

MILITARY ENGINEERING CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE ENTEC TRANSFORMED

With the successful signing of an Operation and a Functional Relationship Memorandum of Understanding by representatives of 10 NATO nations at HQ Allied Command Transformation on the 9th July 2008 the creation of a Centre of Excellence for Military Engineering was assured.



National Liaison Representatives Sign the MOUs

The initial list of signatories to the MOU includes; Canada, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, the Netherlands, Norway, Romania and Turkey. Five other nations (Belgium, Denmark, Italy, Poland and the United States) all hope to sign in the very near future and active recruitment continues to try and attract additional sponsoring nations.

The Euro NATO Engineer Training Centre, or ENTEC, has been in existence for over 30 years and many hundreds, perhaps even thousands of NATO engineers, have benefited from courses held at the Centre in Munich. The signing of the MOUs sadly sounded the death knell of ENTEC after all those years of valiant service. All is not lost however as the guiding principle of the new Centre of Excellence, or as it is known the MILENG COE, enshrines the spirit of interoperability, co-operation and professional camaraderie between the NATO engineer community as embodied by ENTEC during the last 30 years. ENTEC staff have formed the initial core elements of the new COE that was activated on the 1st January 2009.



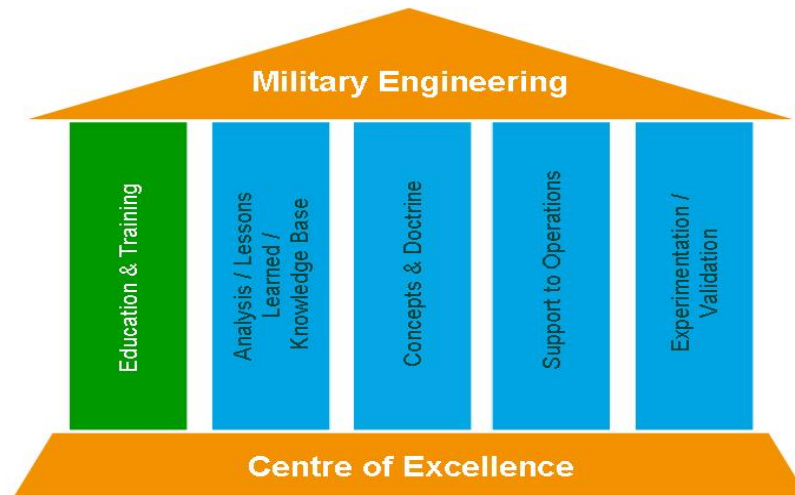
The MILENG COE Crest

The MILENG COE is located in the Pionierkaserne auf der Schanze in Ingolstadt, Bavaria,

Germany independent from, but alongside, the new state of the art German Army Engineer School. ENTEC's main task was always training. The task of the MILENG COE is far more multi faceted in order to meet the demands of a modern NATO. The COE's mission will be:

".....to provide joint and combined military engineer subject matter expertise in order to support NATO's military transformation, thus enhancing the Alliance's interoperability in the field of military engineering."

To fulfil this mission the COE will divide its efforts into 5 main areas:



The "5 Pillars" - MILENG COE

The COE will consist of 38 staff members in four main areas; Command Group, Planning, Coordination and Support Branch, Concepts, Interoperability and Capabilities Branch and Training and Education Branch. Canada will be represented by the Staff Officer Concepts and Doctrine in the Concepts, Interoperability and Capabilities Branch. Further information can be obtained by visiting the MILENG COE website at www.MILENGCOE.org or by calling the Canadian national representative at + 49 841 88660 5411.

An official inauguration ceremony was held at the Bavarian Army Museum in Ingolstadt on the 27th of March 2009. This ceremony was overseen by LGen Budde, the Chief of Staff of the German Army representing the host nation and Rear Admiral Burggrav (Norway) representing NATO's Allied Command Transformation. Officials of all the sponsoring nations were in attendance. Canada was represented by Col Testa, Chief Military Engineer and Col Battista, Defence Attache Berlin. This ceremony also saw Col Radlmeier (Germany) assume command as the first Director of the MILENG COE, taking over from A/Director LCol Scholz (Germany) who has retired.



National Staff Members during Inauguration Ceremony