



EUROPEAN AIR REFUELLING TRAINING



EART 2019 AT A GLANCE

The sixth European Air Refuelling Training - EART 2019 - is conducted from 31 March to 12 April 2019. It is led by EATC and hosted by the Netherlands. EART 2019 is run in combination with the multinational Frisian Flag fighter exercise that operates from Leeuwarden Air base in the Netherlands.

The Netherlands, Germany, France and two non EATC member nations, the United States and the United Kingdom, participate in EART 2019 with tankers, crews and mentors. Italy will participate with mentors and the Royal Australian Air Force with observers.

The exercise director is one of EATC's highly professional air-to-air refuelling experts, Colonel Andrea Massucci.

EART 2019 puts a premium on "tanker cell/stacked-up formation" operations and on "tanker-to-tanker" rendez-vous procedures. The 2019 edition also introduces the "threat reaction" procedures and the "ferry flight" as a tanker driven event.

				
Germany	the Netherlands	France	United Kingdom	United States of America
A310 MRTT	KDC-10	KC-135	Voyager	KC-135R

"Air-to-air refuelling is much more than just flying circles, extending a hose or lowering boom and giving gas..."

Brigadier General Andreas Schick, Chief of Staff of the EATC

WHAT IS EART?

EART is a dedicated AAR focused multinational training for air and maintenance crews to become familiar with scenarios they are not regularly exposed to and to maintain proficiency. Run concurrently with a fighter exercise, it is a unique opportunity for the participating nations to train their air crews in planning and executing missions within a complex and realistic framework.

Thanks to EATC's continuous efforts, crews increase their know-how in complex multinational scenarios, enhance their knowledge of multinational tanker aircraft and exchange information and procedures. EART has become an embedded rendez-vous for EATC member nations and their partners.

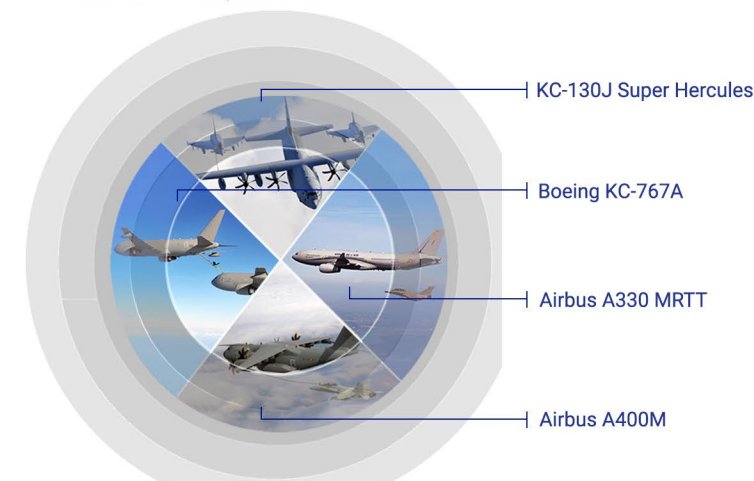


AN INSIGHT ON AIR-TO-AIR REFUELLING

EATC is considered in Europe as a centre of expertise in the domain of air-to-air refuelling (AAR). Today EATC commands 20 air-to-air refuelling assets from the Netherlands, Germany, Spain, Italy and France.

The future is not missing out on challenges: standardisation and consolidation of the process for daily air-to-air refuelling training; development of studies such as the "mission commander concept" or the "EATC trail handbook" and fostering of synergies within the MRTT community.

Future AAR capabilities:



The AAR fleet under EATC authority will be tripled in the next few years with the implementation of the multinational MRTT unit, the achievement of full AAR capability for the A400Ms and the arrival of new KC-130Js. EATC will become the major force provider in Europe, with large operational options and reinforced operational effectiveness for EATC's member nations.

