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WORTH REPEATING

“Soldier for Soldier, unit for unit, the Army is the best-trained, best-led, best-equipped it has ever been; skilled and experienced in the arduous complexities of irregular warfare.”

— *Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates*



U.S. Army Photo/Tom Michele

Inside the PEO STRI-produced Virtual Route Clearance Trainer, Spc. George Maness has his hands on the Buffalo steering wheel, and Staff Sgt. Jason Sanchez works the remote control of the crane while instructor Jason Algrin watches as the Soldiers “drive” along a street in Iraq.

Virtual Route Clearance Trainer Teaches Tactics to Soldiers

By Tom Michele, Fort McCoy Public Affairs Specialist

It is a very realistic training option for Soldiers to learn about driving on routes to clear mines, specifically in theater. It is in an indoor and climate-controlled atmosphere. It has the noise and movement of real combat. But, it is not under a real threat of fire.

It is at Fort McCoy. It's a Virtual Route Clearance Trainer produced by PEO STRI's Project Manager Combined Arms Tactical Trainers.

The Virtual Route Clearance Trainer is also the only one in existence and will be at McCoy through August. It was first put into operation November 2007 at Fort Hood, Texas.

Inside two 53-foot trailers parked at Forward Operating Base Liberty in early April, Soldiers immediately inserted themselves into the virtual reality of mine detecting and handling vehicles.

They instantly found themselves in near-real scenarios.

Two Soldiers sit at a Mine Protected Clearance Vehicle (Buffalo) console. Three Soldiers sit at the console of a Medium Mine Protected

Vehicle (RG-31), and three more at another RG-31 console. The RG-31 has a .50-caliber machine gun on a 360-degree turret.

RG-31 commanders and machine gunners wear heads-up display video monitors to observe and control scenario action.

And there is audio. Lots of audio. Loud audio when explosives “ignite” near the vehicle Soldiers are operating or when weapons are “fired.”

The simulator's instructor-operator can program dozens of scenarios where the student trainee Soldiers “drive” detailed map routes through urban areas. The instructor serves as a company commander ordering a squad to patrol from Point A to Point B and to wherever. Soldiers are given printed maps of the exact virtual terrain of cities and other battle locations where U.S. military warriors and coalition forces are deployed. Soldiers use their hands to drive the exact steering wheels, operate crane-arm controls, and fire machine-guns.

The trainer-operator directs the Soldier

PEO STRI's Annual Organization Day

**CONGRATULATIONS PM CATT
FOR WINNING 1ST PLACE!**

**April 11, 2008
Red Bug Lake Park**

STRI'S HUMVEE EGRESS TRAINER WINS ARMY'S TOP 2007 INVENTION

By Kristen Dooley, PEO STRI Public Affairs Officer

PEO STRI's Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer (HEAT) was recently named one of the Army's top ten 2007 greatest inventions by the U.S. Army Materiel Command. Soldier teams from the Training and Doctrine Command and Army divisions throughout the service evaluated the nominations and cast their votes.

"I applaud the efforts of this program that recognizes the many individuals whose efforts have directly impacted our Soldiers in the field," remarked Army Vice Chief of Staff, Gen. Richard A. Cody. "The inventions submitted demonstrate the vast experience within our Army."

In response to an Operational Needs Statement from the U.S. Army Forces Command, PEO STRI, with assistance from the Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center and manufacturing capability at Red River Army Depot, rapidly developed, tested and fielded the trainer. Today, 55 HEAT train Soldiers worldwide on how to react in a vehicle rollover situation.

Prior to this invention, Soldiers were not instructed on how to properly exit a vehicle that had rolled on its side or top due to an incident like an Improvised Explosive Device for example. Soldiers, including the gunner, can now be appropriately trained on how to open their safety restraints and exit the vehicle through either the doors or the gunner's hatch in a variety of rotated positions.

The HEAT has become the U.S. Army standard for egress training and has been made part of required training for all Soldiers. In addition, it is required training for all Department of Defense civilian employees and contractors who go on certain missions outside the continental United States.

Gen. Benjamin S. Griffin, Army Materiel Command commanding general, hosted an Awards Ceremony for the 2007 Army Greatest Invention winners June 12, 2008, in Arlington, Va.

The U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center Public Affairs Office contributed to the article. ■



Credit: U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub

The HEAT teaches Soldiers how to react in a vehicle rollover situation and egress the vehicle quickly. Since its deployment to theater, HEAT has been credited with saving dozens of Soldiers' lives. The trainer is the U.S. Army standard for egress training and part of required training for all Soldiers.

OASA(ALT) MILITARY DEPUTY VISITS STRI



Credit: U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub

Lt. Gen. Ross Thompson, military deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology), visited PEO STRI May 12 and May 13 for an update on the organization. PEO STRI's military officers had the chance to spend time with the military deputy during his visit. Thompson also received briefings on PEO STRI's strategic plan, an update on Synthetic Environment Core and One Semi-Automated Force, an overview of Future Combat Systems training successes and a demonstration of the Digital Range Training Systems.



