



**International Network Designers Working Group**  
**Network Design...the final piece of the interoperability puzzle!**

NCS Training LTD, in cooperation with industry partners, is hosting the International Network Designers Working Group (INDWG), 15-17 May, at the Holiday Inn in High Wycombe, UK. The INDWG is open to Link 16 / JTIDS / MIDS Network Planners, Designers, Managers, and Data Link Management Centre staff from any Link 16 nation. Industry participation is limited to companies that provide Network Design related services or support.

**Problem**

Operational Network Design is the most complex, least trained, and least supported requirement in the Link 16 community. It is not uncommon for unreasonable or unsupportable Information Exchange Requirements (IERs) to be handed to the Network Designer that were given little more thought than the total number of tracks that must be supported. For years, operators have said how useful it would be to meet with Network Designers from different countries in order to discuss common problems, determine best practices, and compare notes on a wide variety of subjects. As one of the most critical pieces of the coalition interoperability puzzle, exchanging Network Design related information directly affects the success of future operations.

**Return on Investment**

As a leading provider of Network Design Training and Support to Network Design Facilities, NCS is acutely aware of the need for closer coordination between Network Design Facilities. The INDWG will be three full days of meetings, briefings, and discussions regarding the most important Network Design related topics, as determined by the Network Design community. With Network Designers from around the world in attendance, the INDWG should prove to be an invaluable resource for Network Design related knowledge and insight. INDWG organizers are aware of the current economic climate and that budgets are tight, but feel that this forum is critical to the Network Design community as a whole and that it will help increase international interoperability for future operations.

Attendees can anticipate briefings / training sessions / workshops / discussion on the following topics:

- Operation Unified Protector (OP ELLAMY) Network Design Lessons Learned / Identified
- Afghanistan Theatre of Operations Network Observations
- Network Design Rules of Thumb
- Network Design Tools
- Platform Idiosyncrasies
- NETMAN T/1 issues
- Network Design Planning
- Network Design Validation
- Network Designer Training
- Network Design Simulation
- National Network Design Facilities

**Desired Accomplishments**

- Create global Network Designer Point of Contact list
- Agree upon common time slots per track calculation
- Agree upon Network Design Rules of Thumb for national evaluation
- Identify NETMAN T/1 problems and forward recommendations to NATO
- Discuss minimum / optimum training requirements for Network Designers
- Discuss National Message Implementation / time slot requirements

To register for this event, recommend topics for discussion, or get additional information please email [director@network-centric.com](mailto:director@network-centric.com).