

EUROPEAN NETWORK OF NATIONAL SAFETY AUTHORITIES ON AMMUNITION (ENNSA)

2ND ANNUAL REPORT (2012)

BACKGROUND

1. In October 2010, the Steering Board approved the establishment of the European Network of National Safety Authorities on Ammunition (ENNSA), including its scope of work and principles.
2. Since ENNSA's establishment, 21 Member States (MS) and Norway have nominated representatives from their national authorities as designated ENNSA Point of Contacts (PoC). Following the signature of the Framework for Cooperation between EDA and Switzerland in 2012, Switzerland has also nominated a PoC.
3. In accordance with ENNSA's structure, two annual meetings take place, back-to-back with the NATO CNAD Ammunition Safety Group (CASG) meetings (June and December). If deemed necessary, ENNSA members have the flexibility to meet more often.
4. ENNSA is chaired by Member States' representatives. In summer 2012, France handed over chairmanship to Germany.
5. To improve the flow of information and exchange of views, and promote direct communication between ENNSA members, EDA established an extranet forum which is actively used by them.
6. An additional extranet forum was established dedicated to improving communication between government and industry experts.

OBJECTIVES

7. ENNSA's principal objective is to influence the way National Ammunition Safety Authorities implement national/international standards (e.g NATO STANAGS), to ensure a more harmonised European approach.
8. ENNSA aims to be a platform for communication, exchange of information and sharing of best practice, concentrated on the full spectrum of ammunition safety.
9. The initial focus of ENNSA, as agreed by its members, was to explore the harmonisation of ammunition qualification to influence interoperability and increase cooperation among Member States, in parallel with achieving considerable savings across the ammunition production/procurement cycle.

10. ENNSA also aims to deliver tangible benefits to Member States with or without ammunition production and/or R&T/D activities within their borders.

ACTIVITIES IN 2012

11. In addition to the two regular ENNSA meetings, in 2012 there were three targeted workshops on the preparation of the harmonisation of ammunition qualification roadmap. The topics addressed and main outcomes were as follows:

Harmonisation of Ammunition Qualification - HAQ Roadmap

- a. In response to their own priority of harmonising ammunition qualification, ENNSA initiated work focusing on gun-launched, large calibre ammunition as a test area, at the start of 2012.
- b. In March 2012, the Steering Board confirmed that the harmonisation of ammunition qualification was an important enabler for Pooling & Sharing activities in EU Member States, and tasked EDA to develop an action plan.
- c. In order to support this ENNSA work strand, EDA launched an operational budget study to:
 - (i) Map the way Member States and industry implement and apply national and international ammunition standards;
 - (ii) Develop proposals for harmonisation where feasible; and,
 - (iii) Formulate an action plan including short-, mid- and long-term objectives.
- d. Following receipt of the study results, ENNSA developed an HAQ roadmap, the main elements of which were presented and approved by Member States at the November 2012 Steering Board.
- e. The HAQ roadmap consists of short- to longer-term objectives aimed at reducing duplication and total acquisition costs, while improving harmonisation and the potential for further cooperation, including Pooling & Sharing.
- f. The short- and mid-term actions include:
 - (i) Standardised qualification reporting (led by Cyprus and Germany: final draft to be delivered first half of 2013);
 - (ii) Development of a Recommended Minimum Safety Data Package (led by France: final draft to be delivered first half of 2013);
 - (iii) Endorsement of Test and Evaluation Centres (led by EDA and The Netherlands: first activity planned for second half of 2013); and,
 - (iv) Establishment of Ammunition Standards User Groups (France will lead the first group on AAS3P-20, with a plan to be established in the second half of 2013).

- g. While the short- and mid-term actions are expected considerably to improve harmonisation among EU Member States, EDA and ENNSA will continue to address the long-term aspiration of developing a common European understanding on the implementation of the national/international standards on ammunition.
- h. As part of the work on HAQ, ENNSA members also recommended the following actions:
 - (i) Creation of a European Database of National Interchangeability Documents. This was considered to be an important and useful tool to influence harmonisation. However, due to the level of resources and the time commitment required, ENNSA would encourage interested Member States to consider launching an EDA Category B project. To assist with this, ENNSA could be used as a communication platform.
 - (ii) EDA should liaise with NATO to explore the possibility of official access to NATO ammunition related standards.

Demilitarisation

- i. In 2012, ENNSA worked on the development of an easily accessible database of national information on demilitarisation processes and requirements.
- j. In parallel, EDA investigated existing best practice in NATO/NSPA. The industrial dimension and information collected on demilitarisation were also presented and discussed within ENNSA.
- k. Member States with demilitarisation capabilities were given the opportunity to make presentations at ENNSA meetings and exchange views in order to promote cooperation.

Precision Guided Ammunition Roadmap

- l. Historically, ENNSA contributes to the PGA study on issues related to ammunition safety. In 2012, ENNSA was further involved in analysing and assessing the findings of this study.
- m. ENNSA is also actively involved in the implementation of common European Technical Specifications on Course Correction Fuses (CCF) regarding ammunition safety.