CASE STUDY: Can Injection Jamming Really Replicate Open Air Jamming?

By Jerry Marotta, PEO STRI Project Manager Instrumentation, Targets and Threat Simulators

The Project Manager Instrumentation, Targets and Threat Simulators led an experiment at White Sands Missile Range February 2008 to measure how well injection jamming can replicate open air jamming. Jamming is the deliberate use of radio noise or signals in an attempt to disrupt enemy communications.

Open air jamming is the traditional method of denying an enemy use of the radio frequency spectrum to transmit critical information. It is done by broadcasting static on top of voice data transmissions thus making the conversation or data stream un-intelligible and therefore meaningless.

Injection jamming replicates open air jamming on a specified system without interfering with nearby commercial or military transmissions. An injection jammer is placed within the victim radio's receiver circuitry by tapping into the radio's antenna cable.

Using the victim radio's antenna, the injection jammer receives a "turn on" signal from an external transmitter, a Control Signal Transmitter (CST). The CST is positioned on the test range as an open-air threat jammer. Instead of broadcasting a jamming signal, the CST sends a perfectly safe unmodulated continuous wave tone to the injection jammer. The injection jammer generates the appropriate frequency-jamming signal based on the continuous wave tone received, and directly injects this jamming signal into the victim receiver under test.

This sequence of events duplicates the effects of jamming on the victim receiver without ever broadcasting an open-air jamming signal, which prevents disruption of nearby tactical radio networks, radio and television stations, and GPS satellites.

The experiment began with a vehicle carrying the victim radio driving on a pre-set course with 11 waypoints. From the course, data was captured on the effects of first no jamming, then open air jamming, and finally, injection jamming.

The evidence shows a marked similarity of both the open air and the injection jamming.

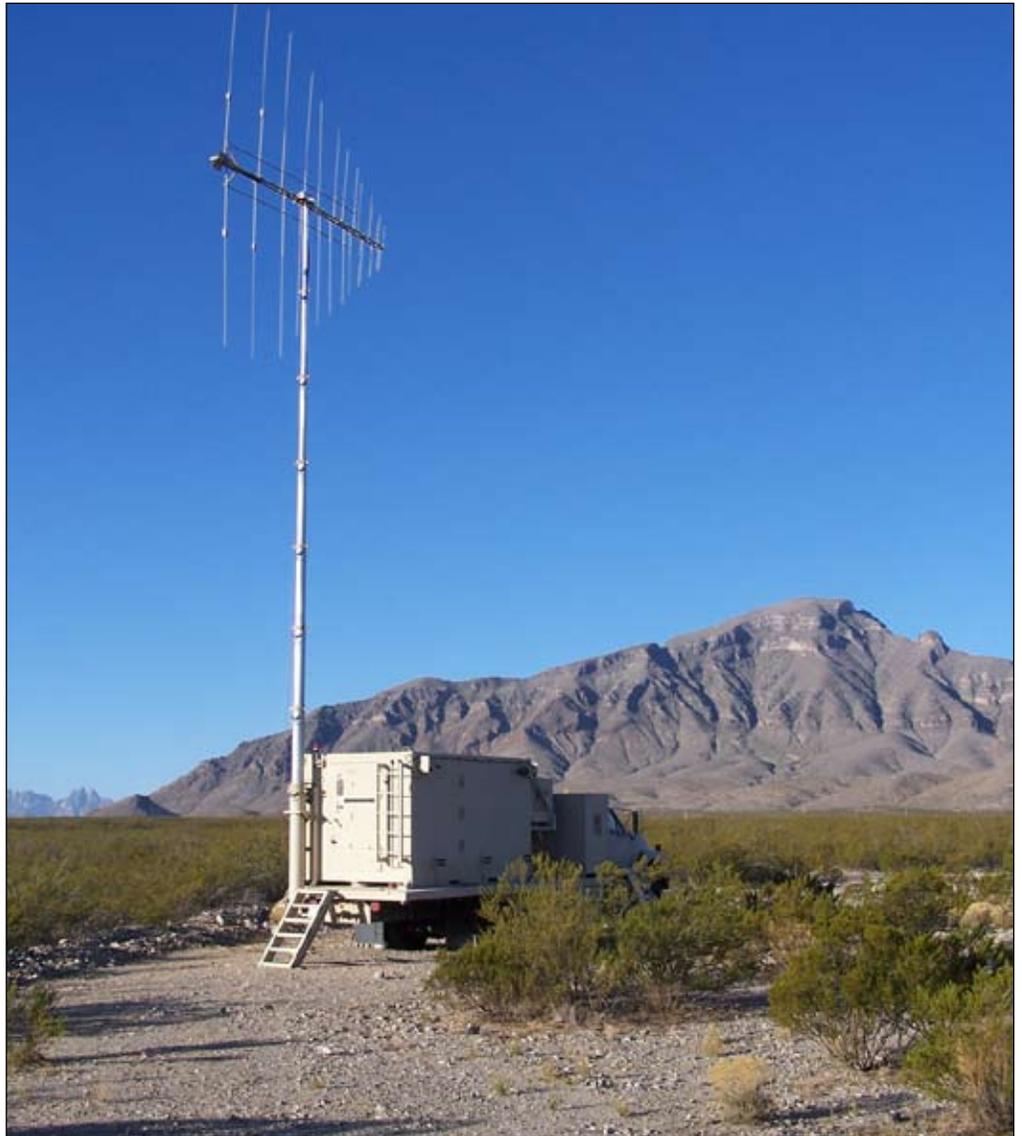
It must be noted, however, that this test does not guarantee that injection jamming is the complete solution for all jamming needs. For

