PROJECT MANAGER FORCE PROJECTION

Army Ground Robotics Overview: OSD Joint Technology Exchange Group 24 April 2018

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MAN

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PD TMDE

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PEO CS&CSS Robotics Portfolio

		M160 Light Flail	Route Clearance & Interrogation System	Leader/Follower
Robotic Enhancement Program	Man-Transportable Robotics System Increment II	Common Robotic System Individual	Squad Multipurpose Equipment Transport*	Next Generation Combat Vehicle – Unmanned (a.k.a. Robotic Combat Vehicle)
MTRS MK II MODI (Talon IV RESET) Non-Standard Equipment Immediate MTRS MK II MOD II (Talon 5A) MTRS MK II MOD II (Talon 5A) MTRS MK II MOD II (Talon V CBRNe SUGV 310 Mini-EOD		Common Robotic System Heavy*	Enhanced Robotics Payloads*	Automated Convoy Operations

* Images are conceptual representations, not endorsements

MTRS Inc II Program Overview / Update



- The Man Transportable Robotic System (MTRS) Inc II is a remotely operated, man-transportable, robotic system
- Provides a standoff capability to interrogate, detect, confirm and neutralize presence across War-fighting functions
- Capability to identify and disposition explosive hazards
- Army's medium sized common platform allowing use of various platform payloads in support of current and future missions
- * AAO includes EOD requirement of 587



- ✓ Contract Award: September 2017
- First Unit Equipped: 4QFY19
- AAO: 1,210
- Users: Engineer, CBRN and EOD



System Description: A man-packable (< 25lbs), miniature, highly mobile, unmanned robotic system with advanced sensors and mission modules for dismounted forces. Designed so that operators can quickly reconfigure for various missions by adding/removing modules and/or payloads.

Common Robotic Platform Enabling Payloads to Address the Operational Capabilities Gaps:

- Standoff short range Intelligence, Surveillance, & Reconnaissance (ISR)
- Remote Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) detection
- Remote Explosive Obstacle Counter Measure (EOCM)
- Remote Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) operations
- · Remote clearance of danger areas

Users: INF, CBRN, ENG and EOD (EOD equals ENG payload; no unique requirement)





Squad Multipurpose Equipment Transport (SMET)

System Description: The SMET provides the small unit with the ability to support squad and platoon operations for 72 hour missions. Provides unmanned or optionally manned internal resupply capability to the small unit.

SMET Capabilities:

- □ Carry up to 1000 lb. of Soldier gear
- □ Operate for 60 miles within 72 hours without external resupply
- □ Provides mobile power generation capability to the small unit
- Operable with remote control with options for Follow-me, Teleoperation and Operator Control Unit



- Acquisition Category (ACAT):II (Pre-MS C)
- Acquisition Objective (AAO): 5723
- Program of Record (POR) Acquisition Cost: \$100K each
- Directed Requirement: 3QFY17
- Urgent Material Release (UMR) of Directed Requirement: 4QFY18
- Capability Production Document (CPD): 1QFY20
- Milestone C: 1QFY20

SMET Directed Requirement Status

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Phase I – Vendor Solution Assessment

- Successfully completed 5 weeks of testing with 7 Contractors (8 platforms)
- 2 Contractors ran tests in parallel
 - Separate, secure staging areas
 - Offset testing schedules
- 5 days of testing for each contractor
 - 24 hour range access and Government support/supervision
- Contractors operated their own systems through the tests using remote control only
- Pass/fail and weighted scores assessed for each test; used as phase II down select criteria



Phase II – Operational Technology Demonstration Selected Platforms



- Phase II IBCT Locations
 - 1/101st at Fort Campbell, Kentucky
 - 1/10th at Fort Drum, New York
- Contractor Requirements
 - Dedicated Field Service Representatives (FSR) at ATC and both IBCT locations
 - Provide Contractor Logistics Support (labor, spare parts, supplies, and tools)
 - Operator Training Support Package
 - Commercial Off-The-Shelf Operator Manual
 - Operator Task Videos
 - Conduct Operator New Equipment Training (24 curriculum hours for 12 students)
 - Participation in a Government-led T&E WIPT



CRS(H) Program Overview

System Description:

The CRS(H) is the Army's large sized, vehicle transportable, common robotic platform capable of accepting various mission payloads enhancing protection to the EOD Soldier by providing increased standoff capability to identify, render safe and dispose of explosive ordnance and improvised explosive devices in support of the Range of Military Operations and Homeland Defense operations.

