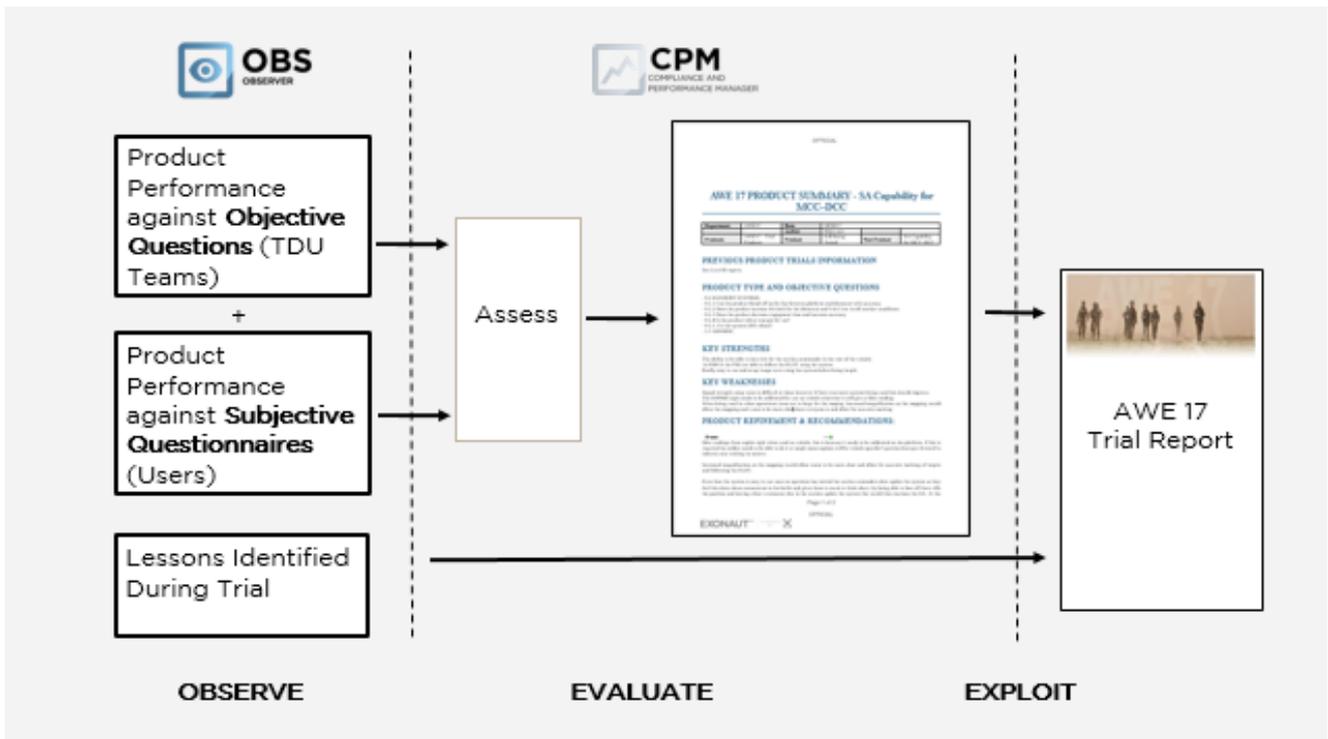


Exonaut® Solution

Exonaut® provided AWE17 with an integrated Trial Management System (TrMS) to support the implementation of the data collection plan, the design and delivery of tactical activities to test the products, observation, assessment and evaluation of product performance, report generation and lessons capture. The TrMS consisted of the Tactical Data Editor (TDE), Training & Exercise Manager (TEM), Mobile & Desktop Observer (OBS) & Readiness Management Portal Light (RMP) Exonaut® Modules.

Design & Development

4C Strategies worked hand in hand with all the British Army's Trials and Development Units (TDUs) to design a data collection plan methodology that combined both objective question sets and subjective user questionnaires against which to evaluate product performance in the field via Exonaut®. These and all relevant data sets, including candidate product information, were loaded into Exonaut® allowing the development of tactical serials within which to test the products. Product performance data could then be collected into the system, allowing assessment and ultimately the generation of reports all from within the Exonaut® software.



Delivery

Exonaut® enabled the real time collection of over 600 product performance observations backed up with photos and videos. With Exonaut® OBS, trials teams were able to deploy into the field with all relevant trial and product information, test serial details, question sets and considerations accessible via British Army ToughBook Tablets. This meant that anyone from the trials teams would have the right information at hand, to know exactly how they should be evaluating the products and what questions to ask of it. This also included collecting user feedback via pre-set questionnaires at the end of a trial serial.