example, only one representative threat signal was used during the experiment. It may be that other threat signals do not produce as compelling results. Similar caution needs to be given to other factors that may influence the results such as differing weather conditions and terrain characteristics.

There are other reasons where injection jamming is not a complete solution for all jamming needs such as when there are

too many radios on which to install injection jammers. Another reason is when the size of the receivers or sensors to be jammed are too small or impractical to allow the installation of an injection jammer.

With that said, injection jamming is a viable option to be considered when restrictions at the test location, such as prohibited frequency bands and impractical operating test times, rule out the use of traditional open air jamming systems. ■



Courtesy Photo

The open air jammer pictured above was used in the February 2008 experiment conducted by Project Manager Instrumentation, Targets and Threat Simulators to determine if injection jamming can replicate open air jamming. Jamming is used to disrupt enemy communications.

ARMY UPGRADES AKO PORTAL

By Army News Service

The Army has launched a new and improved version of its unclassified web portal, Army Knowledge Online.

AKO, part of the Program Executive Office for Enterprise Information Systems, continues preparation for the full implementation of Defense Knowledge Online with a portal upgrade that will enable new and improved services.

DKO will provide the Department of Defense community with a single point of entry to net-centric enterprise services, including online collaboration (web conferencing, instant messaging and chat), a personnel directory, and improved search capabilities, all in a secure environment designed to improve information sharing.

“Our vision for Defense Knowledge Online is to provide a single entry point that empowers knowledge dominance, ensures synchronization of resources, and aggressively enables situational awareness and operational security throughout the

DoD community,” said Col. James Barrineau, AKO/DKO project director.

“Eventually, we envision even extending access to the portal to other government agencies,” he said.



Barrineau said he expects the AKO/DKO to achieve capability to support 2.5 million users by fall of this year, and envisions a 3.5-million user capability by 2010. AKO/

DKO members could eventually include non-DoD agencies that work closely with DoD in missions that span the globe, he said.

One of the most significant capabilities provided with the AKO/DKO upgrade is support for service-oriented architecture, PEO EIS officials said. They said with the implementation of SOA capability, the Army portal will become a standards-compliant platform prepared to support the integration of key web applications within DoD commands, services and agencies. Until now, they said these disparate capabilities were limited to the individual services' portals.

Although most aspects of the AKO/DKO upgrade do not significantly affect the way users interact with the portal, PEO EIS officials said, the average user will notice small “look and feel” changes in portal function. On the login page, they said users will notice a new homepage banner with images that change each time the user visits the page. ■



Happy 233rd Birthday
to the United States Army!

June 14, 2008

**PEO STRI and the AUSA Sunshine Chapter
will celebrate the Army's birthday
June 21 at the
Renaissance Orlando Resort at SeaWorld**

Q & A with Joe Giunta: STRI's Roadmap to Success with the Strategic Plan

By Kristen A. Dooley, PEO STRI Public Affairs Officer



Mr. Joe Giunta,
STRATEGIC INTEGRATOR

What is the purpose of the Strategic Plan?

The purpose of the plan is to capture Dr. Jim Blake's vision and express it in a mission statement with supporting "ends" (objectives) and "ways" (strategic initiatives). The Strategic Plan allows the organization to align day-to-day activities against both short and long term activities to support achieving the PEO's ends.

How was it developed?

The current plan started with the PEO laying out his intent for the organization; it is what we define in military terms as the "Commander's Intent." From that point, the senior leadership crafted what is now defined as the PEO's six ends. The ends are in direct support of the PEO's intent. In helping to achieve the ends, ways were formulated to outline the PEO Strategic Plan.

What is the difference between the Strategic Plan, the Ends, Ways, Means, and the Strategy Map?

The Strategic Plan and the Ends, Ways, Means are synonymous. The Ends, Ways, Means is simply a format for illustrating the Strategic Plan, much like the Balanced Scorecard.

The Strategy Map is a one-page pictorial that captures the vision, mission, ends and ways. Our Strategy Map contains 21 ways. If an employee were to pick up the current Strategy

Map, I believe they would see is a single stand-alone document that highlights why and what we do on a day-to-day basis and where we want to go in the future. This document provides the workforce with an understanding of why and how decisions are made within the PEO, why certain programs, activities and initiatives are established in the PEO, and lastly, offers them a roadmap for their actions to achieve the mission.

How is the Strategic Plan being executed?