Emerging Threshold Performance :

- Manipulator Arm Lift Capacity
 - Close to Platform > 275 lbs;
 - Full Extension (72 in) > 100 lbs
- Platform Speed > 6 mph
- Obstacle Clearance > 32 in (Jersey Barrier)
- Platform Endurance > 7 hrs
- Weight < 700 lbs curb weight, 1000 lbs gross system weight (includes 300 lbs of non-native payloads
- Interoperability IOP compliant
- Cyber Hardened
- CPD: Projected April 2018
- RPP Released: Projected 3QFY18
- Contract Award: Projected 4QFY18
- Fly-Off: SEP OCT 2018 (T)
- AAO: Projected 248
- Target AUMC: TBD
- Users: EOD and CBRN



OV-1: US Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal in Force 2025 and Beyond



* Images are conceptual representations, not endorsements



CRS-H Acquisition Strategy (Emerging Insights)

- OTA Fly-Off: Phase I
- Evaluate vendor proposals and down-select (up to 5) to participate in a fly-off
- Candidate systems put through operational demonstrations
 - 5 days per vendor with same evaluation team
 - Vendors bring (1) system; only FSR's will operate the system in accordance with current EOD TTPs
 - Gov't team (incl. user) will observe and evaluate
- Vendors will be provided Gov't assessment two weeks after completion of event
- SEP-OCT 2018 at Fort Leonard Wood
- Execute under REP 18.2



* Images are conceptual representations, not endorsements



- OTA Fly-Off: Phase II ATEC/User Evaluation
 - Down-select (up to 2) to participate in ATEC/User evaluation
 - Proposals based on Fly-off #1 results; include cost for (3) production representative systems, data to support safety confirmation and logistics development
 - Systems (x2) will be put through both safety testing and user operation
 - Additional system (x1) will be utilized for concurrent logistics development
 - May-JUN 2019 at Aberdeen test Center (APG)
 - Evaluations will inform follow-on production phase



CRS-H Acquisition Strategy Emerging Insights (Cont)

OTA Production Phase

- Fly-Off #2 participants submit final production proposal
- Down-select from two OEM's to one pending:
 - Performance Data
 - Technical Proposal
 - Cost Proposal
 - Safety Assessment
 - User Evaluation
 - Product Support Assessment
- Production award to one OEM (Target award - JUL 2019)
- Immediate fielding under CMR
- FMR achieved within two years



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Rapid fielding of critical capabilities



System Description:

The ERP is a suite of modular capabilities designed with open architecture to provide an increased level of standoff, situational awareness, disruption capability and dexterity to respond to current and emerging Engineer, CBRN and EOD requirements. These multiple, modular robotic mission payloads will use open architecture to integrate with the MTRS Inc II and CRS(H) platforms to form the Army's next generation platform adaptable robotics systems.

Capabilities*:

- Dual Arm Dexterity
- Multi-Shot Disrupter
- Fine Precision Aiming Module
- Multispectral Overlay Camera
- Obstacle Avoidance & Digital Modeling
- Extended Range Radio & Mesh Networking
- Extended Range UAV & Surveillance











- CDD Approval: ~4QFY18/1QFY19
- RFP Release: TBD
- AAO: Projected 743
- Users: CBRN and EOD
- * Only obstacle avoidance & mapping and extended range/mesh networking will be fielded to CBRN units

Leader Follower Operational Technology Demonstration



- Operational Evaluation with Soldiers at Camp Grayling on 11-22 SEP 2017
- Supported by (7) Soldiers from Army's 1st Armored Division out of Ft. Bliss, TX
- Evaluation included:
 - Driver Warning/Assist
 - > Teleoperation
 - Leader Follower







