

CONCEPT PAPER

NCT | Europe
&
NCT PRO CHALLENGE



NCT | Europe

2024 will be a *combination* of the **NCT PRO Challenge Training Exercise** concept and the known **NCT Europe Conference and Exhibition**.



The location of the event is Zagreb, Croatia and the event will take place
20 - 24 May 2024.

NCT Europe will take place in a *simulated post conflict zone of operations in Ukraine*. The war might be over, but the fighting hasn't stopped, and remnants of war prevent civil society from building up a new life in the city. The location is a combination of ruins, high rise buildings with destroyed glass walls, farmland with *hidden IEDs and UXOs*. The underground area is dark and shows evidence of smuggling illegal immigrants. Threats to the civil population include UXOs, criminal groups used to operate without any problems, harassment, and interventions by irregular private militias from a neighboring country.

The day before **NCT**, *an earthquake caused the moving of UXOs and the release of toxic and radiological materials*. Therefore, the national government has requested international support in dealing with these problems. **NCT Europe 2024** is built around the international support and relief mission led by the **National Emergency Response Authority (NERA)**.



Overview of the event

On Monday and Tuesday morning, training teams will start with the classic **NCT PRO Challenge Tech & Skills briefings**, learning the skills and technology needed to deal with the scenarios in the remainder of the week. **PRO Challenge sponsors** will be onsite to **provide the technology briefings**. *On Monday afternoon,* the teams will be welcomed for **the icebreaker party at the DOK-ING factory**.

Tuesday afternoon, the event starts at 14:00 with the **plenary conference chaired by Michael Balboni**, former Deputy Secretary for Homeland Security of New York State. *The trainings will run parallel* till the event icebreaker party at the event location.





Overview of the event

The **EXCON** (exercise control) will start the “incidents” and “challenges” and the **National Emergency Response Authority (NERA)** will receive the international support teams into the area while the delegates and industry partners are present. *This will coincide with* the opening of the event and some keynote presentations between 14:00 and 17:00. Team leaders join the opening plenary, but may be called away when the **OPSCENTER** requires their teams to execute a mission.

The **NERA** will be the **local Command Authority**, while the international support teams are managed by an international disaster relief management team in the **OPSCENTER** commanded by **BG (ret) William King**.

Overview of the event

Delegates and Industry will operate from *the first floor* (2nd floor US) of an abandoned complex which will host a large-scale exhibition, and two briefing areas. It will also house **the EXCON** (exercise control) **area**, and **the OPSCENTER** who will lead the teams during the different missions.

Training teams will operate on *the ground floor* of that same complex to execute their missions.

Teams (or a taskforce of teams) are tasked by the OPSCENTER to execute a mission. **The first missions** will start *on Tuesday afternoon*, and tasking will continue *till Thursday afternoon*. The exercise will be on hold on Tuesday night 17:30 until Wednesday 07:00, and from Wednesday 23:00 until Thursday 07:00. Teams will be briefed by the OPSCENTER on their mission and other teams in the task force.





Overview of the event

For some of the missions, a combination is made with the conference session. When the mission is combined with the **NCT Conference**, the team briefing is provided not only to the teams, but also to the delegates attending that session. *The presentations in the session are linked to the scenario of the mission.* While delegates are engaged in conference presentations, teams prepare for their mission. When the teams execute their mission, *the delegates can observe the execution and AAR.*

On Thursday afternoon, the event closes with a plenary session. On Friday, the teams engage in the overall AAR for the exercise.

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