



July 2009

EDGE™ UK Newsletter



Welcome to the EDGE™ UK

The EDGE™ Innovation Network is a revolutionary model where industry and academia collaborate to deliver new technologies and innovative capabilities to users.

Our mission: to create and maintain an open environment where members can nurture, characterise and position current and emerging technology and capabilities to equip a mobile, better connected, and better informed end-user.

The EDGE™ Innovation Network primarily operates out of Innovation

Centres that are collocated near customer and/or EDGE™ member centres of interest. Supported by General Dynamics, there are a number of centres across the US, and now in the UK. General Dynamics United Kingdom Limited launched the EDGE™ UK in 2008, a pioneering innovation centre for Britain's knowledge-based industries, enabling rapid testing of new advances in technology by the Ministry of Defence, Britain's leading universities, and high-tech small and medium size companies (SMEs).

Wearable Computing Show – 24 September 2009

The EDGE™ UK is hosting this event, with manufacturers invited to demonstrate their latest wearable computing technology. The aim of the show is to assess interoperability of leading edge technology with the current Bowman architecture. Please contact us if you are interested in attending.

End of Year Demo (JIRAD) – 17 November 2009

Each year, the EDGE™ UK hosts a large demonstration integrating many of the smaller innovations demonstrated throughout the year. In 2009, the focus is on demonstrating capability which provides operational benefit within an integrated C4I network at all levels, from the HQ down to the individual soldier. Please make a note in your diary now...

Introduction

Welcome to the first EDGE™ UK newsletter for the UK military. The EDGE™ UK aims to assess new technology and determine its viability for potential future military deployment. Existing military equipment is used where appropriate.

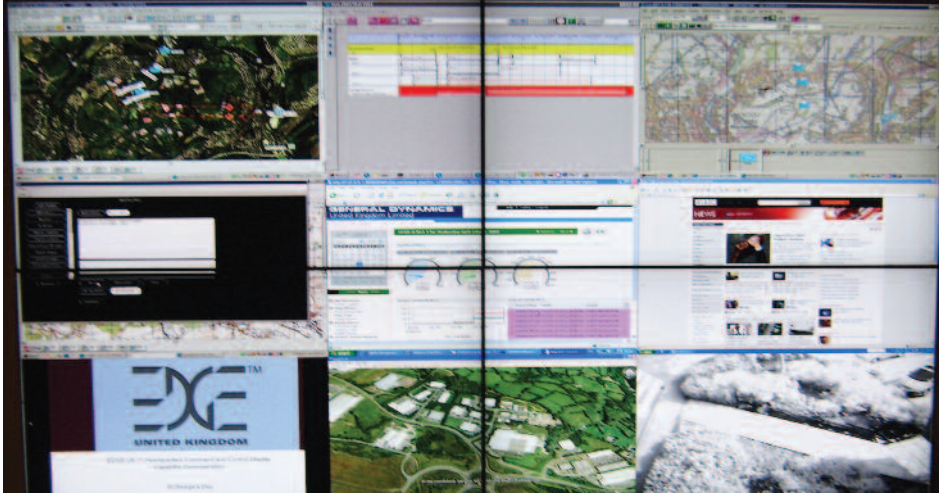
The aim of this newsletter is to provide you with visibility of activity in the EDGE™ UK. We regularly assess and demonstrate new technology and want to ensure that you are aware of our activities. We would also welcome your input at all levels.

This newsletter details our ongoing demo schedule, with future issues adding more detail to the description of each demo as they draw closer. Please contact us if you are interested in the technology we are assessing or wish to come along to one of our demonstrations.

Future Demo Dates

- 24 September – Wearable Computing Show
- September – Remote mounting of antennas using RF over Fibre
- 17 November – End of Year demo

Previous Demo Reports



Group Display Devices

In April, EDGE™ UK hosted a demonstration of Barco's latest near seamless large screen technology together with its software management suite application. The software management application allows any data feed to be visualised on the main display. Pre-defined display configurations can be selected at the touch of a button. Our demonstration showed four 46" screens linked together. The cross hairs joining the rugged transportable screens were just 7mm (3.5mm per screen) allowing screens to be linked without obscuring information across the 'divide'.

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Secure Interoperable Chat

The EDGE™ UK recently demonstrated a secure Intra Chat capability. The demonstration not only highlighted the usefulness of chat as a secure co-ordination tool but also de-risked integration of this capability into future releases of ComBAT. As a direct result of this de-risking exercise, this capability was included in the following release of ComBAT and used successfully during the Flying Rhino exercises in the Czech Republic for 1 Div.

System Monitoring

As data networks become more complex, both network and frequency management applications are required to minimise the effects of congestion whilst maximising throughput. This is imperative on disadvantaged, mobile and ad-hoc tactical intranets.

Network management involves four key stages Analyse, Plan, Monitor and Modify. The EDGE™ UK has just completed a demonstration of one of these phases – Monitor.

During the project, the EDGE™ UK piloted a suite of applications that operated over an unreliable, lossy infrastructure with an intuitive user interface – initial customer feedback was that the concept and implementation was highly informative and recommended.

For further information and to register your interest, please log on to... www.the-edge-uk.com