MCC/DCC (ATDU/ITDU Misc) Week 2 Section

← Incident

Adv Equipped 1

13/03/2017 11:00 - 13/03/2017 13:00

Objective/Aim
Advance to contact with AWE equipment

Description of the Incident
Sections with associated vehicles conduct advance to contact with obs crossing. Advance is from High Trees on SE Axis.

Analysis Objective
Record Performance of AWE products in the hands of the user.

Miscellaneous
Holding area- IVO GS 0342 High Trees.
Obstacle GR XXXXXX
Obj Holding area IVO GS 0441 S of Melsome's Pole Barn

Files
AWE section week Rural.docx

Injects
Phase 1 Advance
Phase 2 Obs Crossing
Phase 3 Contact
Phase 4 AAR

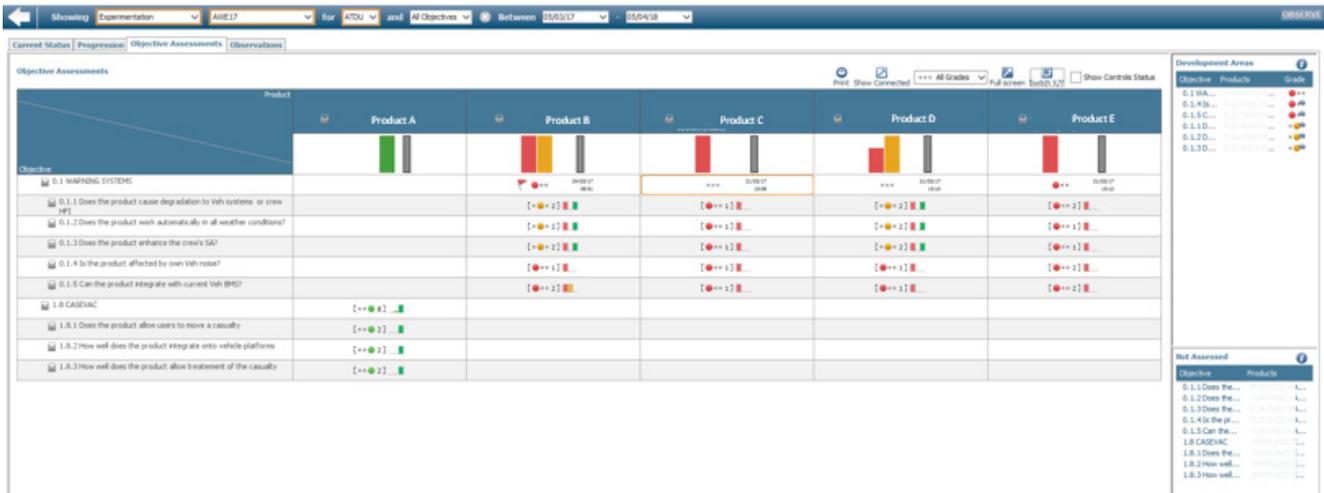
Unit objectives
ARMOURD EMERGENCY CASUALTY EVACUATION SYSTEM
1.8 CASEVAC
1.8.1 Does the product allow users to move a casualty
1.8.2 How well does the product integrate onto vehicle platforms
1.8.3 How well does the product allow treatment of the casualty
Rheinmetall Situational Awareness System (SAS)
0.1 WARNING SYSTEMS
0.1.1 Does the product cause degradation to Veh systems or

Incident observation
+

Evaluation

All captured real time product performance data was submitted into Exonaut® CPM into a series of configurable dashboards and screens. This allowed the AWE 17 command team to monitor, track and assure product performance findings and make evidence based decision on the on-going conduct of the trial.

Within Exonaut® CPM, senior trial team members were also able to make assessments on the performance of the products based on the real time collected data and generate user defined product reports for Industry and the MOD.



Value

Information Management

Exonaut® would negate the need to carry hard copy documents and questionnaires as all the right information would be available at the right time.

Enhanced Objective Data Capture

Anyone from the trials teams (deployed with OBS) would be able to objectively collect performance data on any candidate products, knowing exactly what they should be looking for (questions) and what to consider in making their observation (considerations). This increased the potential for much wider data collection.

Combined Subjective Data Capture

Trials troops could immediately complete feedback questionnaires having used a candidate product and this subjective information would be available alongside objective observations in a single system for analysis – in near real time.

Evidence of Performance

Photos and videos could be collected as part of an Exonaut® OBS observation, negating the need for separate cameras and providing further evidence of captured data.

Assurance of Captured Data

Observations collected in Exonaut® would be time stamped, with the author's name and fully interrogatable. This would allow controlling C/S's to track the level of data collection against each product, identify issues, compare performance of products within each different grouping and assure the quality of data collected.