People, Teamwork, Partnership, Leadership

strengthening our link with the warfighter

Making a Difference Every Day

ASC
ACQUISITION SUPPORT CENTER

The U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center (ASC) is a field-operating agency under the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics & Technology (ASAALT)/ Army Acquisition Executive. ASC serves the entire Army acquisition, logistics and technology workforce by providing information on acquisition career management and acquisition-related matters such as policy interpretation, resource requirements, personnel issues and other strategic topics. It has more than 60,000 military and civilian members.

Army acquisition plays a critical role as a force-multiplier in defending America and protecting her fighting forces. ASC's acquisition professionals provide collective expertise and abilities to research, manage, develop, test, evaluate, contract, field and sustain our warfighting systems. ASC will continue to provide our warfighters the materiel they need to fight with greater lethality, survivability and sustainability — regardless of where the battlefield or mission takes them.

People, Teamwork, Partnership, Leadership —

Making a Difference Every Day

ASC takes pride in its military and civilian workforce's accomplishments. We understand that the key to the warfighters' success on the battlefield lies partly in our hands. We accept this challenge along with the responsibility to provide superior equipment, services and support as demonstrated in the good news stories in this brochure.

"This is the first time that we have used a large scale set of pre-positioned equipment to fight a war."

General Paul J. Kern
Commanding General
U.S. Army Materiel Command

Pre-Positioned Stock

Camp Arifjan, 45 miles south of Kuwait, is the Army's center for logistics and maintenance in the Iraqi theater. Everything our troops use — from vehicles to machine guns — comes through there. During operations, there isn't enough time to load planes with a division's worth of equipment. That's why the Army's acquisition professionals purchase equipment and supplies in advance and store them in potential areas of operation. We do this to ensure that our soldiers will have mission-capable equipment at the right place at the right time.

"The MLRS provides the Army an all-weather, indirect, area fire weapon system to strike high-payoff targets at all depths of the tactical battlefield."

MG Larry J. Dodgen
Commanding General
U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command

Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) Launcher

The new M270A1 MLRS launcher changed the accuracy, speed and depth at which targets could be attacked during *Operation Iraqi Freedom*. It gave the V Corps Artillery Headquarters the capability to fire GPS-aided missiles and influence battles at significantly greater ranges and accuracy. The MLRS delivered large volumes of firepower against critical, time-sensitive targets. Advanced logistical support enabled the M270A1 to maintain an operational readiness rate in excess of 90 percent throughout the war.

"Team C4IEWS helped revolutionize the conduct of warfare; as a result, U.S. forces owned the night."

BG (P) Michael R. Mazzucchi
Program Executive Officer
Command, Control and Communications-Tactical

Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors (C4IEWS)

Team C4IEWS provided an array of technological systems for *Operation Iraqi Freedom*. They included the Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System, which allowed commanders to coordinate assets from positions far afield of the battlespace; the Prophet tactical sensor system enhanced communication capabilities; and the Blue Force Tracking and Force XXI Battle Command Brigade-and-Below (FBCB2) systems, which linked satellites, communications equipment, vehicles, aircraft and weapons in a seamless digital network to provide a continuous battlefield picture. As a result, our soldiers were safer and our battle strategy was based on better intelligence delivered faster than ever before.

Portable Power Systems

"To meet the energy demands of future DoD concepts and missions, new energy conversion technologies will be needed."

Dr. Valerie Browning
Program Manager
Palm Power Program
Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)

Single-use batteries are used in great quantities by our soldiers, resulting in extraordinary acquisition and disposal costs. To reduce costs, technologies like fuel cells, miniature internal combustion engines and direct energy conversion techniques are being considered. Through the Army's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program, Mesoscopic Devices LLC developed miniature devices that enable compact battery charges to efficiently provide very small fuel flow rates in highly compact packages. For example, using this technology in miniature generators would be up to 10 times lighter than the single-use batteries they replace. This project was sponsored by the U.S. Army Research Office, which won an SBIR Quality Award.

"The Army's tracking system gets weapons and supplies to where they need to be."

