

Programming NATO's Training & Exercises

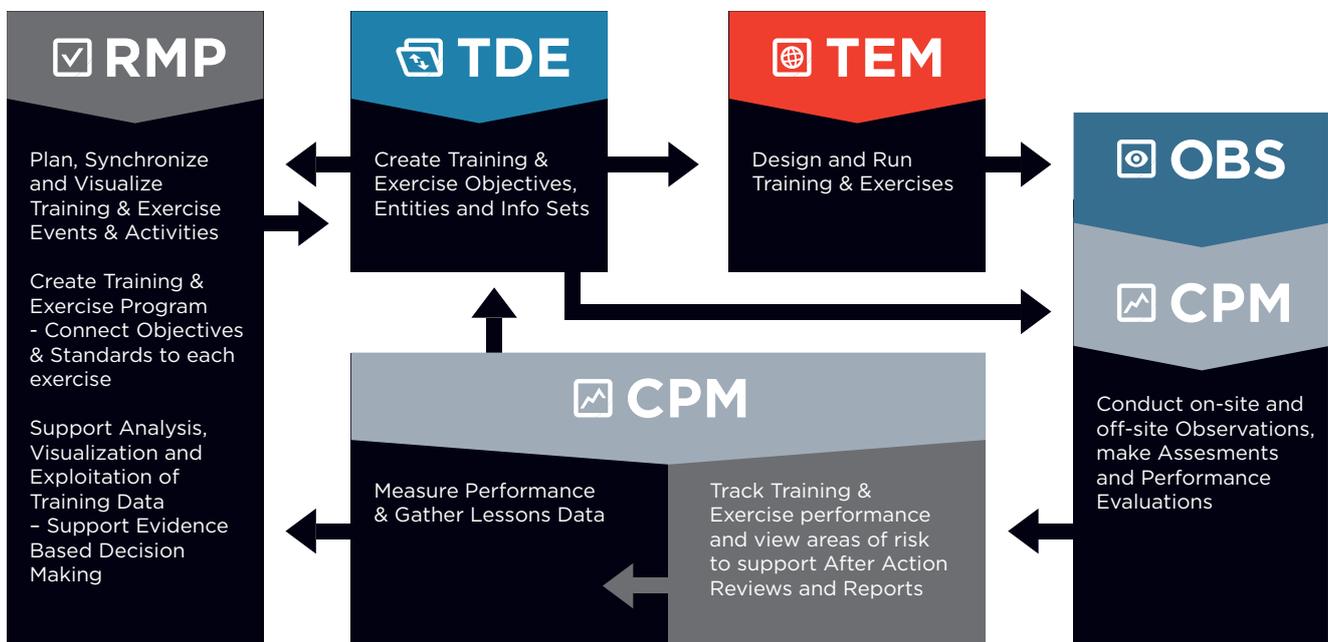
NATO's Electronic Military Training and Exercise Programme Tool



Requirement

The contemporary nature of crisis management and conflict resolution set against the backdrop of significant resource constraint has required NATO Allied Command Transformation (ACT) to think differently about readiness and risk management. This new landscape requires a transparent, cohesive and consistent training and exercise planning and management system which provides the ability to connect forces, including existing NATO nations and Partners. Nations are required to make best use of scarce resource, exploiting training synergies where possible, in order to audit, track, and visualise levels of readiness and the training risk carried by the nations and NATO. These are key tenets of the Connected Forces Initiative (CFI) and Smart Defence and implicit in maintaining forces at very High Readiness outlined at the Wales and Warsaw summits.

In order to support NATO's High Readiness goals, increase transparency across NATO, both within NATO HQ's and between allies, and to facilitate efficient collaborative planning and working, HQ Supreme Allied Commander Transformation (HQ SACT) Deputy Chief of Staff, Joint Force Trainer (DCOS JFT) required the use of an off-the-shelf software tool to support the planning and management of NATO's Military Training and Exercise Programme (MTEP). The tool was required to deliver a common interface supporting multiple views, a high level of user configurability and a simple export functionality to support senior level briefings.



4C Strategies' Solution to support ACT's Requirement

4C Strategies have worked closely with ACT's core user group to define, develop and implement a COTS based solution for the eMTEP requirement. This has involved detailed requirements capture, capability demonstrations and development work to customise the existing software to ACT's requirements. User training has been provided and the data from the old eMTEP transferred across to the new system.

