

Press Release



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For Immediate Release

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Next Generation of Robotic Innovation to be Displayed, Discussed, Demonstrated at U.S. Army TARDEC'S 2010 Robotics Rodeo

October event at Fort Benning convening robotics industry, Soldiers, decision makers

DETROIT ARSENAL, WARREN, MI – For the second consecutive year, the U.S. Army is inviting prominent robotics technologists from across the country to gather and display their most forward-looking technologies and demonstrate how those unmanned systems can support current and future military, disaster relief and humanitarian support efforts. During the 2010 Robotics Rodeo Oct. 12-15, 2010, at Fort Benning, GA, technology innovators will participate in both task-based events and open robotics demonstrations with stated goals of motivating the industry, educating developers and observing the current state of ground robotics technology and artificial intelligence development and potential capabilities.

This event follows the success of the Army's inaugural Robotics Rodeo in Aug. 2009 at Fort Hood, TX. At the event, co-hosted by III Corps and the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC), more than 50 companies gathered in the Texas heat for four days of demonstrations.

“When you consider the data gathered and the feedback delivered from Soldiers to manufacturers, the inaugural Robotics Rodeo was a tremendous success,” explained U.S. Army TARDEC Senior Research Scientist in Robotics Dr. Jim Overholt. “For this iteration, our focus is tightened to looking at improvements in small robotic platforms and the teaming of manned and unmanned systems. This will be a valuable, attention-grabbing, motivating event that will benefit our forces.” TARDEC is the focal point for all Department of Defense ground robotics systems.

An Industry Day informational meeting for this year's Robotics Rodeo will be held at TARDEC at the U.S. Army Detroit Arsenal on Monday, May 24, from 1-4 p.m. In addition to an overview of the Rodeo, the meeting will provide a forum for questions and a submission process explanation. For more information, visit: <http://www.tardec.info/roboticsrodeo/>.

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As with the inaugural event, the 2010 Robotics Rodeo is not a competition. Instead, it is a market research event to help determine what industry technologies will potentially benefit the Army's robotics programs.

TARDEC is co-hosting the 2010 Robotics Rodeo at Fort Benning with the Army's Maneuver Center of Excellence. Fort Benning and The Maneuver Center provides trained, adaptive and ready Soldiers and leaders for an Army at War. Further, they develop future requirements for the individual Soldier and maneuver force. More information is available at: <https://www.benning.army.mil>

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 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; Intelligent Ground Systems; Force Projection; and Vehicle Electronics and Architecture.

TARDEC is a major research, development and engineering center for the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM) and partner in the TACOM Life Cycle Management Command.

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For more information about TARDEC, visit us at www.tardec.army.mil. You can also follow us on Twitter at http://twitter.com/TARDEC_PAO.

NOTE: The Robotics Rodeo logo is available for download at www.tardec.com