

# PRESS RELEASE



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## **TARDEC Ground Systems Survivability Occupant Centric Platform Program, Chartered by RDECOM Director**

DETROIT ARSENAL, WARREN, Mich. – The U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research Development and Engineering Center's (TARDEC's) Ground Systems Survivability group is pleased to announce the presentation of the initial program charter designation to the Program Manager (PM), Occupant Centric Platform (OCP) Technology Enabled Capability Demonstrations (TECD) on January 16, 2013 at TARDEC. During the ceremony, Mr. Dale Ormond, Director U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM), welcomed Dr. Paul Rogers and Mr. Ross Boelke to the stage for the prestigious charter presentation designating Mr. Boelke as project lead for OCP TECD.

Under Mr. Boelke's leadership and direction, the OCP TECD program will oversee the development and evolution of a new and innovative Warfighter centered vehicle design philosophy. OCP provides the means to design, develop, demonstrate, and document a new occupant centered Army Ground Vehicle design methodology that improves force protection by reducing casualties and mitigating Soldier injury due to underbody mine or Improvised Explosive Device (IED) blast events including the subsequent crash and vehicle rollover that often accompanies the blast. OCP vehicle design considers the Soldier first, integrates occupant centric technologies, resulting in a vehicle that better protects and accommodates the Warfighter.



Mr. Dale Ormond (left) and Dr. Paul Rogers (right) present the program charter to Mr. Ross Boelke, PM OCP

“RDECOM is the Army’s go-to organization for the superior scientific and engineering expertise that defines the space between the state of the art and the art of the possible and delivers innovative technology solutions that ensure the United States maintains global battlefield dominance,” said Mr. Ormond. OCP TECD epitomizes TARDEC’s commitment to this goal.

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**TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN. WARFIGHTER FOCUSED.**

The charter designates Boelke as the “management official” for the OCP effort and is empowered by the Director RDECOM to actively manage across organizational boundaries, all aspects of the program within the cost, performance, and schedule baselines in accordance with the approved and funded TECD project plan. This charter, similar in intent, scope, and level of responsibility to that of the manager for a program of record is seen as capstone designation for any program manager and program office.

Boelke, a Senior Service College Graduate and retired Army Officer, has previously served as the Assistant Product Manager (APM) for the Stryker Modernization Program (2011-2012), APM for the RG-31 Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle (2007-2010), and APM for the RG-31 Route Clearance vehicle (2005-2007).

#### ABOUT TARDEC

Headquartered at the U.S. Army Detroit Arsenal in Warren, Mich., TARDEC is a major research, development and engineering center for the Army Materiel Command’s Research, Development and Engineering Command and an enterprise partner in the TACOM Life Cycle Management Command. 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 provides 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; Ground Vehicle Robotics; Force Projection; and Vehicle Electronics and Architecture.

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