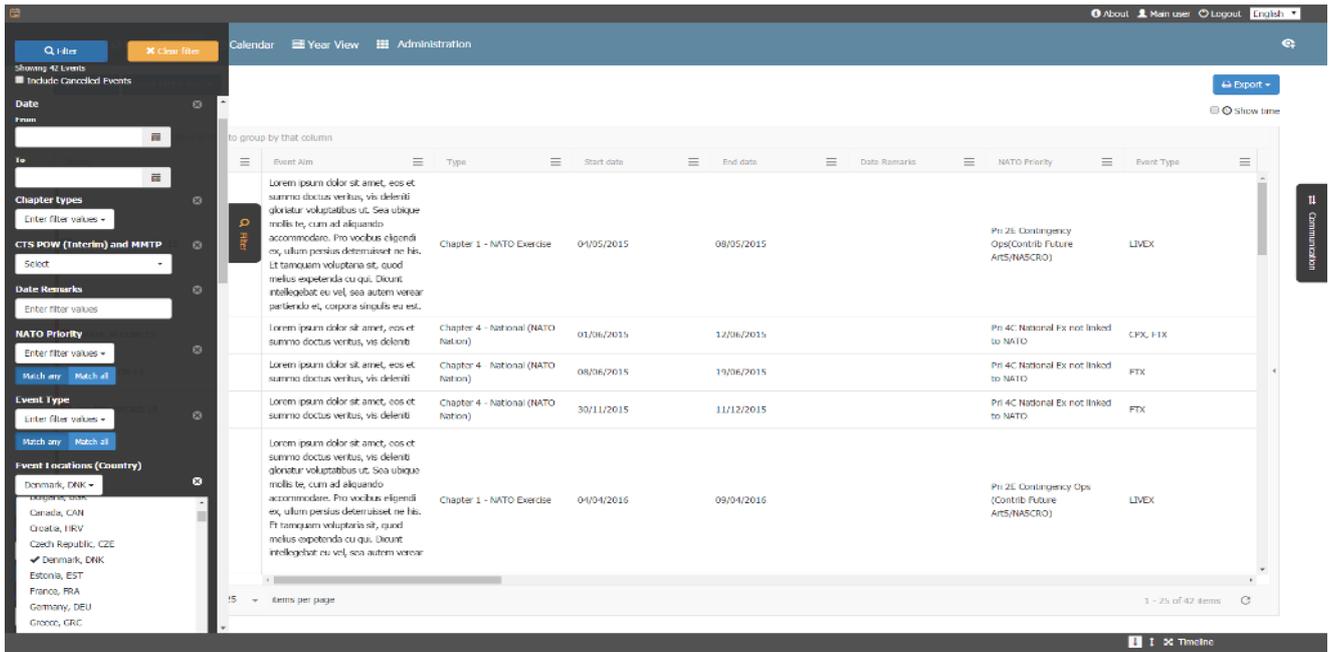
As an integral part of the highly configurable Exonaut® suite, Exonaut® RMP is an agile and user friendly collaborative tool that enables authorised users to dynamically schedule exercises and related activities online through a common interface and in real time. Advanced filtering functions generate user-definable views of, amongst others, exercises and activities, exercise aims and objectives, locations, participating formations and units, key resources and support staff.

These fields can also be used to generate reports and other visualisation tools. Exonaut® RMP facilitates a transparent view of the exercise planning process through information sharing, ensuring the right information is made available to the right users at all times. This produces a powerful planning, scheduling and synchronisation tool that is simple to use, facilitates dynamic planning, is available over the internet and meets the requirements of the MTEP and associated Collective Training Support Programme of Work (CTS POW) now and into the future.

NATO's eMTEP Views

A number of Views of the data are available. The scalable map view facilitates easy visualisation of the planned exercises; a hover-over facility allows users to see a brief overview (exercise location, dates and objectives) of any exercise and a quick route into the exercise data. In the multi-view mode, when an exercise is opened, the map icon is immediately illuminated. The Map View can be combined with the List View and or a Timeline View; this latter view indicates the current date and is scalable to zoom in and out to required granularity. Highlighting in the List View will reveal a dialogue box containing all available exercise data. In addition to a standard Calendar screen a bespoke filterable and groupable Year View is also available.

The screenshot displays the EXONAUT RMP interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with options like Start, Map, List, Calendar, and Year View. The main area is dominated by a map of Europe with several numbered markers (1-5) indicating exercise locations. A pop-up window for 'Lorem-1116' is open over the map, showing details like '18/11/2016 - 23/11/2016' and a description. Below the map, there is a table with columns for Name, Description, Type, and Start time. The table contains one entry: 'Lof-1147' with a description 'Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Donec a diam lectus. Sed sit amet ipsum mauris. Maecenas'. To the right of the table is a detailed view of an exercise, showing its general information, description, and various sub-items like 'Lorem ipsum dol-585', 'Lorem ips-3071', 'Lorem ip-1159', 'Lorem ipsum dol-306', 'Lorem ip-410', and 'Lorem ipsum 5'.

