

ETEE FS Community of Interest Startup in Bydgoszcz - Joint Force Training Centre

Written by Mr. Tomasz Rogula, the JFTC Training Support Division
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On January 29-31 2013 the Joint Force Training Centre hosted a workshop related to the wide subject of Education, Training, Exercise and Evaluation Functional Services (ETEE FS). The former ETEE Functional Area Services (FAS) Programme Steering Group has evolved into a form of a Community of Interest (CoI), gathering members from a range of interested NATO bodies. This workshop was the first startup meeting of the new group, from now on referred to as ETEE FS CoI.

The mission of the CoI is to harmonise efforts across NATO regarding maintenance of a common portfolio of subject Functional Services in support of education and training, with particular focus on Computer Assisted eXercises (CAX). Representatives of ACT, JFC Naples, JFTC, JWC, NCIA and SHAPE discussed principal mode of operation of the CoI, including intended future membership, relationships with other existing CoIs and roles within the Alliance's reporting and decision chains. In the technical part, ACT offered a web portal as the repository of the documents related to the CoI's work. A number of issues were open for discussion, such as Terms of Reference for the CoI, collection of high-level requirements for the FS usage, identification of the software tools currently in use and intended for the future and approach to sustainment of the FS portfolio in a long perspective.

The initiative was brought up to establish Configuration Control Boards (CCB) for the most common FS tools. JFTC and JWC will share the role of the CCB custodians, pending agreement on the details. It was also proposed by ACT that JFTC participate in the coming Land Command and Control Information System workshop in Izmir. This is seen as a step in

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building the working relationship with LC Izmir as the main partner for the future NRF line of training events. At the time of this writing, official minutes of meeting are expected from ACT. The next meeting of the Col is tentatively scheduled for the end of May.