As I highlighted earlier, the Plan started with the PEO expressing his vision and the senior leaders defining the mission and the ends. Then, Cross Functional Teams (CFTs) defined the ways. We are now at the point where the Tactical Action Teams (TATs) will begin executing the ways.

What is the current status of the Plan?

The PEO STRI Board of Directors, or BoD, has prioritized and approved seven of the 21 ways. The approved ways include updating Standard Operating Procedure 70-1, revising the PEO STRI intake and transition process, performing program synchronization, interoperability baseline and common components, implementing policies and processes for the Acquisition Center, and executing the Training Aids, Devices, Simulators and Simulations Policy Memorandum.

For these ways, TATs have been resourced and assembled as they begin work on the ways.

The remaining ways not currently being tackled by a TAT have been either deferred or require some foundation work to be completed by one of the current TATs. As we progress in the implementation of the current plan, we will establish TATs as required.

It is important to recognize that strategic planning is a living process and it will realign as our environment and operational tempo changes based on the needs of the Warfighter and the Nation.

What role has the workforce played in the Strategic Plan?

More than 50 members of the workforce

were involved in the CFTs to define the ways to achieve our ends. An additional 36 individuals have been assigned to work on the TATs that will begin executing activities for each of the seven ways approved by the BoD. Each of the approved ways is focused on addressing recurring issues within the PEO that affect our ability to most effectively and efficiently support the Warfighter.

It will take the entire PEO's effort to be successful in the end so every employee must get in the game. As a Dolphins fan, I know that a team is only as strong as its weakest link. We need each employee to jump in and get in the fight as we begin to institutionalize the processes, policies and initiatives identified and implemented through the execution of our strategic planning process.

How are the BoD and Integration and Interoperability Advisory Board, known as the I2AB, involved in the Strategic Plan?

The BoD, which is chaired by the deputy PEO and comprised of the project managers, executives, legal counsel and principal assistant responsible for contracting, is the decision approval body for all Strategic Plan activities.

The I2AB is the CFT and TAT for the ways associated with Ends #3. The I2AB was the first formal outgrowth forum from the current strategic planning process to take-off and has already provided great value to the PEO.

Where can the workforce obtain a copy of the Strategy Map?

The Strategy Map is posted on the PEO STRI internal website under the "What's New" tab. The Strategy Map is also posted in each of your project manager or executive's areas. In the long term, we plan on posting it to the external website as well so that we can share the PEO's strategic vision with our customers and industry partners. We believe it is critical to ensure that all of our teammates know where we are headed as an organization and why.

What is the way ahead for the Strategic Plan?

We are beginning the execution phase of our plan. So keeping with the football team theme, if you compare our current strategic planning efforts to a football game, our team

Continued on page 8



ACQUISITION ACADEMY'S FIRST CLASS WILL INTRODUCE ARMY INTERNS TO CONTRACTING FIELD

By Kristen A. Dooley, PEO STRI Public Affairs Officer

PEO STRI's recently established Acquisition Academy (A2) will hold its first class, "Army Contracting Intern Bootcamp," beginning in late July. The three-month introductory course will host up to 20 contract specialist interns in Research Park's Partnership I building. Upon successful completion of the program, the interns will have earned a position in the PEO STRI Acquisition Center in October.

Recognizing that the Department of Defense is experiencing a shortage of contracting personnel, "Dr. Blake stood-up A2 to introduce approximately 20 productive and effective contracting interns into the PEO STRI workforce," said Jean Burmester, A2 dean.

As noted in the Federal Acquisition Institute's annual report issued May 5, the contracting career field grew only two percent in 2007 while the retirement eligibility increased 14 percent that same year. The retirement rate of those in the contracting career field is projected

to rise to 34 percent in 2012 and 55 percent in 2017.

PEO STRI is feeling the effects of this Defense Department-wide shortage. Since establishing its own Acquisition Center last year, PEO STRI has experienced a deficiency in contracting staff.

"Our main objective is to put these people in the workforce so that they can contribute," said Rob Reyenga, business operations executive, who is assisting in the establishment of the Academy.

So that the interns can effectively contribute to the PEO STRI mission, they will spend the bulk of their time focusing on the contractual issues that the organization primarily deals with, for example source selection, service contracts and indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity contracts.

"Success is 20 Army contracting interns who enter our Acquisition Center prepared and ready to effectively support their division chiefs and team leads," Burmester asserted. "They will have read the contract vehicles they are assigned

to and they will know the various contracting systems needed to complete their jobs."

In addition to becoming familiar with government contracting, the curriculum will include topics like Army 101, getting around PEO STRI, getting to know the organization's products and services, and so on.

"As this will be the first impression into civil service for the interns, we want to make it as positive as possible," Burmester said.

