



# DEAN



Defence College  
of Technical Training

## Defence Education Assured Network (DEAN) support world class training provision at scale

**DEAN is MOD's largest single training network providing services to Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force (RAF) to around 20,000 trainees per annum.**

### The right technology

Given the schools' focus, there is a continued commitment to ensuring that all learners – regardless of their duration of service – have access to the best-in-class digital tools and resources to support their learning.

'The original vision for DEAN was to design an integrated learning environment that could deliver a world-class standards-based approach to staff and students wherever and wherever they were while respecting the individual needs of each learner. We also needed to ensure the system was able to securely store and enable access control to information classified up to, and including, OFFICIAL SENSITIVE,' stated Wing Commander Gary Watkins.

### Getting site-specific

DEAN puddles and access devices are managed locally and the DEAN solutions delivered at Lyneham, Cosford, or anywhere else operate on the same high-level design while remaining responsive to business needs both today and in the future.

Gary explains: 'The footprint of DEAN is site-specific and delivers 75% the IT needed at the school out of the box, with the other 25% tailored to meet the school's specific requirements.

'Individual sites take ownership of their local infrastructure, as the system has been designed to facilitate their business

requirements for digital learning. With such services, any issues can be resolved locally without the need to call on central services or support – helping to improve productivity and maintain agility.

'Moving common services away from the local platform and into the DEAN cloud has enabled significant cost savings to be made, has coherency built-in, and gives the business the reassurance of a proven collection of tools and resources.'

This kind of flexibility in how DEAN is applied across the MOD means that innovative, future-facing requirements can be met with open arms. The infrastructure, devices and software required to power 3D learning, virtual reality and simulation are fully supported at site level with no compromises needed.

### Anytime, anywhere access

DEAN connects to Defence Digital's Secure Managed Interface service, which allows users to connect securely to the MOD core network – the RLI.

A DEAN device can access the RLI service needed for technical training, JAMES, GoldeSP, TAFMIS, and TDOL, as well as our HR systems JPA and HRMS also access MOD Office 365 SharePoint services including email services via Outlook Web Application.



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## Ongoing Support

The solution is fully-supported for 3 years with an option to extend support for a further two years. There is an onsite team providing 1st and 2nd line support (including helpdesk services) and a remote third line support team.

The onsite Centerprise team currently supports more than +250 classrooms, 5000 users and peripherals at MOD Lyneham, HMS Sultan and RAF College Cranwell. The support cover is flexible enough to cover routine working hours, and extends to weekends and evening works when required.



## The right intelligence

In addition to the significant savings delivered to date, DEAN is helping to facilitate information that helps course leaders and officers make more informed decisions about student engagement.

On-site to access OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE content whilst in accommodation blocks and communal areas, through an issued client device that exploits a VPN connection, inside another secure VLE, allowing only authorised users to view the material.

## A true partnership

Centerprise's strategic role in the continued success of DEAN across MOD has not gone unnoticed by Gary:

'In addition to supporting the design and deployment of DEAN at the local level, consulting on infrastructure design

and installation, and support in federating services up into DEAN, Centerprise provide 1st line support for some key DEAN workloads that help keep system availability at the top of the agenda. They also provide peace of mind with 2nd line support across the entire system.

'Centerprise is one of our strategic partners. This is not about a contract, we collaborate as a team on strategic ideas to make sure that we are never standstill. Their team are professional, knowledgeable and helpful, and they are proactive and dependable in support of our new innovations – whether that be VLE development, anti-plagiarism, new splash pages, or enabling the look and feel of LEARN to be tailored to individual schools or sites.'

Gary concludes: 'Centerprise help to keep MOD learning evergreen – ensuring that our technology can keep up with the innovation and ambition shown by this great institution.'



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## What is DEAN?

Defence Education Assured Network (DEAN) is the local ICT infrastructure that enables access to a coherent, modern learning environment and associated services. It gives students and staff secure access anytime, anywhere, to the software and resources they need to undertake successful training. The system is fully accredited to process official information.

- LEARN is a flexible, integrated IT solution, accredited to process information up to OFFICIAL SENSITIVE, that's perfect for the varying demands of MOD Training and Education.
- DEAN: a collection of common, centrally-funded services available to all DEAN puddles – delivered securely to devices via the cloud.



Virtual Learning Environment providing:

- OFFICIAL training material
- OFFICIAL SENSITIVE training material
- Training material development
- Assessments & exams

The system consists of:

- DEAN Email and Skype for Business Servers
- Virtual Classrooms
- Virtual Desktop Infrastructure
- Office Automation
- Office, Skype for Business
- SharePoint
- Scheduling
- VPN service to work from
- Analytics and dashboarding
- VDI access
- Skype for Business
- Students now have the freedom and flexibility to learn outside the classroom.
- VLEs 24/7 on either issued or personal devices, from anywhere with an internet connection
- The system is fully-scalable and expandable new Graphical Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) remote and recorded training using Cisco WebEx platform
- Resilient High Capacity Network Architecture
- WiFi Access across Technical and Domestic Accommodation
- Direct Internet Connection



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