Vincent Sabatino
Civilian Executive Assistant/Acting Commander
Sierra Army Depot
U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command

Sierra Army Depot

Sierra Army Depot serves as a rapid delivery logistics facility directly supporting warfighters. Since October 2002, it has shipped 2,240 trucks, 623 rail cars, 44 military aircraft, 187 commercial aircraft and 29 ships with materiel to the Iraqi theater. They have also sent 3 hospitals; bulk fuel tank assemblies, mine detectors, water chillers and more than 32,000 medical supply line items. All shipments were equipped with radio frequency tracking tags to streamline the process of getting the right equipment to the right place. To achieve this level of performance, the Depot converted to 7-day, multi-shift operations.

Rapid Equipping Force (REF)

"We are fielding promising technologies like robots, which are a perfect way to increase the safety for soldiers."

COL Bruce Jette
Director, Rapid Equipping Force
Vice Chief of Staff of the Army

The REF team seeks out operational in-theater needs and gets promising new equipment and technology into the hands of warfighters on an accelerated basis. Their successes include the Combat Robotic Scout that conducts remote inspection of high-risk areas — more than 20 are deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq today. A well-cam reduces risk when soldiers are looking for hidden weapons in wells, and a handheld phrase translator helps U.S. soldiers communicate with the indigenous population of foreign countries. Time on the ground in-theater is an essential aspect of the REF concept. This small team of acquisition professionals finds out what the soldiers need to win and make it happen.

When the U.S. Army Reserve's 704th Chemical Company and the Georgia Army National Guard's 878th Engineer Battalion were called up for *Operation Iraqi Freedom*, many of their chemical agent monitors were not mission capable. With the company's Direct Support unit already on the ground in Iraq, the staff of the Monitors, Alarms and Detectors Team stepped in to make the repairs themselves. Even though the task was atypical, they were all anxious to have this opportunity to demonstrate their support for our troops overseas.

Chemical Agent Monitors

"Our detectors and monitors ensured a safe operational environment for troops during Operation Iraqi Freedom."

Jim Zarzycki
Technical Director
U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center
Research, Development & Engineering Command

"There are three take-aways so far. First, killing our own is the worst thing we can do. Second, Blue Force Tracking is a winner. And, third, new Blue Force Tracking requirements and acquisitions are forthcoming as a result of the Iraqi conflict."

COL James Shufelt
Combat Identification Assessment Division
Joint Chiefs of Staff

Blue Force Tracking System

Blue Force Tracking and FBCB2 helped increase battlefield situational awareness during *Operation Iraqi Freedom*. The system links satellites, sensors, communications equipment, vehicles, aircraft and weapons in a seamless digital network to provide a continuous, all-weather battlefield picture. More than 1,200 tracking systems were fielded during recent engagements, mainly on combat platforms like the Bradley Fighting Vehicle and Abrams tank. They were used for a wide range of operational purposes including planning and conducting offensive operations, passing lines and tracking resupply convoys from Kuwait.

LOGCAP uses a team approach to provide services for which the Army no longer has organic resources. Contractors are brought in to augment troops during wartime to provide food, laundry, shower, latrine and power generation services, including the set-up and maintenance of base camps in places like Djibouti, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Jordan and most recently in Kuwait and Iraq. With contractors providing these basic services, the Army can concentrate on what it does best — fight and win our Nation's wars.

