



The Coalition Warrior Interoperability eXploration, eXperimentation, eXamination, eXercise 2012 (CWIX) kicked off recently with a three-day Exercise Specification Conference (ESC) at the Army Officers Academy in Copenhagen, Denmark.

The ESC is an executive level conference where national leaders and NATO come together to set the framework for the event year. Based on guidance from the C3 Board and Nations, the goals and objectives for CWIX 2012 were approved.

In addition, various discussions were held regarding how to best continue to support interoperability testing for the Future Mission Network, the Afghanistan Mission Network and the NATO Response Force. CWIX remains the one true interoperability-testing event that continues to provide an environment to meet the needs of the operational community as well as long-term technology experimentation.

Attendees from six NATO commands and agencies as well as from Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Turkey, United States, Austria, Finland, Sweden and New Zealand engaged in discussions.

CWIX is a continually evolving exercise which focuses on the short-term needs of the operational commanders as well as providing an opportunity for emerging technologies to be tested with NATO and national fielded capabilities.

As Netherlands Air Force Major General Jaap Willemse remarked in the CWIX 2011 final report, “The benefit for Nations and NATO Agencies to test at CWIX continues to bear fruit, not just in the successes, but in the interoperability issues discovered now instead of during operations.”

CWIX is an annual NATO Military Committee-approved event designed for continuous improvement in interoperability for the Alliance. Allied Command Transformation (ACT) provides directions and management to the programme, while NATO and Partner Nations sponsor interoperability capabilities with specific objectives defined by ACT and National Leads.

CWIX has three planning conferences prior to the execution period at NATO’s Joint Force Training Centre, in Bydgoszcz, Poland. The meeting minutes and briefing from the ESC, along with further information can be found on the CWIX Portal ( <http://cwix.act.nato.int/portal> ).

*Plan now to join the CWIX community at an upcoming conference. 2011 promises to be a very exciting year.*

### **CWIX POCs:**

LTC Stephan Siemens, CWIX Director, [stephan.siemens@act.nato.int](mailto:stephan.siemens@act.nato.int) , 1+757-747-4133

Mr. Kell Hvolbol, CWIX Deputy Director, [kell.hvolbol@act.nato.int](mailto:kell.hvolbol@act.nato.int) , 1+757-747-3652