

NATO Allied Command Transformation

Operational Experimentation



FACT SHEET - ASSOCIATE

Adaptive Scalable System for Operational C2 Integrating Ad hoc Teams Effectively

Description:	The Adaptive Scalable System for Operational C2 Integrating Ad hoc Teams Effectively (ASSOCIATE) is an experiment to enable networked communications between deployed NATO and non-NATO people and organisations.
Mission:	Identify requirements for an ASSOCIATE-like capability and inform Defence Planning.
Methodology:	The ASSOCIATE experiment takes a draft concept of employment and using an innovative concept demonstrator C2 network, tests the idea with NATO and non-NATO actors. Data captured is then used to refine the concept of employment to a level of maturity suitable for informing Defence Planning.
Proportionality:	ASSOCIATE must be able to provide NATO users and ad hoc team members with shared SA while ensuring that the information shared by NATO is proportionate to the needs of the operation.
Precise Control:	ASSOCIATE should give commanders control of the information that each non-NATO actor receives. A high degree of trust, combined with operational necessity, would increase the information flow to the actor. Diminished trust in an actor and a lessening operational need would reduce the information flow.
Ease of Use:	Any components of ASSOCIATE to be used by non-NATO people, must be easy to operate. Commonly-used commercial communications solutions can help, but they must be able to connect to a NATO network for sharing.
Duration:	Preliminary work in 2017, observation in Trial UNIFIED VISION 18, and concept note delivered in December 2018.
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Enabling a Comprehensive Approach to Operations

February 2018

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