Autonomous Trucks Testing: "Long Tail" of Use-Cases

Use case variables include: Each point on the Speeds: **Operations:** 45 - 55 mph Primary Roads line represents a Wartime - High Intensity (7-day Surge) 30 - 45 mph Secondary Roads unique use-case. Wartime - Low Intensity (30-day Period) 10 - 30 mph Trails **Obstacles:** Peacetime - Low Intensity (240-day Period) 5 - 15 mph Rough Trails Hauling: Static Mobility: Trees larger than 4" diameter and 2ft. Local Haul Dry (Sand) Line Haul above ground level Wet (Rain) Boulders larger than 18"L x Terrain: Snow 10"Wx18"H Primary Roads Cargo Loads: Fire Hydrants **High Quality Paved** Full Load Dynamic Secondary Pavement Partial Load **Rough Pavement Degraded Oncoming Traffic** No Load Blind-side Passing Traffic **Rough Pavement Highly Degraded** Full Load w/trailer Secondary Roads Humans (minimum 36" tall) Partial Load w/trailer Large Animals (e.g. Loose Surface No Load w/trailer camels/cows/horses/or larger) Washboard & Potholes Climate: Herds of small farm animals Number of **Belgian Block** Hot (Desert) (sheep/goats/geese) Off-Road Basic (Mild) Trails Times Use-Case Cold (Arctic) **Rough Trails** Tropic (Jungle) Serial Size (Follower Positions): Will Occur Over 3 - 7 Follower Positions Lifecycle Increasing Frequency of Occurrence **Unique Use-Cases** use-cases already "long tail" of use cases: cost driver for achieving reliability demonstrated For manned systems, testing organization (ATEC/OTC) trusts human driver's decision making process to address these use-cases

Robotic and Autonomous System Components

Regardless of mission role, there are many <u>common components</u> that enable RAS platforms to perceive the environment, make decisions and execute the mission.



While all systems are required to make RAS platforms function, most critical for successful military applications is <u>Assured Control</u>

RDECOM

AMERICA'S ARMY: GLOBALLY RESPONSIVE REGIONALLY ENGAGED

RCV Major Technical Hurdles

In order to accelerate unmanned combat platforms there are three major technical hurdles to overcome



Correcting Targeting Solutions Based on Latency

Intuitive Human Machine Interface between operators and unmanned platforms

How Can Modeling & Simulation Help?

Robotic Combat Vehicle (RCV) Considerations

- What mission?



- What would the human machine interface considerations be for manual teleoperation?
- What should be the role of the human versus the machine?
- What decisions can be made by the machine and what decisions require a human?
- What subsystems should be automated?
- How does the RSTA mission change based on new technology? What about other missions?

How Can Modeling & Simulation Help?



RAS-G IOPs Basic Overview

- **Robotics &** Autonomous Systems, Ground (RAS-G) Interoperability Profiles (IOPs)
- Defines software messaging & hardware interfaces between major subsystems of unmanned ground systems



- IOP V0 provided interfaces for capabilities already fielded
- IOP V1 added interfaces for MTRS Inc II, CRS-I
- IOP V2 added interfaces for RCIS & HMDS Additional physical connector options IOP V3 added interfaces for truck leader follower & behaviors





Autonomy & By-Wire Kit Data Dictionary

ntelligent Vehicle Policy Manager

OP Va

Acoustic, Magnetic & Seismic Sensor

J1939 Profiling Rules





All graphics are notional to convey the general size and type of system





Unique Wireless Comms Requirements

- Data rate: > 2 Mbps
 - Driven by streaming video requirements
 - Encoding, Resolution, Color Depth, Frame Rate, Multiple Simultaneous Streams
- Ground-to-Ground LOS/NLOS Distance/Range of < 1km
 - Can't rely on commercial cellular data towers
- Latency < 250 ms
- Resistant to Jamming
- Spectrum Agile
- Channel Selectable
- Low SWaP
 - Low power consumption for extended battery operation
 - Weight and size
- Compliant with latest version of RAS-G IOP
- Cybersecurity Hardened
- Low Detectability





Dexterous Manipulators / Specifying Manipulator Performance

Robotic arms & manipulators (grippers, hands, etc) can be difficult to articulate requirements for









Images from Google search for "Public Domain

Constraining

















Optimal



Loose



- How do you specify requirements for a system that will encounter new situations that may result in unexpected or unplanned for behavior?
- How do you test a system that will encounter new situations that may result in unexpected or unplanned for behavior?
- How do you specify requirements for a system that learns?
- How do you test & characterize a system that learns?





