

Support to Exercise CAPABLE LOGISTICIAN

JALLC's Support

Every two years, logistics units from multiple nations gather together in order to exercise multinational logistics and to enhance interoperability among nations through the multinational exercise series, titled Exercise CAPABLE LOGISTICIAN (CL). CL exercises are organized by the Multinational Logistics Coordination Centre (MLCC) and aim to train NATO and Partner Nations, NATO Command Structure (NCS), and NATO Force Structure (NFS), with participation varying according to nations' willingness and availability.

The outcomes of the exercise relies on experts in the realm of NATO standardization to provide an evaluative function. In 2012, the NATO Military Committee Land Standardization Board (MCLSB), as the lead for evaluation at the exercise, recognized a key opportunity to go beyond traditional evaluation, and enlisted the help of the Joint Analysis and Lessons Learned Centre (JALLC) to better understand the synergies between exercises, analysis, standards, and Lessons Learned (LL).



Italian Air Force personnel look at a set up of energy saving portable LED helicopter landing lights.

Together, the MCLSB and JALLC developed the Evaluation Analysis and Reporting Cell (EARC) with the task to evaluate standards and interoperability among Participating Nations in order to provide recommendations for improvement. The EARC pulls together functional area experts (areas include water, fuel, smart energy, and ammunition, among others), as national contributions, to be trained in the NATO LL Process and deploy to the exercise to identify lessons. The results of this work are pulled together in a final exercise report, using the NATO Lessons Identified format, to make recommendations directly to the various standardization boards and working groups within the NATO Military Committee.



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JALLC Support to Standardization

Since deploying with the EARC for the first time in 2013, the JALLC has supported the subsequent CL exercises in 2015 and 2019. The work of the EARC at each of these exercises has resulted in over 50 different observations across logistics functional areas and even more recommendations. In fact, over 90% of the recommendations from the report on CL 2015 (CL15) were endorsed by the Nations through the Military Committee, resulting in direct input and improvements to NATO military doctrine, tactics, and procedures at the heart of NATO standardization and interoperability.

For example, one lesson identified during CL15 related to the lack of an allied publication that described tactical level tasks and responsibilities of the Joint Logistics Support Group (JLSG) HQ. Since then, a new Allied Tactical Publication (ATP) for the JLSG has been in development and will serve as a key guiding publication for units in both the NCS and NFS as well as national militaries.



French Air Force personnel unfold a photo voltaic solar panels connected to a portable trailer that can be deployed rapidly at the NATO Smart Energy Training Assessment Camp (SETAC) which was part of Exercise CL 2019.

Support to NATO Logistics more broadly

Leveraging the work over these three exercises, the JALLC, in close coordination with MCLSB and the MLCC, has taken all the lessons from the exercise and developed a new Logistics LL Community of Interest (CoI) on the NATO Lessons Learned Portal (NLLP). The CoI is home to all CL lessons with the long term goal to bring together Logistics stakeholders from NATO and National entities, giving them a space in which to share their knowledge and expertise. The CL lessons are merely the foundation upon which this community can continue to grow.

LL CoIs in the NLLP are established when a real need is identified by one or several organizations, and membership to a particular CoI must be requested. For more information about LL CoIs, visit the NLLP online at <https://nllp.jallc.nato.int/cmnt/Pages/Communities.aspx>



If you are interested in this or any other JALLC activity, please contact the JALLC.

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