

# **Advance Combat Helmet**

**Advanced Planning Brief for Industry** 

8 May 2008

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# **Briefing Topics**



- PM-SSV Areas of Responsibility
- Ballistic Helmet and Accessories
- ACH Improvements
- Helmet Sensor Overview
- Helmet Sensor Download Process
- ACH 7.62 Initiative
- Upcoming Events
  - SPD VI—Lower Extremity Protection



# PM-SSV Areas of Responsibility





Interceptor **Body Armor** (IBA)



**Improved Outer** Tactical Vest (IOTV)



Combat Vehicle Crewman Helmet



Nape/Neck **Protector** 



**Advanced Bomb** Suit (ABS)



**EOD-9 / NVVS** Helmet



**Concealable Body** Armor (CBA)

(BASIC)



**Enhanced Small Arms Protective** Insert (E-SAPI)



**Advanced Combat Helmet** (ACH)



**Helmet Sensors** (HS)



**Non Destructive Test Facility (NDTF)** 



**Body Armor Improved Cupola** Set Individual **Protective Ensemble** Countermine / BPFS (ICPE)



**Military Combat Eye protection** (MCEP)



**ACH Pad** Suspension **System** 





## **Ballistic Helmet and Accessories**





#### **Capabilities:**

- •ACH: 9mm protection and increased fragmentation protection; Low velocity impact protection; Improves field of view, stability, hearing and interface with other individual equipment items
- ■NAPE Pad: 22 layers Spectra fragmentation protection
- ■Pad Suspension System: Blunt impact force protection level of 150g max at 10 fps
- •Helmet Sensor: Measure helmet acceleration and pressure associated with concussive events

#### **System Description:**

- •ACH: A modular helmet with suspension and neck protection pads provides improved fragmentation, ballistic, and impact protection while reducing weight, improving fit, and increasing comfort.
- •Neck Protector: Provides fragmentation protection to the nape area of the neck, and improves overall stability of ACH.
- •Pad Suspension System: Modular, lightweight, flame retard, and moisture resistant series of pads that act as the suspension system between the wearer's head and the helmet.
- •Helmet Sensor: Small, low power sensor suite mounts on both ACH and CVC to detect, measure and record impact and blast overpressure associated with concussive events

#### **Objective:**

To improve the Soldier's survivability

#### **BOI:**

- •ACH: Based on guidance from VCSA will replace PASGT helmet as a one-for-one replacement system.
- Helmet Sensor: Per VCSA guidance, one sensor per Soldier ACH (2 BCT's)



# **ACH Improvements**







Helmet weight Decrease from 3.5 lb to 3.0 lb (approx.)



2002



Pad improvement to 150g max at 10 fps

> Dec 2006

**ACH Cover in** universal print with IFF introduced

Jan

2005





impact level increase

N.A.P.E. Pad<sup>TM</sup> Introduced

Mar

2007





Sep 2007 **Helmet Sensor** Introduced





ACH 7.62 development to provide increased

protection from 9mm to 7.62mm

CY 2008

**ACH Pad** improvement impact level increase to 150g max at 14.1 fps



## **Helmet Sensor Overview**





#### Academia:

MIT Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies

MIT Biological Engineering Dept

UVA Center for Applied Biomechanics

NCAA\*







#### Laboratories:

Natick Soldier Research
Development & Engineering
Center

Army Research Laboratories - SEDD

Army Research Laboratories - WMRD

Tank-Automotive Research
Development Engineering
Center

**Naval Research Lab** 



#### Services:

USAIC

**PEO Soldier** 

PM-SEQ Rapid Equipping Force USMC JIEDDO

#### Medical Community:

Army Medical Research & Materiel Command:

**Army Aero Medical Research Laboratory** 

US Army Research Institute of Environment Medicine

Defense & Veterans Brain Injury Center

Walter Reed Army Medical Center

#### **Description:**

The Helmet Sensor is a small, lightweight, low power sensor suite that mounts to the Advanced Combat Helmet or the Combat Vehicle Crewman Helmet. The Helmet Sensor will detect, measure and record impact (acceleration in three degrees of freedom) and blast overpressure associated with concussive events/IED blasts that Soldiers may experience in operational environments. Data is downloaded via a USB port to any computer.