Potential Ground Robotics Applications for Maintenance & Sustainment

(Quick Brainstorm)

- Remote system operation
 - Nuclear contaminated facilities
 - Ship inspection, maintenance & repair
 - Bridge inspection
- Hard to reach access or delicate operations
 - Performing of (maintenance) tasks in close quarters (e.g., on ship))
 - Changing scale (i.e. miniaturizing surgical hands a la Da Vinci)
- Automated operation
 - Repetitive tasks material integrity inspection
 - Painting, surface removal, etc.
 - Road repair?
- Sensors & intelligence
 - Machine vision: subtle pattern recognition for quality inspection
 - Predictive analytics for CBM+
- Sustainment Mission (Combat Support)
 - Construction equipment forklifts, dozers, graders, airfield repair, etc.
 - Material handling equipment
- Material resupply





Discussion





Framing the Army's Robotics and Autonomous Systems (RAS) Strategy

As the Army articulates RAS integration across multiple Warfighting Functions, this vision must also show *realistic objectives* in the **near-term**, *feasible objectives* in the **mid-term**, and *visionary objectives* for the **far-term**. Beginning with near-term objectives, each successive phase links its objectives to and builds from the achievements of the previous phase.



shared understanding through

advancements in machine learning. Distribution A: Approved for Public Release

PM FP Cybersecurity Considerations

PM FP needs industry's help in defining this



Note: Color coded programs above are unofficial PM office anticipated classifications

Robotic Combat Vehicle Interoperability

Is this the answer?

U.S.ARNY





- "Buy/lease, try and inform" evaluate state-of-the-art robotic systems and/or payloads that are Government-Off-The-Shelf (GOTS), Commercial-Off-The-Shelf (COTS) and Non-Developmental Items (NDI) to inform the requirement and acquisition process
- Status:
 - REP Cycle 16.1 18.1
 - Proposals submitted: 186
 - Proposals Selected: 50
 - REP Cycle 18.2
 - Additional proposals submitted: 43
 - CoC occurred on 21 March 2018.
 - 5 proposed initiatives approved.



REP Cycle 19.1 proposal submission windows closes 1 MAY 2018.

REP Submission Site: <u>http://www.peocscss.army.mil/rep.html</u>





- While the exact composition of the Army's future RAS portfolio of systems remains volatile, there are several intended design philosophies that stakeholders can plan to – regardless of exact requirements.
 - 1. Modular Open Systems Approach thru IOP
 - 2. Common Mobility Platforms & Varying Mission Payloads
 - 3. Design for Growth & Technology Evolution
 - 4. Limit Unnecessary Redundancy
 - 5. Materiel Development Preference (GOTS>COTS>NDI>Developmental Item)
 - 6. Utilize Modular "Kits" Where Appropriate
 - 7. Provide Intelligent Behavior to Existing Systems
 - 8. Take Advantage of Intelligent Systems (i.e., CBM+)
 - 9. Warfighter Centric Design



- The fundamental guiding design philosophy for RS JPO's future portfolio is the MOSA architecture.
- Amid evolving requirements, changing threats, evolving technology, and obsolescence risks, modularity will position the PM for managing these trends at minimal lifecycle cost.
- MOSA will be achieved through interface control using the RAS-G IOPs.





#2: Common Mobility Platforms & Varying Mission Payloads

- Enabled by the MOSA philosophy, the other basic tenet of the Army's future robotics portfolio design is to utilize a small number of common mobility platforms, which can accept a variety of mission payloads to perform a variety of different missions for a variety of different user groups.
- The 4 major envisioned classes of common mobility platforms are:
 Soldier Vehicle Self Transportable Transportable Remote Operation
 - Soldier Transportable
 - Vehicle Transportable
 - Self-Transportable
 - Appliqué.



 To achieve this vision, the PM will continue to work with Combat Developers to lay the foundation for a sustainable Family of Systems (FoS) with common platforms for major robotics classes.



- Again based upon the MOSA priority, the Army's future fleet of robotic systems will be designed for growth & technology improvement.
- Size, Weight and Power (SWAP) margins, as well as additional payload interfaces, will be designed into appropriate systems to enable growth.
- As the technological improvement of sensors, manipulators, computing devices, radios, and other devices continues to accelerate, the design for evolution will be central to the Army's future robotics programs.



