



# Media Advisory



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## Two TARDEC Technologies Touted at 2008 Army's Greatest Inventions Ceremony

DETROIT ARSENAL, WARREN, MI — Two military technologies saving Soldiers lives on today's battlefields were designed by the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC) and are among 10 innovations recognized as 2008 Army's Greatest Inventions. The awards were presented by U.S. Army Materiel Command (AMC) Deputy Commanding General (CG) LTG James H. Pillsbury and U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM) CG MG Paul S. Izzo Sept. 21 at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, VA.

"Both of these inventions embody what we do at TARDEC every day," said TARDEC Director Dr. Grace M. Bochenek. "They are innovative, quickly-achieved solutions to problems being faced by warfighters in the field. The most rewarding part of this recognition is realizing our work made a difference for the Soldiers."

The Army-wide awards program is dedicated to recognizing the best technology solutions for soldiers. The TARDEC technologies selected were:

- **One System Remote Video Terminal (OSRVT) A-Kit** – The OSRVT is an enhancement of the Air Force's Remote Optical Video Enhanced Receiver III, which allows warfighters to receive imagery directly from manned and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). Soldiers with OSRVT access have higher situational awareness and can use the data and video to better plan missions and respond to enemy activity.
- **Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) Vehicle Expedient Armor Program (MEAP) Add-on-Armor (AoA) Kit** – In March 2008, an urgent request to increase MRAP armor was sent by Army leaders to TARDEC. By June 2008, a total of 550 kits were fielded in *Operation Iraqi Freedom* to protect American warfighters from improvised explosive devices and other types of land mines.

**TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN. WARFIGHTER FOCUSED.**



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*Note: Eight photos are available for use with this release. Caption information follows. To download the photos, go to <http://www.tardec.info/pressreleases/>.*

**[1] 090123-A-9907M-004.jpg**

Paratroopers from the 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, KY, prepare to inspect their new MRAP vehicles at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. The MEAP AoA Kit enhances Soldier and equipment survivability on today's full-spectrum battlefield. (U.S. Army photo by SSG W. Watson Martin.)

**[2] 091007-F-2679L-179.jpg**

MRAP vehicles sit in a parking area at Joint Base Balad, Iraq. The MEAP AoA Kit's adaptability to all seven MRAP vehicle types and enhanced protection features will continue to impact current and future system capabilities. (U.S. Air Force photo by TSGT Craig Lifton.)

**[3] OSRVT 1.jpg**

The OSRVT A-Kit ceiling brackets allow Soldiers to mount urgently needed equipment in an out of the way place. By doing so, Soldiers still have access to the technology's full scope, but are able to safely egress the vehicle in an emergency. (U.S. Army TARDEC photo.)

**[4] OSRVT 2.jpg**

This wiring kit connects the OSRVT to other Stryker communications systems. Through the use of a multi-band switch, Soldiers are able to gain access to multiple UAV videos. (U.S. Army TARDEC photo.)

**[5] OSRVT 3.jpg**

The A-Kit's various parts ensure that Soldiers have full access to the OSRVT. All of the wires and cabling are managed with a "spider-leg" cable that reduces stray cables and limits the number of plugs required. (U.S. Army TARDEC photo.)

**[6] 090921-A-1234B-001.jpg**

AMC Deputy Commanding General LTG James H. Pillsbury presents the Army's Greatest Invention Award for the MRAP MEAP to TARDEC Ground Systems Survivability Deputy Associate Director Debbie DiCesare during an awards ceremony



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Sept. 21 in Arlington, VA. Also pictured are TARDEC Director Dr. Grace Bochenek, Army Research Laboratory Armor Mechanics Branch Chief Dr. Scott E. Schoenfeld and RDECOM Commanding General MG Paul S. Izzo. (U.S. Army TARDEC photo by Carolyn Baum.)

### [7] 090921-A-1234B-002.jpg

AMC Deputy Commanding General LTG James H. Pillsbury presents the Army's Greatest Invention Award for the OSRVT A-Kit to TARDEC Senior Electrical Engineer Robert Washburn during an awards ceremony Sept. 21 in Arlington, VA. Also pictured are TARDEC Director Dr. Grace Bochenek and RDECOM Commanding General MG Paul S. Izzo. (U.S. Army TARDEC photo by Carolyn Baum.)

### [8] 090921-A-1234B-003.jpg

TARDEC Ground Systems Survivability Deputy Associate Director Debbie DiCesare, Senior Electrical Engineer Robert Washburn and Director Dr. Grace Bochenek with the two Army's Greatest Invention Awards presented Sept. 21 in Arlington, VA. (U.S. Army TARDEC photo by Carolyn Baum.)

### ABOUT TARDEC

Headquartered at the Detroit Arsenal in Warren, MI, TARDEC is the Nation's laboratory for advanced military automotive technology and serves as the Ground Systems Integrator for all Department of Defense (DOD) manned and unmanned ground vehicle systems. With roots dating back to the World War II era, TARDEC is a full life-cycle systems engineering support provider-of-first-choice for all DOD ground combat and combat support weapons, equipment and vehicle systems. TARDEC develops and integrates the right technology solutions to improve Current Force effectiveness and provide superior capabilities for Future Force integration. TARDEC's technical, scientific and engineering staff lead cutting-edge research and development in Ground Systems Survivability; Power and Mobility; Intelligent Ground Systems; Force Projection; and Vehicle Electronics and Architecture.

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