Test Instrumentation Pre-Workshop Tutorials

NOTE: Pre-Workshop Tutorials require a separate fee from the Workshops.
Single Tutorial - $205, Two Tutorials - $385 (use discount code "Tutorial-Multi" at check out).

Monday, May 16th	1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Fundamentals of Telemetry Ground Stations
Mark McWhorter, V.P. of Sales & Marketing, Lumistar Inc.

This course is designed to present to the student the fundamental design features of a typical range telemetry ground system. Topics to be discussed will be the major sub-systems and components used, such as track antenna, multicoupler, receiver/combiner, demodulation, bit synchronization, data recording and playback, time, decommutation and simulation, and real time displays of telemetered parameters. The student will be exposed to a few mathematical exercises, such as "link analysis" calculations to help determine the "sensitivity" of the ground station and resultant system tradeoffs. After having completed the course, the student will have a better understanding of concepts related to RF and data processing of flight telemetry.

IRIG 106-17 Chapter 7 Packet Telemetry Downlink Basis and Implementation Fundamentals
Johnny Pappas, Safran Data Systems, Inc.

This course will focus on presenting information to establish a basic understanding of the 2017 release of the IRIG 106, Chapter 7, Packet Telemetry Downlink Standard. It will also focus on the implementation of airborne and ground system hardware and methods to handle IRIG 106, Chapter 7, Packet Telemetry data. The presentation will address the implementation of special features necessary to support legacy RF Transmission, data recording, RF Receiving, Ground Reproduction, and Chapter 10 data processing methods.

Telemetry over IP
Gary Thom, Delta Information Systems

As telemetry ranges are making the move to network centric architectures, it is worth considering the lessons learned over the previous 10 years of designing, installing, troubleshooting and optimizing telemetry data distribution over IP networks. This tutorial will begin with the motivation for moving to Telemetry over IP (TMoIP). It will then provide a basic networking foundation for understanding TMoIP and TMoIP formats. With this basis, we will be able to discuss network design considerations and tradeoffs for a successful TMoIP deployment. Finally, we will present some of the real-world problems and issues that may arise in a TMoIP system and the troubleshooting techniques that can be used to resolve them.

Test and Training Solutions with TENA, JMETC, and BDKM
Gene Hudgins, JMETC/TENA

The Test and Training Enabling Architecture (TENA) was developed as a DoD Central Test and Evaluation Investment Program (CTEIP) project to enable interoperability among ranges, facilities, and simulations in a timely and cost-efficient manner, as well as to foster reuse of range assets and future software systems. TENA provides for real-time software system interoperability, as well as interfaces to existing range assets, C4ISR systems, and simulations. TENA, selected for use in Joint Mission Environment Test Capability (JMETC) events, is well-designed for its role in prototyping demonstrations and distributed testing.

JMETC is a distributed LVC testing capability developed to support the acquisition community during program development, developmental testing, operational testing, and interoperability certification, and to demonstrate Net-Ready Key Performance Parameters (KPP) requirements in a customer-specific Joint Mission Environment.

JMETC uses a hybrid network architecture. The JMETC Secret Network (JSN), based on the SDREN, is the T&E enterprise network solution for secret testing. The JMETC Multiple Independent Levels of Security (MILS) Network (JMN) is the T&E enterprise network solution for all classifications and cyber testing. JMETC provides readily available connectivity to the Services' distributed test capabilities and simulations, as well as industry test resources. JMETC is also aligned with the Joint National Training Capability (JNTC) integration solutions to foster test, training, and experimental collaboration.

TENA provides the architecture and software implementation and capabilities necessary to quickly and economically enable interoperability among range systems, facilities, and simulations. TENA also fosters range asset reuse for enhanced utilization and provides composability for assembling rapidly, initialize, test, and execute a system from reusable, interoperable elements. Because of its field-proven history and acceptance by the range community, TENA provides a technology already deployed and well tested within the DoD.

Enterprise Big Data Analytics (BDA) and Knowledge Management (BDKM) has the capacity to improve acquisition efficiency, keep up with the rapid pace of acquisition technological advancement, ensure that effective weapon systems are delivered to warfighters at the speed of relevance, and enable T&E analysts across the acquisition lifecycle to make better and faster decisions using data that was previously inaccessible, or unusable. BDA is the application of advanced tools and techniques to help quickly process, visualize, understand, and report on data. JMETC has demonstrated that applying enterprise distributed BDA tools and techniques to T&E, leads to faster and more informed decision making that reduces overall program cost and risk.