Largely dependent upon the benefits achieved through this first class, PEO STRI is considering utilizing A2 as a training institution for professional development within the organization that could cover a number of disciplines to include engineering and logistics. At that point, PEO STRI senior leaders said they hope to extend an invitation to the Marine Corps' Program Manager for Training Systems and the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division workforces for their enrollment in and support of A2. ■

PM TRADE Fields Digital Range to Fort Carson

By Lt. Col. Jack Emerson, PM TRADE Product Manager for Digitized Training

The Digital Range Training System (DRTS) program reached a significant milestone in April with the fielding of a Digital Multi-Purpose Range Complex (DMPRC) at Fort Carson, Colo. The DMPRC is the fourth digital range fielded to the U.S. Army within the last year and the sixth digital range in existence.

The Government Acceptance Test (GAT) for the Fort Carson DMPRC was successfully completed March 24 through March 28. The GAT consisted of executing training scenarios that replicate various types of actual training events expected to be performed on this range.

The Soldiers said they were very pleased with the ability to see actions related to target kills, actions inside the vehicles, and the relationship between crew drill and downrange effectiveness. They were especially complementary of the opportunities the range offered, the ability to immediately and seamlessly collect gunnery data, and the tremendous After Action Review (AAR) capabilities the digital range brings to the

training event.

The DRTS program provides new and modern ranges capable of training, evaluating and stressing Soldiers and equipment with a realistic, train-as-you-fight environment. These systems will replace obsolete training methods and equipment to simulate new weapon systems, and provide enhanced data collection and AAR capabilities. DRTS ranges are part of the live training transformation-family of training systems and have been programmed for those major installations with heavy brigade combat teams.

These new range complexes can vary from two to six lanes and have from 200 to almost 500 digitally controlled targets. The recently fielded Fort Carson DMPRC has 475 stationary and moving, infantry and armor targets. Vehicle and dismount player units, fixed-day and night range cameras, simulated battlefield effects, crew compartment and through-site video, and buildings for AAR and range operations combine with modern targetry to provide an unprecedented level of battlefield realism and training. DRTS increases the ability of units

to develop "lessons learned" that can, in turn, improve future unit performance.

Six of 22 planned instrumented ranges have been fielded to Fort Hood, Texas, Fort Knox, Ky., Fort Wainwright, Ala., Fort Richardson, Ala., Fort Polk, La., and Fort Carson, Colo. Extensive and strenuous testing has ensured that the latest instrumented range fieldings have been delivered largely trouble-free and ready for operation. ■



Courtesy Photo

PM TRADE recently fielded a Digital Multi-Purpose Range Complex to Fort Carson, Colo. The DMPRC is part of the Digital Range Training System program, which is an instrumented range that provides live, virtual and constructive gunnery and tactical complexes.



TIGER OPENS ARMS FOR TROOPS, FAMILIES AT AT&T NATIONAL

By Tim Hipps, Family Morale Welfare and Recreation Command Public Affairs

Tiger Woods' support of U.S. troops will be on worldwide display July 2 through July 6 during the AT&T National at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Md.

Like last year, tournament host, Tiger Woods, has donated 30,000 tickets for service members and their families to attend the AT&T National. Military personnel again will play alongside Tiger in the Earl Woods Memorial Pro-Am on July 2.

For that day, a new twist has been added to the event. Nike donated golf equipment to troops in the United Kingdom, Afghanistan, Iraq, Germany, Japan, and aboard the U.S.S. Harry S. Truman. The Pentagon Channel will film service members making ceremonial first shots in those locations and the balls will be returned to the States.

Twenty-five children who have a parent serving abroad will join Tiger at Congressional for ceremonial first shots with those same golf balls.

"We feel that the shot and these balls are our way of thanking these families for the support that they really provide us," Congressional Country Club President Bret Hart said during AT&T National media day on May 27. "We feel it will be a great way really to honor them as well."

Woods seconded that sentiment. "I think that people don't realize the dedication of our men and women," said Woods, an Army brat who seemingly could not say "thank you" enough to the troops. "I grew up in a military household. I understand. I understand what it takes. I witnessed it. I have been around the guys all my life —have been part of the military from infantrymen to Special Forces. I have been around all that. I know what it takes."

"They don't get enough thanks, and we're here to do that. There are people here who really do miss them, really appreciate what they're doing," he said. ■



U.S. Army Photo/Tim Hipps

Tournament host Tiger Woods provided 30,000 free tickets for service members and their families to attend the AT&T National July 2 through July 6 at Congressional Country Club. Several other military perks were announced during AT&T National media day on May 27.

★ News Flash! Army beat Navy May 29 in annual Team Orlando golf tournament hosted at the Stoneybrook Golf Club. ★

