

Press Release



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For Immediate Release

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U.S. Army TARDEC Showcasing Collaboration, Innovation at SAE International 2010 World Congress

DETROIT ARSENAL, WARREN, MI – The U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC) is participating in the SAE International 2010 World Congress to focus on cross-industry partnerships and innovative technology collaboration that will support the Nation’s warfighters today and into the future.

The theme for this year’s Congress, *Ecollaboration*, lends itself to TARDEC’s commitment to an enterprise-wide approach to military research, development and engineering activities.

“TARDEC employs about 1,400 scientists, engineers and researchers in southeast Michigan, all working on behalf of our Soldiers,” explained TARDEC National Automotive Center (NAC) Director Paul Skalny. “TARDEC couldn’t maintain its position at the leading edge of innovation without our partners in the Department of Defense [DOD] and the private sector. Together, we are all working to ensure our fighting forces are the best-equipped in the world from a vehicle perspective.”

Skalny will participate in a panel discussion on Wednesday, April 14, at 1:30 p.m. Titled “Technology Sharing in the Era of Ecollaboration,” panelists will discuss various promising technologies under consideration for use in the automotive industry that were generated by outside sectors and the processes used to collaborate on these technologies.

TARDEC will have one of the largest display areas at SAE 2010, which takes place April 13-15 at Cobo Center in Detroit. In addition to supporting the TARDEC display, top military and government officials will tour the exhibition and be available for discussion.

TARDEC, the Nation’s laboratory for ground vehicle systems, will highlight Power, Partnership and Energy initiatives at its booth. Displays will include:

POWER: At more than 60,000 pounds and 33-feet long, the **Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck** (HEMTT) is sure to draw interest from show attendees. But the load the

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HEMTT will be supporting is really “charged.” The HEMTT’s payload will be TARDEC’s **Electronic Power Control and Conditioning (EPCC)** unit. EPCC can take a variety of electrical inputs from sources as diverse as unsteady grids in foreign nations, generators, solar and/or wind installations and combine these power sources into a single, smooth flow of computer-grade electrical power.

PARTNERSHIP: In 1993, the NAC was chartered within TARDEC by the Secretary of the Army to be the focal point for the development of dual-use automotive technologies and their applications to military ground vehicles. Since then, the NAC has been the connecting point for TARDEC to industry, academia and other research organizations. The NAC’s mission is to serve as the Army’s focal point for developing dual use – military and civilian – automotive technologies for military ground vehicles. TARDEC representatives will be able to discuss the array of contractual agreements used to accomplish this goal, including Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) solicitations and Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADA).

In addition, models from TARDEC and conceptual designs from Transportation Design students at College for Creative Studies in Detroit for the next generation of fuel-efficient Army vehicles will debut. The concepts were developed under TARDEC’s Fuel Efficient Ground Vehicle Demonstrator (FED) program.

ENERGY: For the Army to be successful on the battlefield, it is imperative that TARDEC and its enterprise partners continue developing advancements in power and energy generation, distribution and deployment, and vehicle applications that increase fuel economy. TARDEC’s unmanned **Autonomous Platform Demonstrator (APD)** is one example of how TARDEC is addressing these issues. The APD – which is TARDEC’s Robotic Vehicle Electronic Architecture’s integration platform – tests hybrid-electric drive, advanced suspension systems and thermal management issues.

Alongside APD will be TARDEC’s **Clandestine Extended Range Vehicles (CERVs)**. Designed for quick-paced mobility operations such as reconnaissance, surveillance and target designation, each CERV pairs a new, advanced all-wheel-drive diesel-electric hybrid powertrain with a light-weight chassis to produce a torque rating that exceeds 5,000 foot-pounds. The units can maintain speeds of 80 miles per hour and climb 60 percent grades – all while reducing fuel consumption by up to 25 percent compared with conventional vehicles of comparable sizes.

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Finally, as the focal point for ground robotics for the DOD, TARDEC will display a variety of robots, including models akin to some of the 8,000 currently deployed in conflict areas.

SAE International is a global association of more than 128,000 engineers and related technical experts in the aerospace, automotive and commercial vehicle industries.

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.

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 LCMC.

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.

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Two images are available for use with the release. Caption information follows. To download the photo, go to <http://www.tardec.info/pressreleases/>.

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The Electronic Power Control and Conditioning unit is one of the technologies to be displayed in TARDEC's booth at the SAE 2010 World Congress in Detroit.

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