
Conferences, Workshops & Symposia

THE 4TH ANNUAL NATIONAL VETERAN SMALL BUSINESS CONFERENCE AND EXPO

The Veteran Small Business Federal Interagency Council is proud to present the 4th Annual National Veteran Small Business Conference and Expo. This year's conference will be held at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, Nev., July 7-10, 2008. The conference is open to both government and non-government personnel. Conference topics will cover:

- Updates on veteran small business legislation
- Information on veteran small business programs throughout the federal government
- Networking with key federal government procurement decision makers
- Getting on the General Services Administration schedule
- Effective business development strategies and tactics
- Job sourcing
- Finance strategies for veteran-owned businesses
- Capacity and capability building through joint ventures and teaming
- Dynamic plenary and breakout sessions focused on achieving success with the federal and state government
- Strategies for increasing business opportunities
- Cutting-edge information on strategic procurement trends.

For more information, please call the conference hotline at 703-695-3220 or send an e-mail to info@nationalveteransconference.com.

45TH ANNUAL AEROSPACE AND DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

The 45th Annual Aerospace and Defense Contract Management Conference will be held Aug. 4-5, 2008, at the Hyatt Regency Orange County in Garden Grove, Calif. This year, the conference will feature top-level panel discussions in the areas of current legislation and government trends that affect all levels of contracting. Sessions will be led by industry leaders, and participants will have the opportunity to explore a variety of educational topics and earn up to 12 hours of continuing education credit.

For more information, contact Michelle Bourke, director of meetings, at 571-382-1135 or bourke@ncmahq.org, or Rita Rose, meeting planner, at 571-382-1108 or rose@ncmahq.org. Watch the National Contract Management Association Web site at www.ncmahq.org/

[meetings/ADC08/](#) > for updated scheduling, speakers, special events, and more.

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF LOGISTICS—SOLE 2008

The International Society of Logistics (SOLE) presents the 43rd Annual International Logistics Conference and Exhibition at the Caribe Royale Orlando, Orlando, Fla., Aug. 17-21, 2008. Representatives from government, industry, business, and academia will be in attendance. With a conference theme of "Logistics Transformation and the Global Economy," the symposium will, from both strategic and operational perspectives, examine the issues and relationships surrounding logistics transformation. Participants will focus on the role of logistics, both as a driver of economic security within the global economy and as a key enabler to the achievement of collaborative information exchange, human capital development, information transparency, asset visibility, industrial cohesiveness and productivity, penetrating global market share, technology capitalization, operating footprint maximization, inter/intra-enterprise integration, and globalization.

For additional information, contact John Erb, SOLE 2008 deputy chair, at 703-246-0756 or john.erb@gdit.com, or contact SOLE Headquarters at 301-459-8446.

UNITED STATES SCHEDULED TO HOST THE 2008 NATO STANDARDIZATION CONFERENCE

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Standardization Conference will be held Sept. 15-18, 2008, in the Washington D.C., metropolitan area. In conjunction with the NATO Standardization Agency and Allied Command Transformation, the United States will co-host this exclusive conference, which brings together practitioners from North America and Europe to present new approaches and ideas for standardization within NATO, to foster integration of the latest developments in allied transformation, and to facilitate the practical application of standardization in support of the NATO Alliance.

The content that will be presented at this conference is most suitable for Department of Defense military personnel and civilian employees, as well as DoD contractor personnel from NATO member countries who are required to have a fundamental knowledge of current and future NATO standardization activities. The conference is also of benefit to representatives from civilian standards developers who would like to gain more knowledge of standardization as it relates to future cooperative agreements with NATO.

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Attendance is limited and may be subject to eligibility requirements. For information about registration, registration fees, and hotel accommodations, contact the Defense Standardization Program Office at 703-767-6872 or visit < www.dla.dsp.mil >.

ARMY NEWS SERVICE (FEB. 13, 2008) ARMY DEMONSTRATES TRAINING TOOLS TO CONGRESS

J.D. Leipold

WASHINGTON—Several of the Army's latest techno training tools were displayed on Capitol Hill, including a life-size medical mannequin that can blink, tear, salivate, and even show allergic reactions; and a real-time language translator soldiers wear on their wrist that will speak for them.