- Peripherally related to modularity and interface management, the Army intends to optimize its future robotics systems by limiting unnecessary redundancy.
- What this means is that the system will be capable of communicating across its internal boundaries in order to smartly leverage all information available.
- Achieving this design philosophy entails utilizing well defined data representations and more importantly, conducting rigorous systems engineering to optimize system level performance.

For example, a mobility platform may include a GPS receiver on it. When this is the case, it becomes unnecessary for any of the other payloads on the system to include their own GPS receiver (unless the requirements for precision are different). Instead, those payloads would simply pull the GPS information from the platform. Similarly, a sensor collecting valuable information can make that information available to other elements of the system to optimize overall behavior.



- As the Army acquires systems to comprise its future portfolio, it will consider an order of precedence as to the materiel acquisition model of choice. This general rule of thumb provides a model for how the PM will acquire systems:
 - The 1st tier of preference is to utilize Government-Off-the-Shelf (GOTS) systems to meet unmanned requirements.
 - The 2nd tier of preference is to utilize a Commercial-Off-the-Shelf (COTS) approach and procure mature end-items.
 - The 3rd tier of preference is to acquire Non-Developmental Items (NDI) this means taking mature systems from industry and conducting some minor nonrecurring engineering (NRE) in order to meet all requirements.
 - The 4th tier of preference is to acquire Developmental Items (DI) this means developing systems from the conceptual level and conducting rigorous systems engineering to transform general concepts into a sustainable, affordable product.



- In many cases it will be advantageous to separate certain system functions into different "kits".
- If a certain function can be made common across varying systems, it makes sense for that function to be managed as a common kit.
- Similarly, when the technology pace or obsolescence rate for certain subsystems are anticipated to move at a significantly different pace from other parts of the system, it makes sense for them to be managed as kits.

The most obvious planned use for this kitted approach is in appliqué kits for converting existing manned systems into unmanned or assistive-driving systems. For these systems, it makes sense to separate functions into an "A-Kit" that provides common autonomous navigation services or other unmanned technologies, and a "B-Kit" that provides the interface to a specific vehicle. In these cases, the "A-Kit" could be a common autonomous perception/navigation kit for use on many different platforms, while the "B-Kit" would be a unique drive-by-wire kit. It may also be of use on these types of systems to include a "C-Kit" that provides mission-specific payload packages. Methods such as axiomatic design may be of use for determining which functions could optimally be "decoupled" from each other through the use of kitted separation.



- As a means for leveraging previous investment and infrastructure, the Army adopts a philosophy for giving preference to systems that can augment existing DoD inventory to exploit unmanned technology, instead of solely pursuing ground-up new system developments.
- This will avoid redundancy and introduce unmanned technology gradually into the DoD fleet.
- The appliqué kit approach described previously provides
 an example of this preference.

Two of PM FP's current programs (the RCIS and the HMDS) have already adopted this approach, and emerging programs (such as that of the Autonomous Convoy Operations (ACO) emerging requirement) will also adopt this approach.





- The nature of unmanned technology (particularly with builtin modularity) includes a variety of data and softwareenabled data processing on systems.
- The Army's design philosophy is that this data and data processing should be exploited (within reasonable cost, SWAP & requirements basis) to enable additional valuable capabilities.

A perfect example of a capability that is enabled through the exploitation of data and data processing on unmanned systems is that of Condition Based Maintenance Plus (CBM+). The same data being used to provide intelligent mobility, sub-system monitoring, etc. can be readily used for improving system diagnostics and enabling prognostics and smarter maintenance planning/responsiveness. It should be noted that while there are DoD sub-communities advocating the ground systems adoption of CBM+ and other DoD sub-communities advocating the ground systems adoption of unmanned systems, the same technology can often be used to provide both capabilities.



#9: Warfighter Centric Design

- Similar to the Occupant-Centric Protection (OCP) design philosophy that the DoD manned ground systems community has been moving toward, PM FP adopts a Warfighter-Centric philosophy that seeks to:
 - 1) provide maximum protection by removing the Warfighter from direct physical danger, and
 - 2) minimize the cognitive workload of the Warfighter in stressful situations and free up the human talents for more creative and critical-thinking tasks that demand focused attention