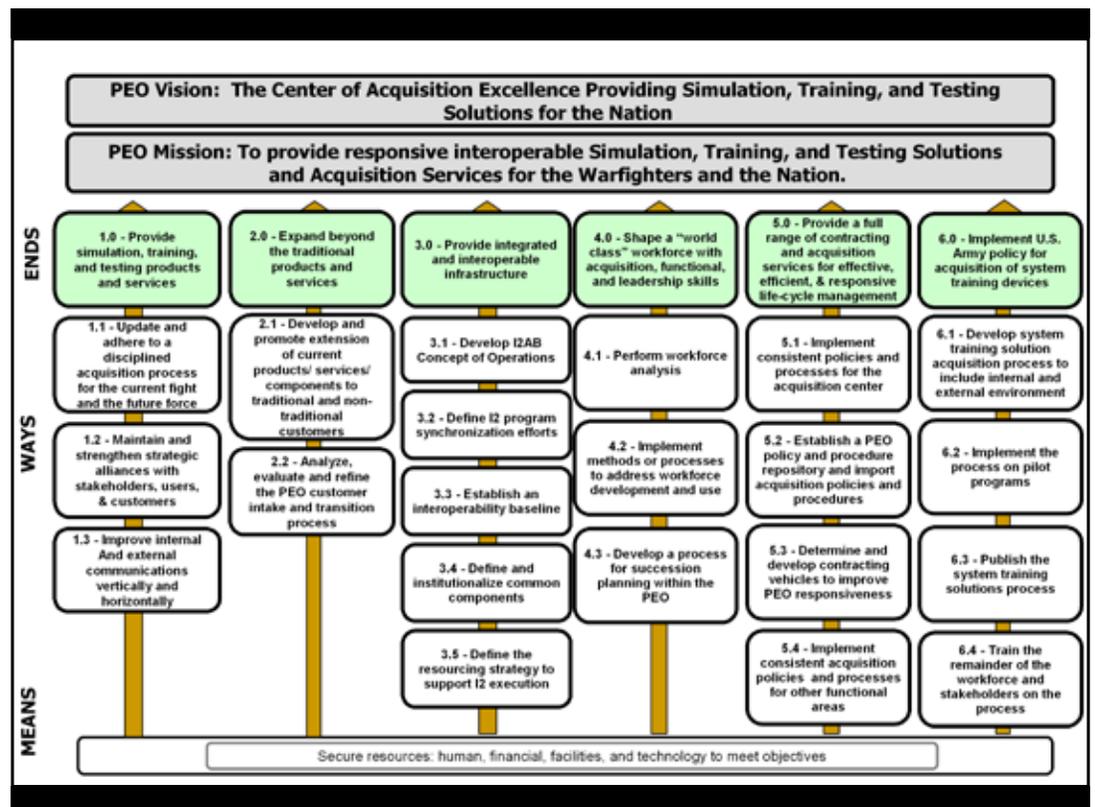
STRATEGIC PLAN... Continued from page 6

is about to enter the second half. We have set the conditions for our success in the first half and we have received our game adjustments from the coach on our performance. Now it is up to us to execute the game plan leading to victory.

The membership for our TATs has been identified and approved by the senior leadership. The kick-off meetings for each of these teams are scheduled and some have already been conducted. The TATs most critical task will be developing their action plans and executing them in support of the previous work laid out by the CFTs over the last year. We will be periodically collecting and reporting their progress towards completing the ways approved by the BoD.

Who can the workforce contact if they have questions or comments on the Strategic Plan?

Me, Joe Giunta, PEO STRI Strategic Integrator, via e-mail: joseph.giunta@us.army.mil. ■



COMPUTER SECURITY FROM A TO Z

By Bill Osborne and Donnette Hart, PEO STRI Security Office

A Authorized software is only to be used on PEO STRI computer systems.

B Beware of strangers bearing gifts of software.

C Classified media and information should never be introduced to or processed on the PEO STRI local area network.

D Dispose of floppy disks, CDs, etc., by taking them to the Security Office for destruction.

E Equipment should be protected by keeping food and drink away from your area.

F Forgetting your password often is not a good excuse to write it down.

G Games should stay at home. Use your computer for official business only.

H Handle removable media (CDs, thumb drives, etc.) with care.

I Inform your Information Assurance Security Officer and System Administrator or the Security Office of all suspected computer security incidents.

J Just say no when asked for your password.

K Know the procedure for making backups of your data.

L Labels must be placed on magnetic media to identify classification levels.

M Maintenance of computer equipment must be performed by cleared and qualified persons.

N Need-to-know principle applies to computer access, not just to classified information.

O Odd or suspicious requests for information received via e-mail should be reported to your supervisor, Information Assurance Security Officer and Security Office immediately.

P Practice good computer hygiene. Don't exchange programs with anyone. Scan all incoming magnetic media.

Q Questions regarding computer security can be addressed to your Information Assurance Security Officer or the Security Office.

R Risky behavior, such as downloading unauthorized software, can lead to virus infection.

S Secrets in a computer require the same protection as secrets on paper. Classified information may only be processed on the SIPRnet. Contact the Security Office to arrange for access to the SIPRnet.

T Training allows you to better perform your work and your computer security responsibilities.

U Users are the key to the PEO STRI computer security efforts.

V Viruses can be avoided by using only authorized software and scanning all magnetic media.

W Watch for suspicious changes in the operation of your computer; it may be infected with a virus.

X eXpired passwords are avoidable; change passwords every 90 days or when prompted by your System Administrator. Use strong passwords that contain at least 10 characters for ordinary users and 15 characters for administrative accounts. Passwords must include a minimum of two uppercase letters, two lowercase letters, two numbers and two special symbols.

Y You are responsible for the security of your computer resources.