INDUSTRY'S INVOLVEMENT

- 12. Interaction with defence industry is a key component of ENNSA's work. The benefits of harmonising safety requirements and introducing safety data seeks to offer a competitive advantage for the European ammunition related defence industry.
- 13. ELDIG's (European Land Defence Industry Group-Land sectorial group of ASD) equivalent group to ENNSA actively participated and contributed to ENNSA's work, especially in relation to the HAQ Roadmap. Experts from other ammunition industries, non-members of ELDIG, also participated in the industry sessions of the ENNSA meetings.

14. On 15 November 2012, a live ammunition qualification demonstration took place at Rheinmetall's Waffe Munition GmbH (RWM) Test Facilities in Unterlöß (Germany). ENNSA presented and discussed the main elements of the HAQ roadmap with the participants. This event, organised by EDA and RWM, enabled Member States to have a hands-on ammunition qualification experience, highlighting examples of duplication in EU Member States and the challenges and the opportunities from harmonisation, for both the demand and supply side.

Insensitive Munitions-IM

- a. ENNSA considers insensitive munitions to be an area of high importance from both operational and industrial perspectives. Insensitive munitions provide enhanced safety for soldiers, defence equipment, platforms and civilians. However, insensitive munitions have not yet reaped the benefits from harmonised regulations in terms of transport and storage.
 - b. In June 2012, IMEMG (Insensitive Munitions European Manufacturing Group) participated in the industry session of the ENNSA meeting, in order to discuss areas of common interest and possible future involvement of ENNSA.
 - c. ENNSA supported IMEMG's proposal to promote the creation of a NATO-UN Common Insensitive Munitions Standard for Transport, Packaging, Labelling and Storage. As this falls outside ENNSA's and EDA's mission, ENNSA would encourage Member States to consider this proposal in the relevant fora. ENNSA could provide support on harmonisation among EU Member States.
 - d. Harmonisation of Member States' requirements in IM Test Procedures is recognised as a topic where ENNSA should be actively involved. This topic will be addressed in the AAS3P-20 Users Group, to be established in the second half 2013.
15. In 2012, industry presented project and/or study proposals relevant to ENNSA's overall mission. These included:
- a. Harmonisation and implementation of standards for MOUT (Military Operations in Urban Terrain) ammunition; and,
 - b. Harmonisation of Fuel Fire Test for Insensitive Ammunition.
16. These proposals are currently under Member States' consideration with the aim of investigating cooperation opportunities.

COMPLEMENTARITY WITH NATO

17. The establishment of ENNSA has provided the opportunity to undertake complementary actions to existing NATO activities on ammunition qualification.
18. ENNSA members consider the synergy between C-NAD Ammunition Safety Group (CASG) and ENNSA to be mutually beneficial.

19. Coordination of back-to-back ENNSA/NATO CASG meetings and nomination of Member States' double-hatted experts avoids unnecessary duplication.
20. In June 2012, ENNSA invited experts from Munitions Safety Information Analysis Centre (MSIAC) to present their current activities to avoid duplication of NATO and ENNSA activities.

COMPLEMENTARITY WITH OTHER EDA/EU ACTIVITIES

21. ENNSA ensures that other key work strands in EDA/EC are monitored and supported accordingly. Particularly:
 - a. Evolution on the implementation of the Capability Development Plan (CDP);
 - b. EDA's projects DTEB, EDSTAR, EDSIS;
 - c. Pooling & Sharing; and,
 - d. EDA's project on Effective Procurement Methods (EPM).
22. ENNSA is also seen as a body of expertise available to provide technical support on possible Member States common procurement cases.

WAY AHEAD - ENNSA ACTION PLAN FOR 2013

23. Implementation of the HAQ Roadmap will remain a priority for ENNSA in 2013. The aim is to have the short-term actions of the roadmap endorsed by Member States by the end of 2013. In parallel, ENNSA will continue work on the implementation of the mid- to longer-term actions.
24. To complement EDA's work on harmonisation of ammunition qualification, ENNSA will monitor and evaluate outputs from EDA's study on air-launched ammunition qualification. The study results will be used by ENNSA in order to enrich and supplement the HAQ roadmap. The updated roadmap will be presented to Member States in autumn 2013.
25. In 2013, ENNSA will also;
 - a. Finalise the database of national information on demilitarisation. This database will be accessible by national ammunition safety authorities;
 - b. Continue to contribute to the development of common European Technical Specifications on PGAs - Course Correction Fuses;
 - c. Undertake further investigation into the possible creation of a European Database of National Interchangeability Documents;
 - d. Carry out work on harmonising Member States' requirements with regards to the IM Test Procedures;

- e. Investigate new areas for future action in ammunition safety;
- f. Continue to provide a platform for communication for Member States in order to improve interaction and possibly influence common actions where feasible;
- g. Investigate complementarities/avoidance of duplication and identification of best practices. A potential target field of interest for 2013 will be Lol and/or OCCAR experience on harmonising ammunition qualification requirements; and,
- h. Ensure that those few Member States who have yet to nominate their National Safety Authorities on Ammunition as part of the ENNSA network are requested to do so.

26. Meeting Plan for 2013

- a. On *26 February 2013*, EDA hosted an ENNSA workshop on the implementation of the short-term actions of the HAQ Roadmap.
- b. On *27 February 2013*, EDA hosted the first workshop on EDA's study on air-launched ammunition qualification. The second workshop will take place on *21 May 2013*.
- c. The first regular meeting of the year is planned to take place on *18-19 June 2013*.