



ONLINE WORKSHOP ON THE ROLE OF SECURITY EXERCISES IN PERFORMANCE TESTING A GUARD FORCE

16–17 June 2026. 14:00–17:00 CEST

Preliminary Agenda

DAY 1:

INTRODUCTION SESSION (15 min)

SESSION 1: SECURITY EXERCISES AS A PART OF PERFORMANCE TESTING (45 min)

Key Points:

- What is the purpose of security exercises? How do they support an effective performance testing programme?
- What types of exercises can be conducted?
- What are the prerequisites to a successful exercise programme?

Presentation on Developing a comprehensive security exercise programme

Panel discussion:

- What are the respective strengths and limitations of different types of security exercises (e.g. tabletop, functional, full-scale)?
- How can organisations ensure that “lessons identified” from security exercises are effectively translated into “lessons learned” and measurable improvements in operational performance?
- What core competencies are required for the effective design and evaluation of security exercises?
- How can organisations meaningfully integrate personnel beyond the protective force into security exercises?

SESSION 2: DEVELOPING LIMITED SCOPE PERFORMANCE TESTING PROGRAMMES (60 min)

Key Points:

- What elements of security force operations can be performance tested in a limited scope?
- How can we test response to alarms and preparedness of on-duty guard and response forces?
- How can we accept or validate new procedures and alarm components prior to putting them in service and periodically thereafter?
- What are the considerations that must be taken into account prior to conducting a limited scope performance test?

Presentation on Limited Scope Exercises

Presentation on Exercising Alarm Response and Assessment Procedures

Discussion to share practical experience on

- Designing limited scope exercises with specific goals, objectives, and performance standards for various guarding schemes (armed/unarmed guards) and situations (personnel access control point, vehicle access control point, perimeter....).
- Evaluating the detection, assessment, delay, and interruption of a given adversary (insider/outsider) for selected guard schemes and situations.

SESSION 3: DESIGNING AND DEVELOPING TABLETOP EXERCISES (45 min)

Key Points:

- What are the various Table-Top Exercises (TTX) components that must be considered in this type of exercises
- What are the team compositions and responsibilities in a TTX?
- What are the Rules of Engagement (ROE) and methods for realistic play for both Security and Adversary Forces?

Presentation to share lessons learned from conducting TTXs

Discussion on Challenges and opportunities for conducting TTXs

WRAP-UP SESSION (15 min)

DAY 2:

SUMMARY OF DAY 1 AND INTRODUCTION OF DAY 2 (15 min)

SESSION 4: DESIGNING FORCE ON FORCE EXERCISES (45 min)

Key Points:

- What are the main steps when developing scenarios? What are the limits of force-on-force exercises?
- What are the implementation rules, including safety ones?
- What are Engagement Simulation Systems (ESS) and what is their value to the VA process?
- What is the role and value of different simulations during exercises?
- How do we evaluate results of force-on-force exercises? How do we feedback results into the existing security system?

Presentation on Designing and implementing force of force exercises at nuclear facilities

Presentation on Designing and implementing transport security exercises

SESSION 5: THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGIES IN SUPPORTING THE DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY EXERCISES (60 min)

Key Points:

- What technologies can be used to enhance the credibility and effectiveness of security exercises?
- How do you scout for technologies and integrate them into your exercise arrangements?
- What is the role of Modelling and Simulation tools?

Presentation on Technologies used in support of security exercises

Presentation on the Role of Modelling and Simulation Tools

SESSION 6: MOVING TOWARDS COMPREHENSIVE EXERCISES (45 min)

Key Points:

- How can we integrate all security elements (physical protection, MC&A, cyber security...) together?
- How can we integrate safety and security scenarios together
- Designing and implementing national exercises

Presentation on Practicing full-scope counter terrorism exercises at nuclear facilities

Discussion to identify challenges met during the design and implementation of exercises integrating safety and security components

WRAP-UP SESSION (15 min)