Z Zero tolerance will be allowed for violating computer security practices and procedures. ■

Important Contact Information

Security Office: 407-384-3540;
bill.osborne@us.army.mil

Information Assurance Office:
407-384-5350; don.cruden@us.army.mil

System Administrator: 407-380-4832;
helpdesk@peostri.army.mil

Remember, Computer Files & E-Mails Live On Long After You Hit the "Delete" Key & Are Routinely Subpoenaed in the Courts



- Never Write Discriminatory or Offensive Comments
- Don't Forward Off-Color or Ethnic Humor, Even If You Don't Think the Receiver Will Be Offended
- Think Twice Before Hitting "Save" or "Send"

CITIZEN STRI

“What’s your favorite summertime activity and why?”



“I enjoy outside activities especially after being inside the office during the work week. I try to get some outside exercise as much as possible.”

Gary Gunter,
Acquisition Center

U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub



“My favorite summertime activity is building sandcastles and playing at the beach with my two kids. I like it because it involves spending time and having fun with two of the people I cherish most in my life.”

Caryn McGraw,
Acquisition Center

U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub



“My favorite summertime activity is attending Nascar’s Coke Zero 400 race at the Daytona International Speedway. With tailgating during the day and the race under the lights at night, I don’t know how I could go a summer in Florida without the 400.”

Jeff Brunell,
Acquisition Center

U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub



“This year my favorite summertime activity will be staying home and enjoying my family, my yard and my home since last year at this time I was on active duty in Washington D.C. I want to play in the pool with my son after working in my garden. That’s something I really enjoy!”

Ann Dunlap,
PM TRADE

Courtesy Photo



“My favorite summertime activities are going to the beach with my family and playing golf. Going to the beach is a great way to slow down the everyday pace of work and allows my family to spend some time together relaxing. Although not restricted to the summer here in Florida, golfing is the activity I like to do that gets me away from everything else.”

Larry Nelson,
PM Field OPS

U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub



“My favorite activity is fishing off the east coast of Florida. The Gulf Stream current comes the closest to central Florida in the summertime months and the fishing is best. Unfortunately, summertime also brings more frequent offshore thunderstorms which can be dangerous. But, it is true what they say: a bad day fishing beats any day at work!”

Pat Garrity,
PM ConSim

Courtesy Photo

Want your opinion heard? Answer July’s Question! **How are you dealing with the high gas prices?** Send your response to Kristen.Dooley@us.army.mil and put Citizen STRI in the subject line.

HOLIDAYS Events

June 18-19

Training and Simulation
Industry Symposium

June 20

PM FF(S) Change in Leadership

June 21

Army Birthday Ball



By Marge Hadbavny, Protocol Officer

Here’s to Toasting

With the Army’s 233 Birthday Ball right around the corner, it’s a good time to reflect on the history of toasting.

The term “toast” comes from ancient Rome when the Senate ordered that their first emperor, Augustus, be honored with raised glasses at every meal. The senators dropped a piece of burnt bread into their wine as it masked the nasty flavors. This piece of bread was called tostus, meaning roasted or parched, and the name eventually came to mean the custom of honoring Augustus.

Gradually, toasting became a way of welcoming strangers and learning their names. Today, we generally save our toasts for formal dinners and weddings.

And as tradition holds, the military will make the first toast at the Army Birthday Ball this June to the President of the United States and conclude with a toast to the ladies.

- Emily Post (1872 –1960)



TEAM ORLANDO IN PICTURES



U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub

Employees from PEO STRI, along with many other members of Team Orlando, participated in the 14th Annual 5K Corporate Run hosted by Insurance Office of America at the Florida Citrus Bowl Stadium April 24. This race is Orlando's largest 5K and the second largest in the State of Florida with 10,631 registered corporate runners and walkers. More than \$60,000 was donated to the events' charities.



University of Central Florida Photo

Keith Gardner and Ron Burke, both engineers at PEO STRI, participated in the Engineering Futures Forum held at Wekiva High School April 18. Approximately 110 students attended the event created to get them excited about and interested in math and science. The University of Central Florida periodically sponsors these forums at local schools and PEO STRI's engineers support each of the events.

CLEARANCE TRAINER... *Continued from page 1*

students through the scenarios seeing how well and how fast the drivers, commanders and gunners detect, identify and react to threat situations.

Training specialist and trainer instructor Jason Algarin of Raydon Corporation is at the control station.

"We create scenarios that make our Soldiers think and then react to different situations," Algarin said. He listed some of the situations as "crowds disturbing the patrolling Soldiers, Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), hoax IEDs and insurgents with small arms and rocket-propelled grenades." The scenarios get complicated and furious and fast.

Even observers in the trailers may have their heartbeat raised while watching the action as the three Soldiers in one RG-13 and the three in the other gun truck turn and jerk their heads to one side, lean to that side, and lurch in any one of 360 degrees, all simultaneously. The "gunfire" is loud.

Soldier operators may discover they have run out of ammunition and need to order a re-supply, then conduct that re-supply.

