



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

centre for defence **enterprise**

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The Centre for Defence enterprise (CDE) is the Ministry of Defence's new gateway for UK science and technology industry, academia and innovators to help ensure that our Armed Forces have access to the best equipment, science and technology, now and in the future. The Centre provides a quick first response to ideas with a range of advice, assistance and research funding.

To help you understand the complex requirements of the UK's Armed Forces, the Centre is hosting a programme of monthly Technology Seminars at its office at the Harwell Science & Innovation Campus. These seminars are an opportunity for industry, academia and innovators to meet with MOD experts and decision makers to understand the specific challenges and issues faced by our Armed Forces today and in the future. Following on from the previous seminars "Increasing the Effectiveness of the Dismounted Soldier", "Keeping the Fleet at Sea", "Energising the Armed Forces", "Logistics in the Armed Forces" and "Supporting the Expeditionary Air Force", details of the next seminar are

Thursday 22 January 2009

"Finding a straw in a haystack – Persistent Wide Area Surveillance"

Held at the Centre for Defence Enterprise, Start Electron, Harwell Science & Innovation Campus, Oxfordshire.

The Persistent Wide-Area Surveillance High Impact Rapid Implementation Demonstrator (PWAS HIRID) is the first of two HIRID programmes that will be launched by MOD in 2009. The second programme for Man Portable Energy will be launched later in Spring 2009.

Persistent Wide Area Surveillance is one of the most varied and challenging issues facing UK Armed Forces. The programme is expected to run for 3 years with ~£10M funding to rapidly develop and mature high risk, high pay-off technologies to allow operational demonstration and assessment.

Challenges include:

- determining patterns of life & detecting abnormal activity in a complex environment
- detecting and characterising activities that are hidden from view and are undetectable by current capabilities
- delivering affordable solutions making best use of and integrated with existing/planned systems

The seminar on 22 January will introduce both the HIRID concept, and military and MOD experts will discuss the Persistent Wide Area Surveillance challenge, opportunities and issues that are faced by UK Armed Forces in operations around the world.

This subject covers a wide range of topics across platforms and ISR technologies (Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance) and will be of interest to a large spectrum of SMEs, academia and industries. The PWAS HIRID is likely to focus on advanced airborne sensors, processing and fusion.

There will also be the opportunity to learn more about the Centre for Defence Enterprise and the Ministry of Defence. Prior to the seminar a workshop on submitting proposals via the CDE portal will be held.

Spaces are strictly limited and early application is advised via our website at <http://www.science.mod.uk/Engagement/Events> Confirmation of attendance along with joining instructions & directions will be sent once registration has closed. MOD does not charge for attendance at CDE workshops and seminars. Lunch and refreshments provided. The next seminars are still to be confirmed but are likely to be "Countering Difficult Air Targets" on 26 February 2009 and "Man Portable Energy HIRID" on 26 March 2009. Further details and application will be on the website.