



US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

BLAST INJURY RESEARCH PROGRAM COORDINATING OFFICE

Protective Equipment

Ballistic and Blast Protection 2016 Research Goals

The US Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCoE) is a participating partner in the Soldier Ballistic and Blast Protection Community of Practice established at the direction of the Commanding General, Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM) after a series of meetings in 2010 and 2011. In addition to MCoE, participants include Natick Soldier Research and Development and Engineering Center (NSRDEC), Army Research Laboratory (ARL), TRADOC Army Capabilities Integration Center (ARCIC), US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC), RDECOM, Program Executive Office (PEO) Soldier, National Ground Intelligence Center (NGIC), and the Office of Naval Research (ONR). The purpose of the Community of Practice has been to involve all parts of the personal protective equipment (PPE) lifecycle (science and technology (S&T), combat developers, and PEOs) to commit resources towards common goals. The output of this Community of Practice is the creation of research goals for soldier protection. The goals are aligned along four commodity areas of soldier protection: extremity, head, sensory, and torso. For 2016, the Community of Practice identified over 200 research gaps in soldier protection. The Community of Practice identified over 80 technical goals based on the research gaps and then consolidated these into 28 major goals. The goals were compared to the priorities expressed by TRADOC and PEO Soldier for the community, their potential to improve Soldier protection technology, and their need for government S&T investment. The Community of Practice is using these goals as a roadmap for future technology development for soldier protection from ballistic and blast threats.

