**PLACES TO BE: WORKSHOPS, EVENTS, EXHIBITIONS ...**

**Ammunition Safety Test House Workshop in Thun (CH):** The EDA - European Network of National Safety Authorities for Ammunition (ENNSA) G is organising an Ammunition Test House Workshop on 27 April 2016, hosted by ARMASUISSE in Thun, in Switzerland. Interested ammunition safety experts from government and industry may register for participation in the workshop and as ENNSA working group members.

**TOOLS OF THE MONTH**

**Guide to VAT exemptions for EDA ad-hoc projects and programmes:** Following the adoption of the EDA revised Council Decision in October 2015, cooperative programmes run in EDA and benefiting from EDA added-value are eligible for VAT exemption. Find out how to apply VAT exemption for your future EDA projects by consulting this guide.

**NEWS ABOUT INNOVATION**

**EDA role in Research & Technology:** The aim of R&T at EDA is not only to contribute to the development of future defence capabilities but also to meet current needs and be prepared to overcome unexpected threats through innovation, technology push, maturation of technologies and mitigation of risks. This guide will walk you through the different R&T activities managed by EDA.

**PA Coordination meeting:** On 8 April 2016, EDA organised a PA Coordination meeting gathering Member States and representatives of industry and RTO associations to discuss potential topics for the PA work programme and to analyse areas of convergence between Member States and industry/RTOs proposals. Industry and RTO associations presented their proposals for the PA topics to EDA and Member states. These proposals will be further assessed with all pMS.

**HOT SPOT ON SPECIFIC ISSUES**

**Public consultation for the evaluation of Directive 2009/81/EC on public procurement in the fields of defence and security:** The objective of this public consultation is to collect views and input from stakeholders and citizens for the evaluation of Directive 2009/81/EC. The outcome of this consultation in aggregated form will contribute to the report that is to be presented in the second half of 2016. You have up until 08/07/2016 to submit your responses.

**The future of EU defence research:** The Policy department of the DG for External Policies of European Parliament just released the report requested by the European Parliament’s Sub-Committee on Security and Defence in March 2016.

**In theatre MEDEVAC Services survey:** Shortfalls on assets and equipment arising from the force generation have led to outsourcing some key services for in-theatre rotary wing MEDEVAC in EUTM Mali or the EULEX Kosovo. To understand the range of commercially available solutions which could fulfil possible future requirements for in-theatre helicopter MEDEVAC services and their associated risks or limitations, EDA is conducting a market survey. Its objective is to identify service providers of ‘turnkey’ solutions. Operators are kindly invited to participate by submitting their answer by 6 May 2016.