

US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BLAST INJURY RESEARCH PROGRAM COORDINATING OFFICE

Threat Analysis Service Member Protection

During FY15, NGIC continued to partner with the JTAPIC program in answering 13 RFIs from multiple government organizations related to the efficacy of Service Member systems and protection, as well as dismounted TTPs, and base infrastructure designed to mitigate blast effects. These organizations included PEO Soldier, Product Manager Infantry Combat Equipment, Program Manager Special Operations Forces, DARPA, Maneuver Center of Excellence, Army Capabilities Integration Center, and Engineer Research and Development Center, among others. The studies included in-depth looks at historic indirect fire, dismounted IED, small-arms fire, and complex base attacks in Afghanistan, as well as current indirect fire attacks in Iraq and Ukraine, enabling threat analysis across the full spectrum of conflicts: asymmetric, hybrid, and near peer. By providing specific threat information, the RFI products not only enabled the requirements and development communities to address critical vulnerabilities, but also affected a holistic approach to considering the doctrine, organization, training, materiel, leadership and education, personnel, and facilities solutions in relation to the spectrum of most common and most stressing threats.

JTAPIC funded threat support to PEO Soldier's SPS development in the form of the System Threat Assessment Report, as well as significant input to the SPS LFT&E planning process, ensuring the future body armor mitigates relevant blast threats. Throughout the fiscal year, the JTAPIC partnership also enabled significant participation from PEO Soldier, Product Manager Infantry Combat Equipment, and Program Manager Special Operations Forces in various threat live-fire and exploitation testing conducted by NGIC. These tests provided the program managers an opportunity to test current and future systems against specific threat weapons for the first time.

Another major success during FY15 was incorporating, with the support of JTAPIC, a day-long dismounted symposium during the annual Armor/Anti-Armor Coordinating Threat Coordinating Group that brought together a broad range of organizations representing dismounted capabilities and requirements, dismounted systems developers and program managers, and the intelligence and medical communities. The briefings and discussions synchronized future dismounted protection efforts while ensuring an understanding of the current and future threats.