

# **BACKGROUND      DOCUMENTATION**

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## **2011 NORTH AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION**

In October 2007, Canada accepted the chairmanship of the NATO Defence Against Terrorism (DAT) programme of work's 11th initiative (DAT 11) on non-lethal capabilities. Non-lethal weapons are weapons that are explicitly designed and developed to incapacitate or repel personnel, with a low probability of fatality or permanent injury, or to disable equipment, with minimal undesired damage or impact on the environment. The aim of the 2011 NATD is to showcase non-lethal capabilities that can be acquired and fielded quickly in support of NATO operations.

Under the DAT programme of work, individual NATO nations, with support and contributions from other member countries and NATO bodies, are leading projects to develop advanced technologies to meet the most urgent security needs in the face of terrorism. The NATO DAT programme of work was approved by NATO leaders in 2004, as one measure to strengthen the Alliance's contribution to combating terrorism.

NATO's DAT programme of work focuses on 11 areas of technology-related work to include, among others, the facilitation of ready to field non-lethal capabilities. The NATO operational community has underlined its need for better response capabilities that minimize collateral damage. As such, the DAT 11 serves to identify non-lethal capabilities for NATO forces.

NATO's mandate for DAT 11 is to confirm and demonstrate existing, or soon to be fielded, non-lethal technologies with a view to facilitating the rapid fielding of non-lethal capabilities in support of the NATO mission in Afghanistan (ISAF) and in Counter-Terrorism operations. The Department of National Defence (DND) and the United States Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Directorate are jointly hosting the 2011 North American Technology Demonstration (NATD) in support of this mandate.

It is estimated that approximately \$1.5 million will be injected into the local economy during the 2011 NATD.