

Case Study:

## Military Exercise

Customer:

**QinetiQ**

### Overview

QinetiQ is a British security and defence contractor. Formed in 2001 when the Ministry of Defence (MOD) split its Defence Evaluation and Research Agency into two separate bodies, the business today employs some 6,000 people and is listed on the London Stock Exchange.

QinetiQ has a long-term agreement with the MOD to provide test and evaluation of military and civil platforms, systems, weapons and components on land, at sea and in the air.

### Our challenge

Every year, the MOD carries out deployed exercises that simulate temporary operating environments. Tents are erected, temporary power supplies are brought in and fully operating IT and communications infrastructures are put in place. All these installations are then put through a series of trials over a period of up to six weeks, 24/7, in an area approximately the size of two football pitches.

As the main hardware contractor for a recent exercise, QinetiQ built a system for a specific purpose and provided the servers, laptops and other equipment. They chose us to provide the connectivity for the system across the site.

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# QINETIQ

## **What we did**

Having previously worked on many deployed exercises (with QinetiQ and other Defence organisations), we knew what to expect. We deployed a team of 12 security cleared engineers to work with the Military to implement detailed plans and install the required network infrastructure. Due to the ever changing nature of deployed exercises, our project management worked closely with the Military to customise plans to meet the evolving demands of the exercise. This called for an 'adapt and overcome' approach as the temporary, outdoor nature of the project provided a wide range of unforeseen challenges. Concealed fibre optic cables, for example, were in danger of being driven over by heavy vehicles – and often were! Quadratek offered a flexible approach to adapt/evolve the laydown to accommodate the fluid nature of the deployed exercise perimeters.

Over the duration, our team connected hardware across a multitude of sites at the exercise location including the command and control tent, the satellite communications (satcom) tent, and the network equipment room (NER). All terminations and connections were tested inline with relevant regulatory guidelines, before our team left the site.

At the end of the deployed exercise, our team returned to the site to de-install and remove the cabling and terminations.

## **Result**

Due to the success of the first deployment Quadratek was the company of choice to be asked to return the following year to support the exercise. With QinetiQ and Quadratek teams working seamlessly together, the installation worked faultlessly for the duration of the exercise, allowing the MoD to fully test its resources.