



# U.S. Army Armament Research, Development, and Engineering Center (ARDEC) Update

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### ARDEC Mission Life Cycle Engineering & Support





... Providing Over 90% of the Army's Lethality

# **ARDEC** at a Glance

- Established "Center of Mass" for Armament Systems and Munitions for Joint Services
- Proven track-record supporting transition of technologies to the field; since early FY 05.....
  - >28 Material Releases (MR) (>40 since early FY03)
  - >34 Urgent MR (>50 since early FY03)
- ARDEC Personnel ~ 3000; <u>~900 new hires</u> since FY99
- >\$100M invested in "World Class" experimental R&D facilities since mid-90's; Additional \$75M planned
- Strong partnerships with Industry, Academia, and other Government agencies.
- In-house rapid prototyping initiatives demonstrating new desired capabilities, supporting production prove-out and initial fielding demands
- >\$125M Tech Base portfolio addressing Joint needs

#### 2004 & 2006 Army Large R&D Lab of the Year









# **R&D** and Experimentation Facilities **Major Examples**





- Maximum 50 TNT equivalent capability
- 100m indoor warhead test range

\$11.7M



2 Lab grade elevators for sensor dev

3 Target locations; 150m, 400m, & 1500m



 100 & 300m indoor ranges Environmental chambers



- Integrated S/W & H/W development/integration
- Multi-platform SOSI highbay capability

# New Facilities Under Construction Breaking "Old" Grounds



- High-g test Munition/Components to 20K g's
- 155mm capability (current); Only one in existence
- Navy 5", 120mm mortar, and EM Gun planned



- 33,000 ft2 Engineering Offices & Laboratories
- Pilot manufacturing facility
- Energetic stowage



- 45,000 ft2 Propellant Pilot Plant
- Characterization Laboratories
- Magazine Storage / Offices



- 28,000 ft2 Melt Pour Operations & Engineering
- Climate Controlling Machining
- Explosive Pressing, Cast Cure, & X-Ray



#### **Urgent Fieldings** Some Recent Examples





 Door Breaching Munition fired from M16A2 and M4 with standard 5.56mm M855 rounds. 300 tactical/1250 training rounds fielded

#### M113A2 Rapid Entry Vehicle (REV)



Non-lethal response under armor with

- 4 modified M870 shotguns
- 6 Modular Crowd Control Munitions
- 4 vehicles fielded

M927 105mm High Explosive Rocket Assist (HERA) Cartridge

#### • Extended range capability to 16km+ to meet critical mission need

- Combination new production and M913 conversion yielded ~3600 cartridges
- ~700 cartridges fielded



# **Rapid Prototyping Initiatives**

**Examples of "Tech Push" for Early User Demo's <u>AND</u> Support to Production Requirements** 



#### **Gunner's Protection Kits (GPKs)**





RG31 GPK

- Modified O-GPK
- ARDEC LRIP underway



<u>SOCOM GPK</u> • Expanded Requirements

ARDEC LRIP underway



Sculpted Transparent Armor

- Curved Transparent Armor
- Enhanced Situational Awareness
- Concept demo planned May 07



Engineering Boat (MK1) Survivability Enhancements

- Baseline Design Complete
- Prototype Demo Planned May 07
- LRIP Quantity Planned 3rdQ FY07



M1114 Objective GPK (O-GPK)

- Concept Demo in 6 Months
- ARDEC Level III TDP
- Depot Production for >15K GPKs



Stryker Cupula Shield

- PM Request
- Concept Demo in 90 days
- ARDEC LRIP to OIF (7 Brigades)

#### MAJOR DESIGN GOALS

- Maximize protection level & area
- Minimize weight
- Maintain situational awareness
- Use existing attachment points
- Utilize proven ballistic materials
- Minimize number of components
- Interface with standard weapon mounts
- Modularity

Close Coordination with Customers Key to an Integrated Solution for Survivability, Lethality, and Situational Awareness



# **Rapid Prototyping Initiatives**

**Examples of "Tech Push" for Early User Demo's <u>AND</u> Support to Production/Fielding Requirements** 



#### **Remote Armaments for Unmanned Platforms**



Picatinny LtWt Mount on TAGS
 ARDEC in-house developed mount

- ARDEC In-nouse developed mount
- <200lb weight class with M240/M249</li>
  3 mounts supporting customer demos



Obj NLOS Mortar Technology

- Elevating automated turret concept
- Demo on surrogate platforms FY07-09



"I'm ready to deploy with this unit and SWORDS"

- SGT, 1-3 Cavalry, 3BDE/3ID

Special Weapon Observation-Reconnaissance Direct Action System (SWORDS)

