

# **NDIA – Global EOD Conference**

## **Coalition Training and Technology Requirements**

**Col John Matthews OBE  
Col Gareth Bex OBE**

**27 Jul 15**



# The Panel.....

- Col John Matthews:

- Generalist
- Combat background / Infantry
- Heads up UK Defence EOD&S Branch in British Army HQ / C-IED Programme
- Responsible – UK Defence (Joint) EOD&S Policy, Doctrine, Training, Capability Delivery, Assurance and institutionalisation

- Col Gareth Bex:

- Specialist
- EOD&S background / ATO
- Commands 29 EOD&S Group within 8 Engineer Brigade
- Responsible for – the operational delivery of homeland and contingent EOD&S effects, including C-CBRNE under the Technical Response Force (TRF), principally within the land environment



# Thoughts for discussion

- Challenges of Institutionalising C-IED within UK Forces:
  - Defence - 'buy-in' versus threat proliferation
  - Policy – Generating policy that is coherent (NATO), affordable
  - Training - Post Afghanistan Reset versus Maintaining / developing competence
  - Doctrine – development of Countering Explosive Ordnance Concept
  - Alignment of S&T / Research
- Challenges facing UK EOD&S:
  - Technology:
    - Shrinking research budgets – mitigation by partnering
    - Technology limitations
    - Technology used by opponents
  - EOD – Demand v Supply
  - Capability delivery – programme \$600m over 10 years (60+ projects)
  - How to leverage off of NATO / partners / industry to reduce burden
  - Interoperability – what could / should we achieve? De-conflicted/Compatible/Interchangeable
    - Training opportunities on Coalition / wider NATO exercises



# Training – Coalition / NATO exercises

## UK/US

- US Homeland Security – Ex RAVEN'S CHALLENGE, USA
- US CJOAX – Combined Joint Operational Access Exercise, USA
- UK Expeditionary – Ex SHAMAL STORM, Jordan

## Wider NATO Exercises

- Ex ARDENT DEFENDER - Canada
- Ex VIKING STAR - Denmark