This tutorial will inform the audience as to the current impact of TENA, JMETC, and BDA on the T&E community; as well as their expected future benefits to the range community and the warfighter.

5G NR Specification and System Engineering Aspects
Kogiantis, PhD, and Kiran Rege, PhD, Peraton Labs

5G wireless cellular networks, based on the 3GPP standard, are being widely deployed in the United States and the rest of the world. 5G is expected to increasingly dominate the worldwide cellular communication market due to its flexibility, wide adoption, and an ever-expanding supplier global ecosystem. The flexible 5G architecture allows multiple networks widely differing in physical, reliability and power characteristics to be supported over a common infrastructure. This flexibility will be particularly useful to Testing Ranges where subnetworks simultaneously supporting high-bandwidth terrestrial communications, low-power sensors and broadband airborne telemetry systems can be flexibly implemented over a common 5G platform. This tutorial is intended to familiarize the Testing Range professionals with a) the key features of the 5G standards specifications – the basic vision, network architecture, the physical and MAC-layer characteristics of the air-interface, and b) the 5G system engineering aspects of deploying a new private network, dimensioning and planning, and its performance assessment. The first half of the tutorial will discuss the 5G standards specifications, while the second half will cover the 5G systems engineering aspects.

Tuesday, May 17th   Full Day Courses   8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Basics of Aircraft Instrumentation Systems
Bruce Johnson, NAWCAD

This course will cover a wide variety of topics related to Aircraft Instrumentation. Data, Telemetry, Instrumentation System Block Diagram, Standards, Data Requirements, Transducers / Specifications, Video, 1553 Bus, Using Requirements to Configure an Analog Data Channel, Creating a PCM Map to Obtain a Sample Rate, Telemetry Bandwidth, Record Time, GPS, Audio, Telemetry Attributes Transfer Standard (TMATS), and Measurement Uncertainty - Interpreting the Results. This is great introduction for new hires or a refresher for current employees.

Test Foundations for Flight Test
Jessica Peterson, Technical Director 412th Operations Group/ Assistant Professor USAF TPS

The Test Foundations curriculum is designed to equip students with an introduction to the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful flight testers. The curriculum

introduces the basic "vocabulary" of the various phases of a flight test program, from program initiation through final reporting. The curriculum begins with a basic Systems Engineering problem decomposition approach applied to various flight test programs. Next the various stages of the lifecycle of a normal test program are decomposed into the subparts of Planning, Execution, Analysis, and Reporting (PEAR). Planning: the basic development strategy for test planning with specific and achievable objectives and the concepts of hazard and risk identification in safety planning will be introduced. Execution: the fundamentals of flight test control and conduct will be presented with an emphasis on the elements required for safe and efficient test control and conduct. Consideration for test execution will include required personnel, mission preparation, test card generation, communications plans, execution techniques, and post-test debrief. Finally, basic analysis methods and approaches to presenting technical results will be presented. The course will culminate with an in-class exercise to apply the Test Foundations content to test vignettes based on real-world scenarios.

Tuesday, May 17th   **8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Basic Overview of Telemetry
Gary Thom, Delta Information Systems, Inc.

This course provides a very high level introduction of basic telemetry concepts and components. The course begins with onboard vehicle under test discussing sensors, signal conditioning, commutation, modulation and transmission. It continues on the ground with receivers, data distribution, decommutation, processing and display. The course includes additional concepts like IRIG 106 Chapter 10 and 11 recording and distribution formats as well as IRIG 106 Chapter 7 packet data over PCM.

Troubleshooting Ethernet Data with Wireshark
Paul Ferrill, ATAC

The "Troubleshooting Ethernet Data with Wireshark" tutorial will use real-world aircraft data to demonstrate how to use the open source program Wireshark to both view data and troubleshoot problems. The class will include presentation and hands-on usage of Wireshark to look at data as if you were connected to the Ethernet network on an airplane and if you were connected to an IRIG 106 Chapter 10 recorder broadcasting data over UDP. We'll start out with a brief overview of Ethernet fundamentals and then get right on to using Wireshark.