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Discovery Case Study

HQ LAND COMMAND USES CENTENNIAL
DISCOVERY® TO ASSIST IN THE
CONVERGENCE OF THE MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE IT INFRASTRUCTURE

Overview

HQ Land Command's responsibility for all the deployable formations within the British Army – including Tanks, personnel, supplies etc. requires a large integrated network system to support this complex logistical task.

As part of an initiative to converge all the IT infrastructures within the Ministry of Defence (MOD) under one umbrella, Land Command's IT division was tasked with producing an audit of their existing software and hardware. As one spokesman for the division commented "How can you provide convergence of multiple systems unless you know what you have in the first place" - a sentiment often echoed within many large corporations as they come to terms with integrating systems following a merger or acquisition.

To assist their primary aim of achieving a full software audit, in what was a very tight time scale, Land Command chose Centennial Discovery as the tool that would provide them the required results in a very short time over a complex network.

Centennial Discovery™ was used to audit all PC's on the network in numerous locations throughout the United Kingdom and Germany, and also included the Army's

installations in Kosova and Bosnia where the PC's were audited via a satellite link. The results of the audits were automatically sent back to the Centennial Discovery database at Land Command's UK headquarters in Wiltshire, England.

The results of the audit have enabled the IT division to fully understand their software licensing requirements. In many cases as a result of discovering unused software licenses within their infrastructure, procurement of extra software has been placed on hold, resulting in significant cost savings.

Although initially deployed for a specific task the IT division now appreciates the long term benefits that Centennial Discovery can offer in managing the assets of a large and complex network. In a high security environment where IT hardware and software is strictly controlled, Centennial Discovery can provide a level of security to ensure that staff do not become complacent.

Analysing the results produced by Centennial Discovery has also enabled the IT group to highlight any discrepancies in the infrastructure. This included machines which had not been properly upgraded to latest software releases, and PCs below specification for the operating systems being run on them.

The project, incorporating more than 4000 PC's has enabled Land Command to provide the information required by the Defence Information Infrastructure, to assist in the task of converging the multiple networks within the MOD into one integrated system.

network discovery & management

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