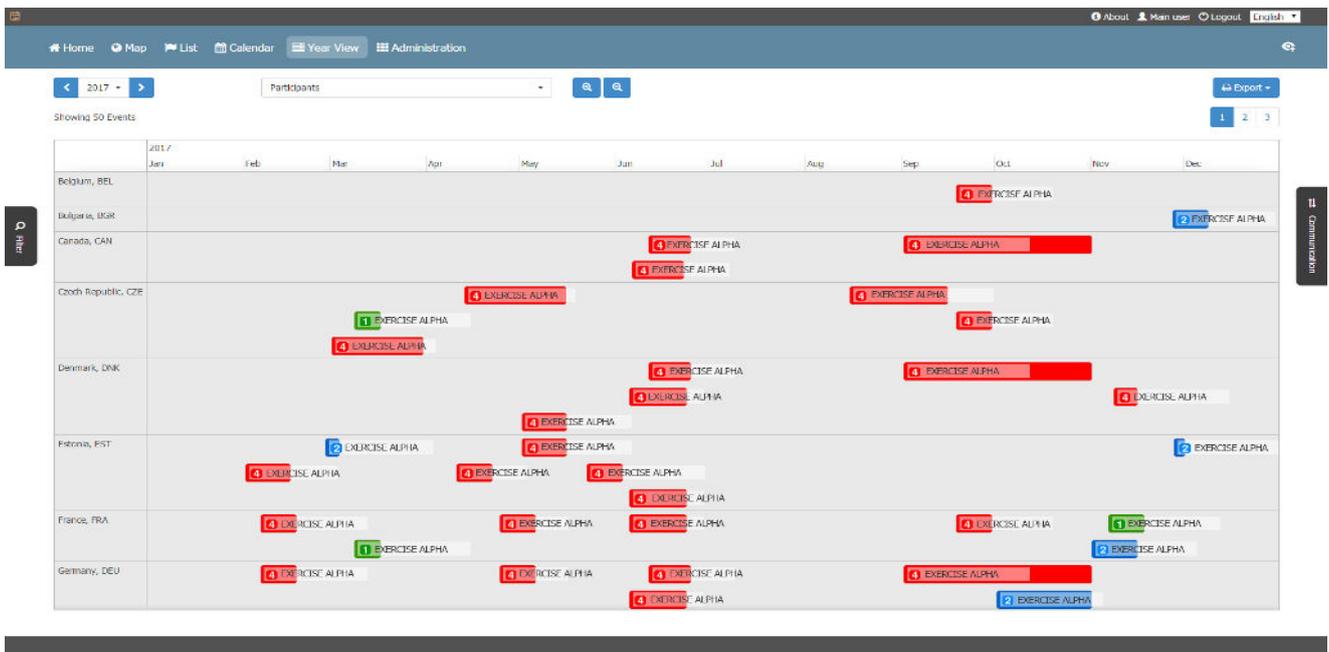


NATO's eMTEP Filters

In order to allow users to focus on their specific requirements, a powerful filter tool is included. This enables simple free text searches as well as more complex single or multiple attribute and/or filter operations.

NATO's eMTEP Architecture

NATO's eMTEP is available, to registered and authorised users, over the NATO Unclassified system. It is also available from any other PC based internet enabled device as well as through iOS and Android based browsers.



eMTEP Development

As 4C Strategies' eMTEP solution approaches FOC, usage by its user community has suggested further opportunities across a number of Branch or Functional areas to increase its utility as a programming tool and facilitating greater transparency across the NCS, NFS and Nations, allowing earlier and easier coordination by distributed HQs. Customising the fields to specific functional areas such as Budget, Finance, Evaluation, CIS or Transformation Objectives, and increasing the functionality to facilitate resource allocation and deconfliction will result in additional utility and greater transparency. Further integration may, in the future, enable the eMTEP to develop into both a programming and planning tool incorporating enhanced visualisation tools.

Key Benefits

The ability to plan concurrently enabled by a single version of the truth with access to all the required exercise data will save staff time, enable smarter decision making, make best use of scarce resource and realise synergies within NATO and between nations all of which will realise savings. The transparency that the eMTEP delivers will allow NATO HQ's and nations to visualise the exercise programme and to seize opportunities for collaboration.

4C Strategies remain committed to the development of the eMTEP. Our Development Cycle, Customer Development Academies and User Fora, in addition to our very close working relationship with ACT, ensures that we have early visibility of their requirements and are able to be appropriately agile in meeting them so our solutions and support remain cutting edge, relevant and cost effective.