



Media Advisory



March 17, 2009

For Immediate Release

Release # 0915

Warrant Officer's suggestion saves lives, earns \$25,000

By Patrick Pinter

DETROIT ARSENAL, WARREN, MI —In a war zone, being safe and comfortable are two important needs for a Soldier and Chief Warrant Officer Jason Greegor is making sure those needs are being met.

A "serving the Soldiers first" attitude is what earned Greegor, assigned to the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC), the 2008 Military Suggester of the Year Award. The Secretary and the Chief of Staff of the Army will present the award March 18 in ceremonies at the Pentagon.

Greegor's M915 Single Channel Ground to Air Radio System (SINCGARS) Radio Mount helped keep Soldiers safe in the line of duty and that contribution is being recognized with a \$25,000 cash award -- the maximum amount under the Suggestion Program for adopted ideas that save government resources.

Soldiers, with not much spare room inside the cab, had nowhere to stow their personal gear. Holding it would cause them to lose the ability to move quickly in an emergency and they ended up putting gear on the floor and or on the Electronic Countermeasure (ECM) system between them. That led to ventilation problems and overheating, and without a properly working ECM, Soldiers were left vulnerable to attacks.

As more and more vehicles arrived back from the field in Iraq with the same problem, Greegor decided to take advantage of the 8 to 9 inches of the cab's ceiling by mounting the radio there. The move gave Soldiers more room to store their equipment on the floor along with access to a properly working ECM.

"After I was over there a couple weeks, Soldiers were coming back with this problem where their ECM equipment was not working the way it was supposed to," said Greegor. "That was a dangerous situation that we didn't want happening. When the jamming equipment isn't working, that is putting a Soldier's life at risk. At that point I got involved and shortly we fabricated over 210 mounts in a two week



Media Advisory



period to fix the overheating problem. After the mounts were installed the following two to three weeks, there was a large decrease in the ECMs overheating.”

Gregor’s idea helped keep Soldiers safe during missions and it also saved the Army money from constantly replacing overheated ECMs. His solution including all the parts and materials needed to make the mount at a cost of \$10.35. The funds to replace an overheated ECM totaled \$150,000.

The Army Suggestion Program, which was first introduced during World War I, encourages Soldiers and civilians to submit ideas that increase the Army’s efficiency and productivity. It also is designed to improve morale by providing individuals with the opportunity to voluntarily take part in the improvement of operations and the quality of life within the Army.

###

Note: There are/is 3 photo(s) available for use with this release. Caption information follows. To download the photo, go to <http://www.tardec.info/pressreleases/>.

Captions:

TARDEC-PR-0915_1_001.jpg

Chief Warrant Officer Jason Gregor, a TARDEC technician, will be honored at the Pentagon on March 18 as the 2008 Military Suggester of the Year. (U.S. Army TARDEC photo)

Fleet of M915 Tractors_080903-F-3649K-004.jpg

A line of M915 truck tractors stand ready at the Florida Army National Guard's Field Maintenance Shop 15 in West Palm Beach, FL. These trucks, similar to commercial tractor trucks, are the key overland haulers for the Army’s supplies and sustainment parts and materiel. CW3 Gregor’s invention will allow all of these vehicles to work more efficiently in providing logistics support. (U.S. Air Force photo by TSGT Thomas Kielbasa, Florida National Guard.)

For more information, contact Anne Proctor at 586-838-2294, e-mail anne.proctor@us.army.mil or Bill Dowell at 586-838-2304, e-mail William.Dowell2@us.army.mil