- Safety Confirmation Jun 06
- 3 Deployed to 3<sup>rd</sup> ID
- Urgent Material Release Underway

Key Design Challenges:

- Weight/Cube/Power
- Weapon Re-arm/Automation
- Integration on COTS platforms
- Communications
- Roof and internal structures
- No fire zones / motion inhibits
- Vehicle dynamics
- EMI

Valuable Lessons Learned on Design and Safety Considerations to Apply to Remote Armament Programs



Remote Armament Sys Tech

- Weapon designs specifically for unmanned platforms
- Ease of integration/functionality
- Concept demos FY08/09



# **Engineering Analysis/Evaluation**

Example of evaluation of system technology performance



#### **Evaluation of Acoustic Sniper Detection Systems**

• PURPOSE: Validate accuracy of vehicle mounted gunfire detection systems, both statically and on the move <u>against vendor stated performance specifications</u>

- Verify performance of system's ability to detect/locate sniper fire under various conditions
- Verify system robustness to false alarms
- Three-Phase Test at APG:
  - Stationary Open Field (Completed)
  - On the Move Open Field (Completed)
  - Stationary Urban Environment (May Jun)
- Emerging Results:
  - System tested provide varying degrees of detect and locate capabilities
  - In general, discrepancies exist between vendor claimed performance specifications and test results

 Specific platform testing requested by customers underway





SYSTEMS	MANUFACTURER
PD-Cue® 4 Corner	ΑΑΙ
PD-Cue® Tetrahedral	AAI
Ferret	MacDonald Detwiller & Associates
VM-GDS	01dB, Metravib
Boomerang v2.5	BBN Technologies
SNIPOS	Axcess Technologies
VAAPS/LWAS	Land Warrior Acoustic Systems
Red Owl	iRobot

#### **Testing Critical for Requirements Generation and Establishing TTPs**

# **Recent Tech Base Transitions** Major Examples-Weapons

#### LtWt 81mm Dismounted Mortar



- Joint Army/Navy Funded
- ~30% weight reduction (to <70lbs)</li>
- New Inconnel Tube Mat'l & Process
- Simpler, More Ergonomic Bi-Pod
- ~50% UPC reduction
- Transitioning to Prod ECP FY07

#### XM325 120mm Mortar Cannon



- 3 meter tube with screw block breech
- 8 km range with M900 series ammo
- Demonstrated 12 rpm firing rate (FCS Threshold Requirement)
- Transitioned to FCS Program at TRL 6

## **Engineering Design and Analysis**





Application of World-Class M&S Tools is Dramatically Enhancing the Way We Design and Assess Products/Processes



## Recent Tech Base Transitions Major Example-Ammunition



#### Line-of-Sight-Multi-Purpose (LOS-MP)





- Enhanced Lethality with One-Round against:
  - Concrete Wall
  - Earth and Timber Bunker
  - Lt Armor
  - Personnel
- LOS-MP TRL6 Exit Criteria met:
  - Defeated Double reinforced concrete wall with Hole size 30"x50" in <3 shots

1,1,1

- Demonstrated greater than threshold range (700m) with potential to meet objective capabilities (40-2000m)
- Transitioned to PM-MAS







1-Shot T-55 Defeat



2 Shots- Defeat DRC





**1 Shot Bunker Defeat** 

## **LOS-MP Design Process**



**Enabled TRL 6**  Initial conceptualization to meet requirements **Demo in 2 Years**  Definition of high risk process and long lead items • Define shortfalls of M&S: Fill gaps with test, experience Modeling/ Fragmentation **Configuration Pro IB** Simulation Structural analysis Target penetration CALE/PAFRAG FBD/ ANSYS CTH **IBHVG2** Engineer/Intralink 0 usec Failure in any model reiterates design process 100 µsec No iteration of Flight Performance design during Fragmentation ZvsX testina ! Verify Models Flight 3D numerical control Lethality Models performance **Pro Manufacture** CASRED/MPR3D/ PRODAS AJEM/MUVES DR concrete wall

#### Modeling and Simulation Saved \$6.8M and 27 Months

# MCS and Abrams Ammunition System Technologies (MAAST)





# In Summary....ARDEC/Picatinny...



- Established "Center of Mass" for Armament Systems and Munitions for Joint Services
- Proven track record of rapid transition of technology to the field
- Modernizing R&D facilities maintaining world-class capabilities
- Developing new concepts/technologies to enhance warfighter capabilities
- Demonstrating future warfighting capabilities today!

ARDEC/Picatinny.....

**Products, people, and processes enabling** our ultimate customer, the soldier, to "take care of business" throughout the spectrum of conflict!