

David Wotherspoon



- Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Management Institute (CMgr FCMI)
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David Wotherspoon is the Executive Director of Innovation at the UK defence Solution Centre (UKDSC). He's primarily responsible for the identification and scoping of thematic innovation opportunities aligned with the UKDSC's core capability pillars.

At the outset of his military career, David enlisted in the Corps of Royal Engineers in 1985, where he trained as a mechanical engineer and military diving supervisor; serving in Iraq, Bosnia, Kosovo, Northern Ireland, and Afghanistan. David retired from the British Army and enlisted in the Australian Defence Force in January 2007, where he served as a development officer in the Special Operations Command (SOCOMD). During this period, he also Project-Managed a number of technically challenging innovative projects in support of military operations.

More recently, and after retirement from the Australian Defence Force in 2011 (Reservist until 2014), David became the Operations Director and Programme Manager for the successful DEEPSEA CHALLENGE expedition; designing, manufacturing and operating a bespoke manned submersible that operated at 11000msw. Furthermore, he was the Programme Manager responsible for the design, delivery and operation of the 4500m Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) SuBastian, a successful modular freeflying ROV that is in operation with the Schmidt Ocean Institute. Prior to joining UKDSC, David was a senior Programme Manager at Saildrone, delivering a number of Unmanned Surface Vehicles which are now operating in the Bering Sea and East Coast of the USA.