



28 - 30 April 2015
PVA Expo, Prague

30 March 2015

ITEC 2015: at the heart of global training issues

Following a spate of international natural disasters, next month's ITEC conference and exhibition will reflect the continued increase in co-operation and cross sector training between military, para-military and civil powers. Bringing critical training issues under a global spotlight, ITEC 2015 will present a range of experts drawn from across the spectrum of defence, security, medical, emergency management and related sectors to discuss how recent developments have shaped training requirements. ITEC takes place at the PVA Expo in Prague 28-30 April.

Over the last decade, a deadly wave of earthquakes, volcanoes, flooding and tropical cyclones has caused hundreds of thousands of fatalities, leaving many millions more displaced. Unpredictable and highly volatile, the most recent catastrophe in Vanuatu demonstrates the devastating impact of these events on the communities left struggling to rebuild their lives.

The decisions made during such scenarios can mean a difference between life and death. **David Jones, CEO, Rescue Global**, a UK charity and global NGO dedicated to saving lives through Disaster Risk Reduction and Response, will use ITEC's *Civil Military Cooperation (CIMIC) Training* panel discussion on Thursday 30 April to brief on the vital work that is currently underway to help prepare and assist communities affected by natural disasters.

Rescue Global is a UK charity, US not-for-profit and International NGO. It champions a systematic and holistic approach to disaster risk reduction and response, throughout all phases of the disaster cycle: mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. The organisation's mission is to save lives by empowering decision makers who work in the Disaster Risk Reduction and Response environment. Rescue Global also conducts disaster reconnaissance, liaison and mentoring missions worldwide.

"Interoperability, decision making and communications are three crucial factors in a successful disaster response operation. Preparing those responsible for crisis response to operate effectively in such complex scenarios means that training and simulation is of fundamental importance" said David Jones, of Rescue Global. "The CIMIC discussion at ITEC will focus on the need for mutually supportive methodology in crisis situations and will present a range of recommendations to assist in the sharing of information and new practices between the civil and military communities".

The CIMIC panel session will further address the provision of swift, seamless and coordinated action in the wake of a natural disaster, as well as the emerging trend of civil and military cooperation. Chaired by **Lt Col Gareth Davies Land CBRN Doctrine Writer, Directorate of Land Warfare, UK Army** the theme will include debate on innovative technology, training approaches, organisational requirements and missions and lessons learned.

Lt. Col. Davies explains *“the requirement for civil-military cooperation in the wake of major disasters presents both challenges and opportunities for the training and simulation sector. Increasingly effective civil-military relations will no doubt lead to more efficient disaster management and this can be achieved through the ongoing development of joint training exercises and innovative simulation systems”*. He continued *“Further, many civilian organisations do not have access to the sophisticated training progressions that Armies have; this strengthens the requirement for a range of training systems and simulations that train, educate and test individuals and teams. CIMIC will remain a high priority for many global militaries and ITEC is an opportunity to identify and explore ways to strengthen these collaborations to ensure those effected by natural disasters are supported by an experienced and united force”*.

Lt Col Davies and **David Jones** will be joined by **Dr Susanne Schunder-Tatzber**, **HSSE Department Head of Corporate Health Management**, of the Austrian oil and gas company **OMV AG** and is also representing the **International Red Cross**; **Dr Agostino Miozzo**, **Italian Civil Protection**, and **Jean Marchal**, **Capability, Armament & Technology, Project Officer Systems of Systems, Space Modelling & Simulation and Experimentation, European Defence Agency**.

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Notes to Editors

About ITEC 2015.

Throughout two decades ITEC has provided a forum for the display of significant new training capabilities and the discussion of issues of key importance to the global training community. Today ITEC is jointly owned by Clarion Events and NTSA. Clarion Events, the majority stakeholder, is well known for running a number of highly successful defence and security conferences and exhibitions, including Defence & Security Equipment International (DSEI), Counter Terror Expo (CTX) and Undersea Defence Technology (UDT).

About the organiser.

Clarion Events has become one of the largest independent and one of the top three event organisers in the UK. Currently Clarion Events employs a talented staff of nearly 500 people in 12 offices: UK, (Fulham Green, London, Cheltenham); Germany (Bielefeld); The Netherlands (Maarsen); South Africa (Cape Town); USA (Connecticut and Reno); Brazil (Sao Paulo); Dubai (UAE); Singapore and Turkey (Istanbul).

About Lt Col Gareth Davies

Lt Col Gareth Davies has served in the British Army for over 25 years. In that time he has been involved in operations in the Balkans, the Middle East, and south west Asia, and in these theatres he has served as a member of Joint, Inter-Agency, Intergovernmental and Multinational teams. He is also an expert trainer, having spent much of career designing and delivering training and education as well as developing novel training systems. He is currently reviewing the UK's Counter-CBRN doctrine prior to leaving the British Army this summer.

About David Jones

David Jones is the Chief Executive of Rescue Global, an international NGO specialising in Disaster Risk Reduction and Response, based in Westminster and New York. David has spent his career in the private, uniformed and civilian emergency services sectors, specialising in operational command, control and instruction. He is a multi-disciplinarian and qualified instructor in strategic emergency and disaster risk reduction and response, incident command, multi-agency command support, search and rescue operations and contingency planning. He leads operations and training teams all over the world, for which he has received awards from the British Royal Family and numerous heads of state. David is on the Leadership Council of the United Nations (UN) Foundation, Humanitarian Awards, and the Editorial Panel of the Crisis Response Journal. He is an advisor in the fields of Disaster Risk Reduction and Response at nation state level, as well as project lead on disaster management development projects for the governments of the USA, India and the Philippines. He is a guest speaker at the Emergency Planning College (Cabinet Office, United Kingdom) and the United States National Search and Rescue Academy, Federal Agencies (NSARA). David co-supervises PhD Candidates at the University College London (UCL), in the fields of Disaster Management and Response. He is one of the co-founders of Rescue Global.