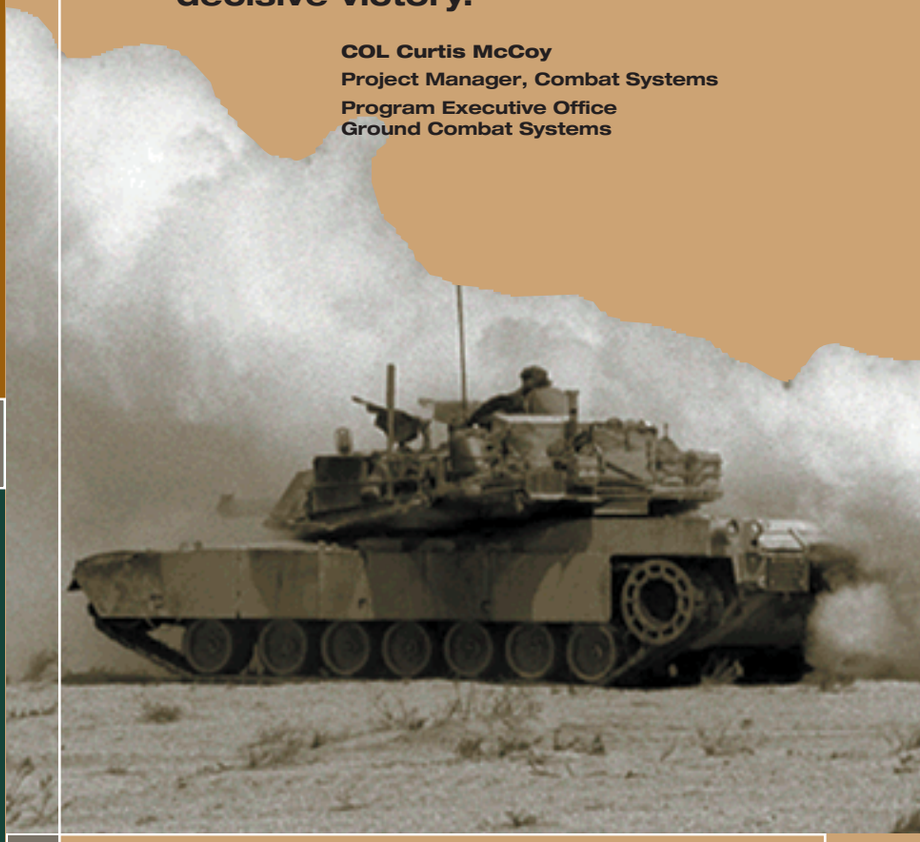
Logistics Civil Augmentation Program (LOGCAP)

"We're working hard and fast to get troops a hot shower and better meals."

Charles Smith
Director of Contracting
U.S. Army Field Support Command
U.S. Army Materiel Command

"Abrams protects soldiers and provides the lethal edge for decisive victory."

COL Curtis McCoy
Project Manager, Combat Systems
Program Executive Office
Ground Combat Systems



Abrams Tank

Project Manager Combat Systems takes pride in providing world-class equipment to the Army, allowing them to achieve decisive battlefield victory. In just 5 months, they deployed field service representatives to support soldiers in Iraq, and provided 3 replacement M1A2 tanks to the 3rd Armored Calvary Regiment prior to their deployment from Fort Carson, CO. The Abrams tanks provided the Regiment's soldiers with the lethality, survivability and staying power to successfully close with and destroy enemy forces on the battlefield.

“We fielded this system in 9 months, not 3 years, and it’s saving lives in Iraq.”

LTC Yancey R. Williams
Product Manager, CHIMS
Program Executive Office Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors

Counterintelligence/Human Intelligence Management Systems (CHIMS)

The acquisition professionals at Product Manager (PM)-CHIMS compressed a 3-year fielding schedule into 9 months to deliver CHIMS to units supporting operations in Iraq. CHIMS enables collection teams to gather, analyze and forward critical intelligence on enemy activities — including information gleaned from documents, investigations and reports on enemy operations and troop movements. There are an estimated 750 such systems currently in use in Iraq, and more than 1,000 soldiers are trained to use them. Good intel saves lives, hastens response time and ensures mission success.

SPC Jason Ashline took a round directly over his heart during *Operation Anaconda* and lived to tell about it because of the Interceptor body armor he was issued. With little need for body armor in peacetime, acquisition professionals had to quickly obtain an exigency contract to surge the production of ceramic plates that serve as body armor when it appeared that U.S. forces would be deploying to Iraq. Three companies pulled out all stops in response to the Army’s requirements. This quick action on the part of the Army and industry saved lives and ensured mission success.

Interceptor Body Armor

“Soldiers are coming home alive because of the Interceptor body armor.”