Sponsored by Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation, the closed-to-the-public demonstrations were open to members of Congress and

their staffs to experience first-hand interactive military simulations and training devices that currently prepare warfighters for their missions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Part of the Medical Simulation Training Center—the life-size, full-weight human mannequin—was a highlight of the event. This combat casualty care instruction mannequin represented the Army's standardized medical training program and is intended to reduce the die-of-wounds rate on the battlefield by providing soldiers with skills to save the wounded.

Through hands-on instruction, soldiers practice intubations, tracheotomies, inserting catheters, applying splints, treating open chest wounds, and inserting intravenous solutions.

Maj. Dave Thompson, assistant product manager for the medical simulation training center program at PEO-STRI said the virtual patient is tethered to a power and fluid



In a field demo at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La., a soldier demonstrates how the Vcommunicator iPod-sized translator device fits on the wrist but doesn't interfere with his weapon.

Photo courtesy Vcom 3D

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supply, which is what allows it to breathe, bleed, and to react to the medical assistance being rendered.

The drawback to this “bleed-breathe” mannequin is that training on it is limited to classrooms. During urban field training, such as assaulting a building, dead-weight mannequins are used so when a soldier comes across a “casualty,” he transports it back to the aid station where he looks up at the instructor for guidance and then proceeds with the medical attention.

“We’re working with our developmental partners to develop a tetherless capability, which will be a self-contained mannequin that we envision can be used for extraction in field training,” said Thompson. “That would make it even more realistic, so that a medic or combat lifesaver actually has to reach back and check on that patient during the extraction phase.”

While the untethered mannequin is in development, all soldiers will experience the tethered mannequin at one of 18 centers worldwide and become combat lifesaver-certified.

“The surgeon general has determined that what is extremely important on the battlefield is the platinum 10 minutes after wounding—the combat lifesaver can respond to that,” Thompson said. “If you think about a platoon that only has one medic and that medic is to handle that entire platoon of soldiers, but if you can train infantrymen, artillerymen, MPs to do that initial lifesaving, then you can augment what that medic can do tenfold.”

Aiding Well-rounded Communication

While the medical training plays out when soldiers are wounded or hurt in combat zones, the Vcommunicator

Mobile is assisting soldiers with communication efforts and aiding them to engage with Iraqi and Afghani populations as soldiers conduct operations.

Vcommunicator Mobile is a one-way translation device configured from an Apple iPod personal entertainment system. It’s a multi-functional, multimedia language and culture learning tool strapped onto the wrist that provides soldiers the ability to converse in Arabic, Kurdish, Dari, and Pashtu while also portraying correct cultural mannerisms, and it may be used for training during downtime.

Presently, there are roughly 300 iPod Nano- or classic-sized Vcommunicators in theater being used by the 10th Mountain Division’s 1st and 4th Brigade Combat Teams at one per eight soldiers.

Ernie Bright, operations manager for Vcom 3D and builder of the device, said the company first started fielding the units in October after training demos at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La., where the communicator was put to the test with real native speakers in village scenarios. “We took feedback from the soldiers and started incorporating that into the device,” he said.



The largest photovoltaic solar power plant in the United States is becoming a reality at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. The solar arrays can produce 15 megawatts of power for the Air Force. U.S. Air Force photo by Paul Ridgway

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Strapped onto the wrist, the small digital screen can display a 3-D avatar that comes up as a military character, which then shows the soldier how to speak one of the four languages phonetically and how to make the appropriate matching gestures. The soldier can also display the written language and have the dialogue transmitted out loud for him. If the soldiers are seeking someone, a photo can be displayed.

Soldiers may choose from a list of 20 missions, ranging from basic conversations covering a wide range of missions, from raids to medical assistance to detainee processing.

"This device provides soldiers with phrases like 'Get down on the ground,' which is a rough phrase; but there are also phrases like, 'May I give your children these gifts?'" Bright said. He said the device helps soldiers be more well-rounded when communicating on missions.

AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS (MARCH 5, 2008) ENERGY FORUM SHOWCASES ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENTS

ALEXANDRIA, Va.—Approximately 500 Air Force, government, and industry leaders gathered to discuss current and future energy and environmental programs during the Service's second annual Energy Forum March 3. The event was divided up into numerous forums with topics ranging from facility energy management to alternative fuels to the possibility of hosting nuclear power plants at Air Force installations in the future.

Representatives from both military and industry organizations sat on panels, facilitating discussion among the attendees.

"[The forum] is an excellent opportunity for industry to meet and talk with senior government officials about one of the most important issues facing the United States military and our great nation," said Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne. "We are exploring how to capitalize on the knowledge and creativity of the industry to develop new energy projects on our bases."

"We've found that we share many of the same challenges [as major industry businesses do] in maintaining our operational or primary mission edge while balancing investment in infrastructure," said Bill Anderson, the assistant secretary of the Air Force for installations, environment and logistics, as well as the Air Force's senior energy executive.

Such similarities made it easy for all participants to compare lessons learned and exchange ideas as to how to incorporate energy and environmentally sound changes and processes at all organizational levels.

"We are transforming our business processes, infrastructure, and technology to enable us to operate our installations within reduced funding levels," Anderson said.

Many of the Air Force's recent accomplishments regarding energy and the environment were highlighted at the event, such as completing C-17 Globemaster III and B-52 Stratofortress flights on synthetic fuel and flicking the switch on Nellis Air Force Base's solar panel field in Nevada, which is North America's largest solar photovoltaic power system.



Col. Paul E. Funk II (center), commander, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, talks to members of the Army Science Board in a meeting at Fort Hood, Texas, Feb. 27 about some of his brigade's achievements while deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom Rotation 06-08.
Photo by Staff Sgt. Jon Cupp, USA

"These efforts are the means by which we are meeting the enormous challenges of today and the foreseeable future, and they ultimately enable us to sustain and modernize the world's best air, space, and cyberspace force," Anderson said. "These transformational changes will help us maintain our focus on our Air Force's three overarching priorities: Winning today's fight, taking care of our people, and preparing for tomorrow's challenges."

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ARMY NEWS SERVICE (MARCH 6, 2008) **ARMY SCIENCE BOARD MEETS WITH IRONHORSE BRIGADE TO DISCUSS IRAQ**

Staff Sgt. Jon Cupp, USA

FORT HOOD, Texas—Members of the Army Science Board—an advisory panel of experts from various military, technical, and scientific backgrounds—met with senior leadership from the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division Feb. 27 in a series of meetings to discuss lessons learned from the brigade's recent deployment, Operation Iraqi Freedom Rotation 06-08. The brigade returned from Iraq in January.

According to Maj. John Garcia, information operations officer for the Ironhorse Brigade, the Army Science Board is made up of unpaid volunteers and is led by members who were formerly affiliated with the military to include a few retired Army generals. “[The advisory board] helps to better improve operations in Iraq by assisting Army components, such as brigades, in planning future operations,” said Garcia.

Through studies of operations, the board examines how well and to what effect brigades utilize such things as their computer software tools for information sharing, intelligence, and other technical aspects of combat operations. They also examine how well brigades and other echelons use joint capabilities to achieve their mission.

The board talks to senior leaders about what challenges soldiers face when using certain tools such as new software, what worked well, and if the equipment worked as it was intended.

During their meeting, Army Science Board members also examined how well the brigade brought the diplomatic, information, military, and economic elements of national power to bear against the enemy.

“They have a keen ear and work exclusively with a lot of senior Department of Defense Officials—they have a lot of interaction with people like Vice Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Richard Cody,” said Hendersonville, N.C. native Maj. Scott Kirkpatrick, an Ironhorse Brigade operations planner. “They will take all their input and lessons learned from the study, consolidate it, and then present it to Gen. Cody.”

In their studies of deployments, the Army Science Board examines a deployment from the very beginning to include pre-deployment training to the end of the rotation. “They might make recommendations saying that we may

need more training in some areas or suggestions of more organization in other areas so that we can have success in future operations downrange,” Kirkpatrick added.

