

Engineering Flight Test Rationalization - Community Consultation Questions and Responses

Question – 1 Timeline

Timeline Question: A number of questions were posed during the Engineering Flight Test Rationalization event concerning the project timeline and milestones.

Timeline Response: The Defence Renewal initiative remains a high priority for the Department of National Defence (DND). As such, the Engineering Flight Test Rationalization initiative's options analysis phase is expected to be complete by Fall 2015. As we are in the options analysis phase of this project, implementation decisions have yet to be made and subsequent milestones will be clarified following completion of the options analysis phase. Future Industry engagements are under consideration to gain higher fidelity cost information.

Question – 2 Business Model

Business Model Question: A number of questions were posed concerning the business models being considered for a renewed Aerospace Engineering Test Establishment, ranging from Public-Private Partnership considerations to the involvement of Other Government Departments.

Business Model Response: The Engineering Flight Test Rationalization initiative is considering all possible program delivery options to modernize the Aerospace Engineering Test Establishment and ensure it has the right capabilities and resources to efficiently and effectively meet the Engineering Test and Evaluation needs of the Department of National Defence for the next 15 years, at minimum.

Question – 3 Facilities

Facilities Question: A number of companies requested additional information on the operations of the Cold Lake test ranges used by the Aerospace Engineering Test Establishment and considerations for outsourcing some or part of these test ranges and facilities.

Facilities Response: The Engineering Flight Test capability is essential to the acquisition and support of aerospace materiel. The review, which is still in the options analysis phase, will include an analysis of the capability of current test ranges and facilities, future needs, location, and the possibility of outsourcing. With the evolution of Engineering Test and Evaluation requirements, the Aerospace Engineering Test Establishment currently uses test areas elsewhere in Canada and in the United States, in addition to the Cold Lake test ranges. A decision on outsourcing has not been made as this study is in the options analysis stage. Our objective at this point is to better understand Industry's interest in partnering with the Crown in a mutually beneficial facility and range operation.

Question – 4 Industrial and Technology Benefits

Industrial and Technology Benefits Question: The issue of Industrial and Technology benefits requirements that may arise from the Engineering Flight Test Rationalization initiative was discussed by a number of firms.

Industrial and Technology Benefits Response: Industry Canada is engaged in the Engineering Flight Test Rationalization initiative and will determine possible obligations once further details regarding the implementation phase are available.

Question – 5 Proficiency Flying operations Timeline

Proficiency Flying operations Timeline Question: Several questions relating to the Proficiency Flying operations were raised.

Proficiency Flying operations Timeline Response: In light of the importance of proficiency flying to the potential benefits that can be derived from the Engineering Flight Test Rationalization, it is necessary to ensure that industry understands the proficiency flying requirements. At this point, the Engineering Flight Test Rationalization initiative is considering possible delivery options for proficiency flight operations. Future Industry engagements are under consideration to gain more information on Industry capabilities in this area.

Question 6 – Public Servants

Treatment of Public Service incumbents Question: If DND was to outsource some capabilities, what would be the requirements for treatment of the current Public Service incumbents?

Treatment of Public Service incumbents Response: A decision on outsourcing has not been made as this study is in the options analysis stage. As such, it would be premature to speculate how this project will impact Public Servants.