Defence Test and Evaluation Base Database (DTEB)

Test and Evaluation (T&E) is a process by which components or systems are tested and the results evaluated to assess progress of design, performance, supportability, etc.

For defence this is particularly important due to the need for high quality performance and reliability; tests and evaluation are therefore performed during the whole lifecycle of an equipment. Most European Member States have their own Test and Evaluation Centres (TEC) and their number is currently estimated to 130.

The organisational set-up for 'Test and Evaluation' is different in each nation: some are incorporated into their military structure, others are purely civil entities; some Member States have outsourced test and evaluation in parts or even entirely and therefore rely solely on T&E carried out by industry. In addition there are also many different combinations of organisational structures.

In spite of all these diversities, all TECs have one thing in common; they can all provide specialized and complementary capabilities, which could be used not only nationally, but also more globally and collaboratively at a European level.

A harmonised and strengthened network of European Test and Evaluation Centres is an essential prerequisite for successful European defence policy development and fully optimised European projects.

Defence Test and Evaluation Base – Database

The first step to achieving an efficient network of European Test and Evaluation Centres is, to provide a database platform for information exchange between European T&E Experts.

To gain access find out more about DTEB Database under **http://www.eda.europa.eu/projects/portals**.

Supporting Nations

The mandate for DTEB comes from the **DTEB Plenary Group**, whose participating Member States currently include Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, England, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Spain and Sweden. This group provided the basic documents and formed the high level requirements for the DTEB Database.

Facebook and Wikipedia as 'models'

One important requirements that was established by the DTEB Plenary group was that all information should be up to date and based on expert level input. Therefore EDA's DTEB Database is required to be a radical departure from previous efforts to organise the European T&E base. In-line with current modern web based technologies (similar to those used for example in Facebook or Wikipedia), the EDA DTEB Database will be designed using a bottom approach, where T&E experts themselves can easily and comfortably input their entries regarding their facility profile and its capabilities.

Users and Roles

There are three types of DTEB database user roles:

» **Readers**, who have the ability to search for entries and give their ratings and provide comments;
» **Authors**, who can describe at an expert level the capabilities that are inside their test facilities;
» **Administrators** who can act as moderators in a test facility.

Expiry date of information and users

In order to keep all information within the DTEB Database up-to-date, the system requires authors and TECs to periodically refresh their data, otherwise their entries will be deactivated after one year and in a later stage could be deleted. Users are required to log in every six months to refresh their membership.

DTEB Database as enabler for harmonisation and standardisation among European T&E Centres

While the DTEB Database is a platform for hosting information on European T&E facilities, the E**uropean Defence Standards Reference System** (EDSTAR) and the **European Defence Standards Information System** (EDSIS) are also particularly valuable tools in achieving harmonisation amongst the various T&E constructs across Europe by documenting and promoting 'best–practice' for standardisation.

The DTEB Database has a built-in interface to its own list of standards and also to EDSTAR. This combination of both systems promotes and facilitates easier cooperation between European TEC's on the harmonisation of test procedures.

One taxonomy in-line with other EDA applications

The DTEB Database is based on the EDA taxonomy, but in-line with the development of the DTEB Database, it will be possible to extend the taxonomy, which consists of **domains** (in accordance with EDA's Capability Development Plan (CDP) and with EDA's Technical Taxonomy).

Certification as a 'Member of the European DTEB Community'

ISO 9002 certification provides evidence of an organisation's commitment to internal quality management. Similarly membership to the European DTEB Community is a commitment by the participating T&E Centres to a Europe-wide network of T&E expertise for cooperation and harmonisation.

By participating to the DTEB Database, T&E facilities further declare their openness for cooperation with other European T&E Centres.

T&E Days

An additional benefit is that members of the European DTEB Community will be able to attend future **T&E-Day symposia,** facilitated by the European Defence Agency. These events will provide a focal point to allow European T&E experts, directors and decision makers to come together to discuss new developments, issues and opportunities.

For more Information contact **DTEB@eda.europa.eu**

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