Along with hearing from the Ironhorse Brigade senior leadership, board members also received input from the brigade's battalion commanders, company commanders, and some platoon sergeants.

Those who attended the meeting said it was a worthwhile experience that will definitely help to improve future deployments to Iraq. “The meetings went very well, and there was good productive interaction between the board and the members of the brigade staff,” said Kirkpatrick. “Some of the most important comments came from company commanders and the platoon sergeants who made a lot of impact with some meaningful comments.”

“It was a great opportunity for everyone to relay their experiences,” said Maj. John Garcia, the 1st Brigade Combat Team's information operations officer. “The Army Science Board members are very well in tune with what's going on in the Army, and their feedback and recommendations will prove invaluable for future operations.”

Cupp writes for 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs.

ARMY NEWS SERVICE (APRIL 11, 2008) **FCS LAND WARRIOR: VALUE ADDED TO ARMY**

Jacqueline M. Hames

WASHINGTON—The future of Army combat technology was demonstrated on Capitol Hill, exhibiting several systems that enable soldiers to fight better, faster, and most importantly, safer.

The Future Combat Systems Brigade Combat Team presented several static displays of future Army technology and provided a live demonstration of the Land Warrior system and key corresponding equipment: Urban Unattended Ground Sensors, Small Unmanned Ground Vehicles, and Class I Unmanned Aerial Vehicles.

The demonstration highlighted the ability of LW to provide more survivability to the soldier and its capability to be rapidly deployed, Col. Patrick L. Fetterman explained. As part of FCS overall, the demonstration explained how new systems would diminish the gaps in current combat technology through providing situational awareness previously unachieved.

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Land Warrior is a modular fighting system using state-of-the-art computer, communications, and global positioning technologies to digitally link soldiers on the battlefield. The system is carried like a backpack and has a helmet-mounted display used to see and send text messages, maps, and imagery.

Command Sgt. Maj. Phil Pich, the primary presenter for the LW demonstration, said the four distinct advantages of LW were situational awareness, voice and text messaging capability, maps and imagery, and the ability to change graphics on the move.

Pich indicated colored map icons on a television screen representing a soldier's helmet-mounted display. These icons are used to pinpoint enemy location or indicate where friendly soldiers and equipment are positioned in real time. Information on the positions of friend and enemy alike help the soldier to perform the mission better, faster, and with minimal risk to the individual.

"[LW] gives us situational awareness that the enemy does not have, so we can be much faster than the enemy and capture or kill him," Pich said. "This system has made us

so fast on the battlefield that my units—attached to other organizations that are out there—they have to tell us to stop and slow down."

The use of a Class I UAV enables the soldier to scout areas such as rooftops or to see inside windows of suspicious cars without putting individuals in danger. U-UGS are used for situational awareness like UAVs, as well as perimeter defense, surveillance, and target acquisition. SUGVs, or iRobots, are capable of military operations in urban terrain, sewers, tunnels, and caves.

All of these mechanical devices are linked with LW, providing the soldier a live feed of combat information.

"We always know where we're at, we always know where we are going," Sgt. Curtis Pitman said. Pitman is a combat veteran who used LW on the battlefield and praises the system as a high-value asset.

"As far as the fog of war goes, this is the most important tool we have," said Staff Sgt. James Young, also a combat veteran experienced with the LW system. LW is durable, extremely easy to use, and can be learned in less than

24 hours. "These guys over here, talking about Land Warrior, are guys who have worn it for 14 months in combat. They are saying, repetitively, [that] this is a huge value added to us. We want it, we use it, we save lives with it," Fetterman said.

Other major technologies and equipment with displays were the Non-Line-of-Sight Launch System, Manned Ground Vehicles, Non-Line-of-Sight Cannon, and the Multifunctional Utility/Logistics and Equipment, or MULE vehicles.

For more information, see < www.fcs.army.mil >.



Command Sgt. Maj. Phil Pich indicates map icons representing equipment and target positions in the field. The map and icons appear in the soldier's helmet-mounted display as part of the Land Warrior system and provide situational awareness.

Photo by C. Todd Lopez