

NATO Missing training trough Distribution

This is one of the biggest aerospace simulation facilities in the world. That can simulate the collective tactical operations of up to four fast jet fighter aircraft. Such a facility is an invaluable tool to meet the training demands of military forces. It is based in the Netherlands, a national asset. NATO and MSG Task Group on mission training through distributed simulation, known as MTDS, wants to connect national and NATO simulators and training centers, opening the door to a persistent NATO mission training capability.

NATO's AWACS and nations have a common need for training of air combined and joint collective tactical training. This was last practice during exercise for involving two simulated f-18s in Canada, a live flight of a German Eurofighter in German c-130, two simulated f-16 from the Netherlands and a control and reporting center in Norway. Frances contribution was also key. It included a simulated French fighter

aircraft and a simulated AWACS over France. This was managed by operators at the air operations NATO Center of Excellence, where staff provided an overall air situation picture. The exercise enabled the participants to train as they fight. Using a secure Network at a lower cost than training without the use of simulators. It also helped improve interoperability, not only between NATO allies, but also industry.

The support was provided by Thales and Airbus. The Thales group has defined the essential elements for a native MTDS environments, including concept of operations, operational requirements, architecture, standards, federation agreements, security aspects, network infrastructure and procedures for interoperability tests before operational exercise. Mission training through distributed simulation is possible now through improvements in technical capabilities. It can prepare participants for live flying missions and to help them practice weapons employment. Realistic mission training, with real operators. The options for the execution of various scenarios are endless. The availability of a permanent network for mission training through distributed simulation, is therefore crucial to the operational readiness of NATO and its allies