A Soldier conversing in his squad's after-action report session said, "This training shows how effective you need to be to communicate. This is the best situational training."

Algarin said, "We are stressing the need for command and control and communicating with each individual Soldier in the vehicle and also the other vehicles in the squad. You need to call on the radio to divide up responsibilities. You must know your exact location, using maps. The last thing you want is to get lost. You must also be very aware of what you are looking for."

Staff Sgt. Jason Sanchez, from Corpus Christi, Texas, and a combat engineer with the 836th Engineer Company of the Texas Army National Guard, who is training in support of deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom, said, "You must exercise command and control over several elements and be accurate in what you are saying, including in rehearsal, so you will give your guys confidence to maneuver. This simulator is as close to a live exercise as you can get."

Sanchez, a 12-year member of the Army, said, "You must move, communicate, move, interrogate, move, do your mission, move, wait, destroy, move, wait, and be careful."

Algarin said the biggest threat to U.S. and coalition forces in Iraq and Afghanistan is IEDs. "You must find them. Much of your mission is to provide safe passage for military supply routes for coalition forces and also local area civilians."

Algarin also noted, "The Soldiers we have been training on this simulator love the training. They love it because it is a real-world scenario."

The simulator provides quality training that eliminates the need for fuel, ammunition, smoke grenades and artillery simulators. "Just insert the Soldier into the simulator," Algarin said.

PEO STRI, in collaboration with Raydon, developed the trainer specifically to prepare Soldiers to operate mine-protected clearance vehicles.

According to a Raydon news release, Raydon President Kevin Freese said, "The development of mine-clearing vehicles into the theater of operations has proven to be invaluable to ensuring the survivability of our troops that might encounter complex ambushes and IEDs. Getting our troops trained to use this new technology is a critical need for our Warfighters on the ground."

Freese also said, "The current terrain in Iraq is littered with IEDs and mines, which not only kill and maim Soldiers, but also innocent civilians. Now, and in years to come, these mine-protected vehicles will continue to prove a vital element to protect individuals from these hidden explosives." ■



INTRODUCING
Lt. Col. Rick Stroyan
 THE
PEO STRI
 EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



By Kristen Dooley, PEO STRI Public Affairs Officer

Lt. Col. Rick Stroyan, PEO STRI operations officer for Program Manager Field Operations, returned May 2 from his deployment to Kuwait. While there, he was responsible for managing all the activities and issues related to training devices and simulations in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait.

“All of the PEO STRI deployed systems are having a direct impact on the success of the operations in Southwest Asia,” Stroyan noted. “One Soldier commented that his training at the Medical Simulation Training Center helped save the life of his buddy who was seriously wounded in combat in Iraq.”

Stroyan also said that he received an e-mail from a command sergeant major who stated that the Mobile Military Operations in Urban Terrain, commonly known as the Mobile MOUT, training saved the life of Soldiers while clearing houses in Afghanistan.

“I am sure there are many more examples,” Stroyan continued, “we never hear about that validate the importance of the PEO STRI mission. One aspect of the training we provide that is often overlooked is the

confidence Soldiers take into combat after training on our systems.”

Stroyan’s hard work during his deployment was recognized at the PEO STRI Town Hall meeting June 12 when he won the Employee of the Quarter award.

“Your leadership and management helped to train more than 21,000 coalition Soldiers in addition to a significant number of the Iraqi Army supporting the Global War on Terrorism,” Dr. Jim Blake, program executive officer, wrote in a letter to Stroyan recognizing his accomplishments. “Your actions improved theater-wide combat readiness, increased combat effectiveness and saved lives.”

Although Stroyan said it feels great to be home and reunited with his family, he also said that if he was called upon, he would deploy again tomorrow.

While home, however, Stroyan mentioned that will enjoy not having to deal with sand storms and being able to see trees. In his free time, Stroyan can be found fishing or playing golf.

As for the future, Stroyan said he will “continue to serve our great country and grow as a leader.” ■

DID YOU KNOW...?

Lt. Col. Stroyan was stationed at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, located on the Iraq-Kuwait border in the Udari Desert. Camp Buehring was named after Lt. Col. Charles H. Buehring, a special forces officer who grew up in Winter Springs, Fla., and was killed in the line of duty in the early stages of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Hails and Farewells

Hails

Richard Cooksey	PM Field OPS
Maria Cotto	Acq. Center
John Farrell	PM ConSim
Patrick Garrity	PM ConSim
Douglas Rees Hoover	PSG
Deborah Mattingly	Acq. Center
Caryn McGraw	Acq. Center
Manuel Mendez	PM TRADE
David Qualls	PM CATT
Julie Tran	PM Field OPS

Farewells

Ronald Dillon	Acq. Center
Terri Ferguson	Acq. Center
Susan Jaimungal	Acq. Center
Cori Lampe	Acq. Center
Lisa Parker	Acq. Center
Howard Rhodes	Acq. Center
Sylvia Salinas	PSG
Milton Washington	Acq. Center
David Yarde	Acq. Center



INSIDE PEO STRI

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