David Nelson
Deputy Product Manager, Clothing and Individual Equipment
Project Manager Soldier Sensors & Equipment

Apache Main Rotor Blade Fold System

"The blade fold system saves space and time. It's mission-critical when a situation requires immediate action from the world's toughest combat aircraft."

Bob Hunt
Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command

The Apache PM's office developed a Main Rotor Blade Fold System that allows for the quick loading and unloading of six AH-64D Apache Longbow aircraft aboard single C5 aircraft — instead of the normal two. The blade system enables rapid deployment and allows all six helicopters, their equipment and personnel to be transported on one aircraft. A soldier team can unfold the blades in approximately 40 minutes.

"Army Safety Center statistics show that an automatic reserve parachute opener might have prevented almost one-third of airborne fatalities between 1974 and 1999."

Bill Millitte
Project Officer
U.S. Army Soldier Systems Center

For paratroopers, having a reliable backup parachute is critical, especially if there are malfunctions on the primary chute. While Automatic Opening Devices are available commercially, there was nothing similar for the military. The U.S. Army Natick Soldier Center sponsored this project through the Army's SBIR Program. Cybernet Systems Corporation developed the Automatic Opening Device to prevent static line parachute failures and canopy malfunctions.

Parachute Automatic Opening Device

“We can lower a medic down into a minefield to pick up an injured person. It’s a lot faster and safer than the old internal hoist.”

SGT 1st Class Gary Volkman
126th Medical Company, Air Ambulance
California National Guard

HH-60L Black Hawk Helicopter

PM Utility Helicopters reconfigured the HH-60L Black Hawk helicopter for medical evacuation. It can carry a 6-member medical team to the front lines and convert to evacuate wounded soldiers or transport cargo to the battlefield. Conversion can be done in less than 2 minutes without removing or replacing any equipment. The interior includes an on-board oxygen-generating system, the latest infrared and navigational capabilities and much more. The HH-60L Black Hawk made its debut in Afghanistan where it helped with medevacs that saved soldiers’ lives.

The U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command sponsored a non-metallic landmine detection project to develop new sensor technologies, sophisticated signal processing and recognition techniques so mines can be safely found and deactivated. Scientific Systems Company, Inc., through the Army’s SBIR Program, developed an automatic mine detection software tool that can positively identify landmines that lead to their safe destruction or removal. The tool uses sophisticated object recognition techniques that can be adapted to diverse environments and operating systems. Hardware upgrades can be accomplished independently of the tool, enabling multiple manufacturers to use the product.

Non-Metallic Landmine Detection Software

“The radar in the mine detector lets us see density changes in the ground; that is the difference between finding pieces of scrap metal, or an actual mine.”

SPC Gwinn Alva
Combat Engineer
C Company, 27th Engineer Battalion
U.S. Army

Advanced Technology & Research Corporation developed a control system environment and diagnostic toolkit that supports the RCS for the Army's SBIR Program. With the toolkit, RCS has access into complex operations and multiple viewpoints that disclose prevailing conditions in plain terms and in 3-D graphic displays. This increases the developer's effectiveness, allows for smaller development teams and creates a faster turnaround of reliable automated systems like unmanned aircraft and vehicles, robot welders and factory automation. To date, 763 units have been purchased and are in use across the Army.

Real Time Control Systems (RCS)

"Speeding new technologies to the battlefield has the potential to revolutionize combat operations."

MG (P) Joseph L. Yakovac
Program Executive Officer
Ground Combat Systems

Visit the ASC Web site for more "good news" stories.

To submit a story, please visit the Web site at http://asc.rdaisa.army.mil/goodnews

ASC takes pride in its military and civilian workforce's accomplishments.

Program Executive Offices

PEO, Air, Space and Missile Defense
PEO, Ammunition
PEO, Aviation
JPEO, Chemical and Biological Defense
PEO, Combat Support & Combat Service Support
PEO, Command, Control and Communications Tactical (C3T)
PEO, Ground Combat Systems (GCS)
PEO, Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors (IEW&S)
PEO, Soldier
PEO, Enterprise Information Systems
PEO, Tactical Missiles
PEO, Simulation, Training and Instrumentation

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