

NIDV Symposium

The Conference



The theme of the 30th edition of the NIDV Symposium was 'International Collaboration'. The morning session was set in the completely renewed symposium hall, where moderator Angelien Eijsink guided the audience through an exciting programme. After welcoming Mr. Hans Hillen, the Chairman of the NIDV, Mr Hans Dibbetz was congratulated for attending all 30 editions of the NIDV Symposiums. The Jan Gmelich Meilijng thesis award was then presented to one of the three young nominees listed below:



1. Eva Bontje, Netherlands Defence Academy
'The synthetic conduct of war - Exploring the future military applications of biotechnology and its consequences for the Netherlands Armed Forces'
2. Roy Kok, Delft University of Technology
'Haptic assistance to mitigate vertical damaging accelerations of small fast ships'
3. Christiaan Leibbrandt, Netherlands Defence Academy and Royal Military Academy Brussels
'Probabilistic aspects of munition initiation to fragment impact'



Eva Bontje won the prize of 2,500€ and all three nominees were invited for a practice day with the Royal Navy during the summer of 2019.

After the prize presentation, the Minister of Defence, Ank Bijleveld-Schouten, and the COO of KPN, Joost Farwerck, pitched their view on 'International Collaboration'.

Angelien Eijsink closed the successful morning symposium with a short summary, after which the attendees had the opportunity to strengthen their network and experience and discover the innovations in the exhibition halls.

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High-level visitors

This year, the NIDV had the honour of welcoming some very high-level visitors. His Majesty King Willem-Alexander, the Minister of Defence, and the Secretary of State of Defence all took part in the NIDV Symposium.

After being welcomed by the Director of the NIDV, Ron Nulkes, and updated about the mission of the NIDV by political advisor Anne Brockherde, the King followed the pitches and discussions of Ms. Bijleveld-Schouten and Mr. Farwerck in the plenary Symposium hall. He then visited the booths of KPN, RE-liON and SIM-CI. At SIM-CI he experienced the flooding of Rotterdam through virtual reality glasses. The King concluded his visit with Damen Schelde and several start-ups at the start-up booth.

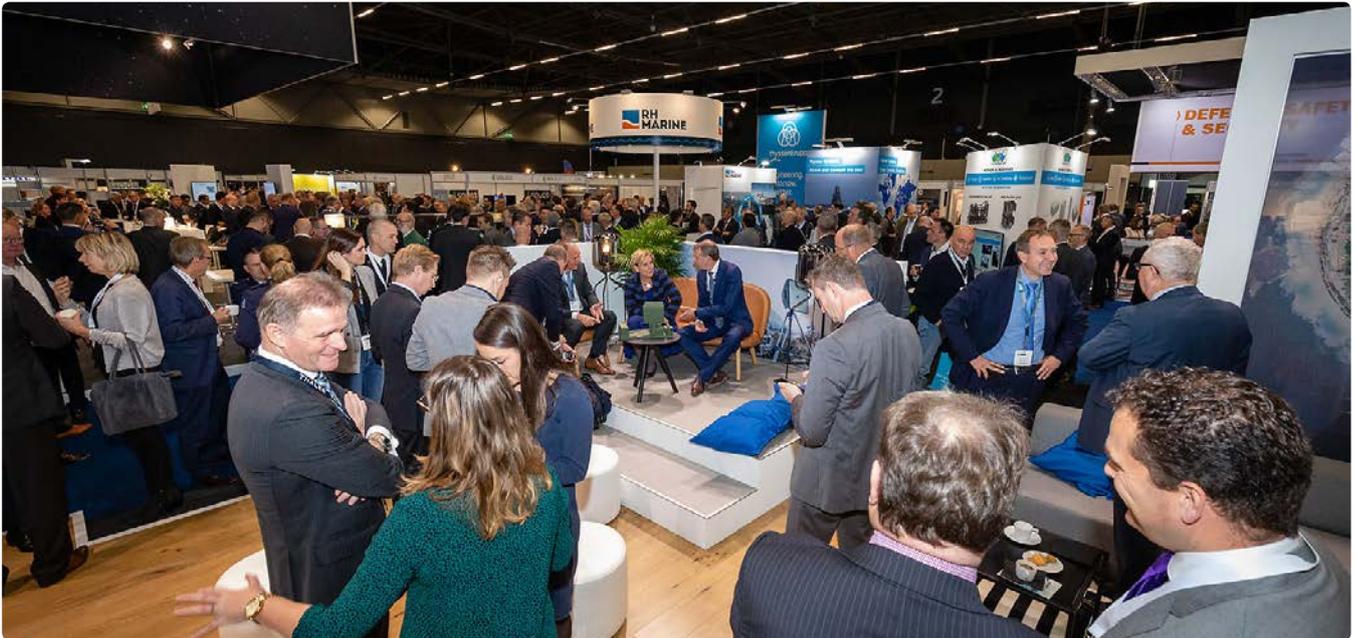


The Minister of Defence, Ank Bijleveld-Schouten, began her visit with a pitch and discussion of her views on International Collaboration. She met with four NIDV participants who presented their innovative products, and ended her visit at the DUKC and start-up area. In addition, she presented the Defence Industry Strategy to Mr. Hillen, Chairman of the NIDV, which was published the evening before.

Secretary of State of Defence, Barbara Visser, visited the Symposium in the afternoon. She attended a presentation of the DUKC and afterwards spent time at the start-up area. She also visited five innovative NIDV participants, was present at the signing ceremony of the Ministry of Defence and Thales about the upgrade of the Squire Radar, and met the visitors from the European Military Press Association (EMPA).



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Signature ceremonies, special moments and break-out sessions

The following signature ceremonies and special moments took place during the Symposium:

- Announcement of the Defence Industry Strategy (DIS) by the Minister of Defence, Ank Bijleveld-Schouten, and Chairman of the NIDV, Hans Hillen
- Signing ceremony of a Letter of Intent between NIDV and Defence Support Command (DOSCO) by Chairman of the NIDV, Hans Hillen, and Director of DOSCO, General Emile Van Duren
- Signing ceremony regarding pilot knowledge centre cooperation between CGI, Capgemini and Royal Army
- Signing ceremony of the Air Assault contract between the Defence Material Organization and Mercedes Benz Cars Netherlands
- Presentation: Explanation of Dutch Underwater Knowledge Centre activities by Maarten Lutje Schipholt
- Signing ceremony regarding the Squire radar upgrade between Thales Netherlands and the Defence Material Organization by Gerben Edelijn (CEO Thales Netherlands and VADM Arie Jan de Waard (director Defence Material Organization)