Through a holistic and collaborative approach, EATC brings together the capabilities and is confirmed as an enabler in the air-to-air refuelling domain acting as a think tank and a centre of expertise for the member nations.



GET THE EART BACKGROUND

The lessons identified from Unified Protector over Libya in 2011 showed that for a smooth multinational operation, nations need to train together in advance. AAR was recognized in 2012 as a capability shortfall in Europe and EDA developed a global AAR approach. EART is vested in one of EDA's three complementary work-strands aiming to optimise existing capabilities.

EATC runs yearly the EART training applying the lessons learned from operations such as Libya.

In future, EATC plans to run EART in larger fighter exercises across Europe.

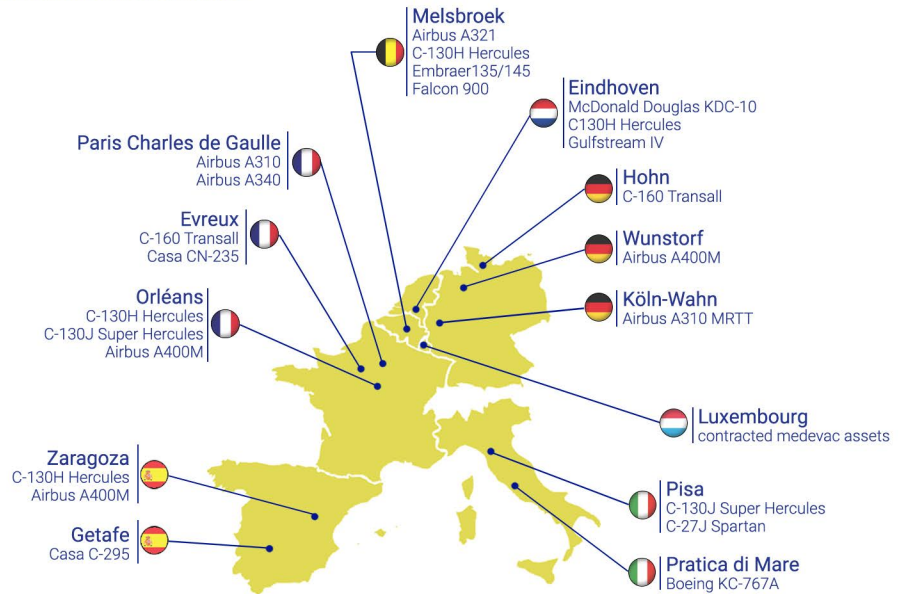


Air Mobility
Together we go beyond

EUROPEAN AIR TRANSPORT COMMAND



EATC is a multinational command of seven nations and a centre of expertise for air mobility, including military air transport, air-to-air refuelling and aeromedical evacuation.



Air transport |
Aeromedical evacuation |
Air-to-air refuelling |



	7 Nations
	200 experts
	1 Command
	worldwide missions
	24/7/365 operations
	on average: 60 missions/day
	13 bases
	34 types 170 aircraft

EINDHOVEN AIR BASE



Eindhoven Air Base (EAB) is the home of all transport aircraft of the Dutch Royal Air Force. EAB executes 24/7 air transport for worldwide military operations, humanitarian missions and special tasks.

EAB has become a centre of international cooperation in air transport with European Air Transport Command (EATC), Movement Coordination Centre Europe (MCCE) and the Multination MRTT Unit (MMU).

FRISIAN FLAG



From 31 March to 12 April 2019, Leeuwarden airbase hosts again one of the largest international fighter exercises: Frisian Flag 2019. For two weeks, fighter aircraft from six countries exercise the execution of offensive and defensive missions. Multinational cooperation is at the core of the exercise, which also implies cooperation between the tactical air commands and air control agencies. Conducting multinational fighter exercises is necessary to increase sustainment of effective execution of the nations' air defense operations and missions.

MCCE



The MCCE AAR cell deploys an AAR expert to Leeuwarden to act as a liaison between FF and EART for AAR tasking.



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