VARIABLE MESSAGE FORMAT (VMF)/COMBAT NET RADIO (CNR) ADVANCED WORKSHOP MASTERCLASS – 22-23 MAY 2017

Introduction

1.	1. The Australian Defence Force Tactical Datalink Authority (ADFTA) in conjunction with the International Data Link Society Australia/New Zealand (IDLS AS/NZ) Chapter is holding a Variable Message Format (VMF)/Combat Net Radio (CNR) Advanced Workshop at the Majura Theatre, Majura Park Canberra Airport from 0900 h to 1700 h on the 22nd and 23rd of May 2017.

Content

2.	Ground networks use VMF digital messaging over CNRs and point-to-point circuits, for the conduct of situational awareness, command and control of land assets, Joint Fires and Digitally-aided Close Air Support (DaCAS) missions.

3.	This Two Day Advanced Workshop aims to provide theoretical knowledge of the main aspects of VMF and its use over CNR, and will cover:

a.	And overview of the VMF;

b.	details of VMF and CNR military standards;

c.	VMF planning/development issues and considerations;

d.	timing models available;

e.	hardware: modems, radios and gateways;

f.	text parsing/parsers;

g.	integration and interoperability issues;

h.	specific VMF/CNR functionality issues;

i.	summary of Working Group Forums;

j.	employment of VMF in terminal phase of Digitally Aided Close Air Support (DaCAS) missions;

k.	proposed changes to VMF – Looking Forward;

l.	planning/development considerations; and

m.	demonstration of VMF/CNR parsing.

4.	All topics will be delivered at the Unclassified Level.

Speakers

5.   Mr Tony Bils is the Business Area Director for the Aeronix VMF over CNR product line. He is the original software developer on the Aeronix IDM products where he developed the AFAPD/TACFIRE solutions. He served as the Program Manager and Test Architect for the F-35 MIL-STD-188-220D CN1 waveform development. Tony is the inventor and developer of the VMF Intelligent Parser (VIP) that is employed on the F-35 and other avionics/ground platforms. Tony also is the original developer of the IDM Workbench I&T product, including its native script language and built-in MIL-STD-6017 / MIL-STD-2045-47001 parsing capabilities. Tony also serves as the chief product trainer of Aeronix TDL products. He frequently consults for Aeronix' VMF over CNR customers in areas ranging from requirements to application development to platform integration. He is a past presenter at the DACAS VMF Summit.

6.   Mr Michael Dick has been a significant technical contributor for the Aeronix VMF over CNR product line since 2008. Michael was a principal designer for the Aeronix Protocol Analyzer product. Michael is the current major representative for Aeronix at the DACAS CCB and Boldquest activities. Michael served as an ECP co-lead on the DACAS CCB and is the designer of Air Force-sponsored CNIP and PCDB products that support off-line MIL-STD-188-220 timing parameter calculations and dissemination. He travels frequently to customer sites to support development and integration activities.

Who Should Attend

7.   This Workshop is open to participants from Defence as well as a limited number of Australian Defence Industry IDLSoc members that require a deeper level of understanding of VMF message implementation, text parsing and VMF/CNR integration.

8.   Attendance is limited to 60 delegates.

Course Cost

9.   There is no cost for workshop attendance; however, travel costs, parking and accommodation will be the individual's own responsibility. Morning tea, light lunch and afternoon tea will be provided.

Nominations

10.   Nominations for the course should be forwarded through the ANZ IDL Society website and then selecting the Masterclass Tab. General inquiries should be directed to the Contact Officer.

11.   Nominations close Friday, 12 May 2017.

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