

Network for the Sky connectivity lab success

Collaboration of Airbus Secure Communications and Airbus Military Aircraft in Madrid

A teaming between Airbus' Network for the Sky and Military Aircraft businesses has demonstrated the benefits of advanced integrated communication solutions for air and ground-based assets and operations as part of the concept of future air power..

Using the advanced simulation capabilities at the Airborne Communication Centre of Excellence at Airbus' Getafe site, the Advanced Aero Interconnectivity solution helped multiple flying and ground assets operate in concert, by sharing information seamlessly and in real time.

This exercise paves the way for the development of the core capability for **SMART MRTT Connectivity**, which will allow the MRTT to act as a high end communication node. It provides a key stepping stone capability of **NFTS – Network for the Sky** through smart communications among aerial-based nodes, enabling the sharing of information and connectivity across a networked force, enhancing the operational capability and multiplying the force's effectiveness.

Global air communications today often rely on many single point to point links. This is a step towards realising a truly orchestrated airborne networked capability

In order to ensure the current and future needs of the warfighter are captured and catered for, MRTT operators were invited to take an active role in the solution development at a successful first laboratory demonstration.

Smart MRTT and NFTS are being developed in an incremental approach not only to answer current customer needs, but also to pave the way delivering a core capability of the future collaborative battlespace.