

NRF 2015 - TOWARDS ONE MISSION ONE NETWORK

The Interface Gateway Box

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How do you connect (computer) networks between (non)NATO partners in a deployed environment? NATO describes the interoperability point as the gateway to connect services between partners: mail, chat, web, phone, but also systems for command & control, logistics, operational planning and security. In the past an operator had to use several workstations to send i.e. a mail from the land component command to the joint task force. Besides that it was almost impossible to share information between systems/networks i.e. the planning tool TOPFAS.

From 25 until 29 November 2013 the 1 German/Netherlands Corps (1GNC) (Muenster/Eibergen), 11 Air Mobile Brigade (Schaarsbergen) and Telemark Battalion (Rena/Norway) were testing, training and validating the Interface Gateway Box (IGB) for the NATO Response Force (NRF) 2015 in the Battle Lab of JIVC/SATS at Amersfoort. 101 CIS Battalion and 13 Mechanized Brigade joined the test week, because they are part of the force package for the preparation exercises in 2014 as Reliable Sword and Noble Ledger. Two Interface Gateway Boxes from the Netherlands and one from Norway were tested in a laboratory environment in a single test room. The progress on the Interface Gateway Boxes was visible via beamers, so that units could learn from each other and the action of one (sending a mail) was directly visible at the other units location.

The testing between the several Interface Gateway Boxes went well. With the Interface Gateway Box it is now possible to do all the operators work, in a mission secret environment, via one workstation.

TOWARDS – ONE MISSION, ONE NETWORK.

Next test is planned mid April 2014 in Lillehammer (Norway), but then with the involvement of Information Management and the operators of the several systems. First operational use will be done during the NRF certification exercise for 11 Air Mobile Brigade in May 2014 (Reliable Sword) and the NRF certification exercise for 1 German/Netherlands Corps (Noble Ledger). NRF CIS certification for the Interface Gateway Box will also be done during the NATO exercise in May 2014 in Lithuania (Steadfast Cobalt).



Hardware IGBs

REFERENCES

More information is to be obtained by Mr Peter Harmsen and Maj Chris Lammertse (cd.lammertse.01@mindef.nl).



Overview of the about the testing area. Three beamers showing the content of the IGBs