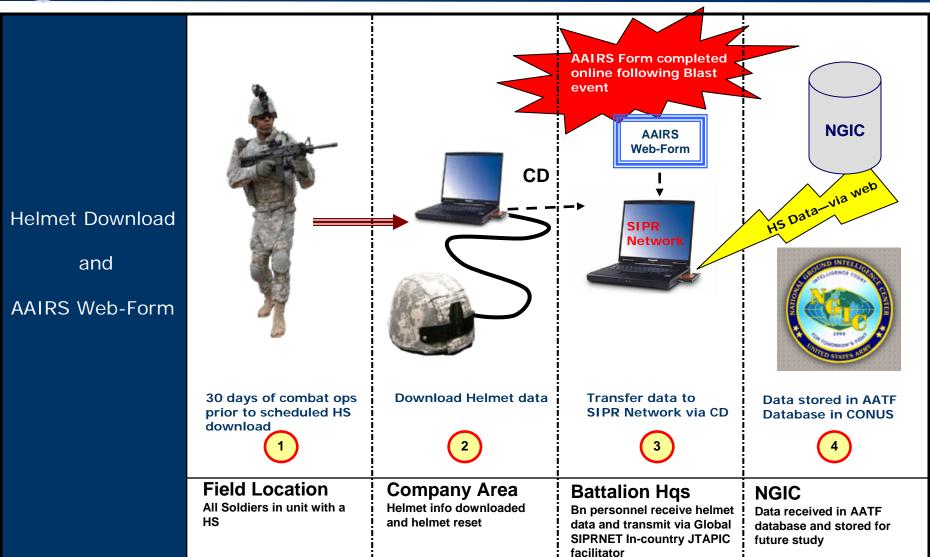
#### **Objective:**

Collect data in theater from combat units to understand and characterize the events that may cause Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) as a result of IED/blast impact and other occupational hazard events.



## **Helmet Sensor Download Process**



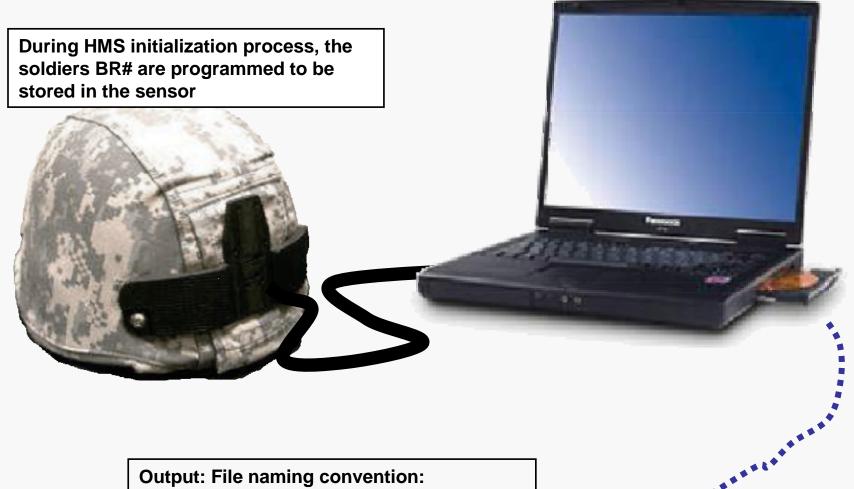




## Anti Armor Incident Reporting System (AAIRS)



## Linking BR# and Sensor ID



BR# + Sensor ID + DTG

Example: \$1234-326361-260930OCT2007.txt



## Anti Armor Incident Reporting System (AAIRS)



PERSONNEL INFORMATION:	
POSITION:  Occupied? ON OY	
Other:  Injuries O None O WIA O KIA  Force: US Army Exposure? Combat Locked  Other Force:	
CTRY:  Other Rank:	
SSN (Last 4): ###-##- BTL RSTR# Last Name: (First Initial): Rank: E1  Describe Injuries:  Treated at (pick highest): On site	

Filling in all the Battle roster numbers on the AATF Incident Form for all the Soldiers involved in the incident is essential.



## **ACH 7.62**



#### Material Performance Baseline

- High Molecular Weight Polyethylene
- Aramid Fabrics
- Flat panel tests

#### Material Processing Baseline

- Methods being explored to get consistent results
- Fabrication changes by helmet makers

#### End Item T&E in 3QFY08

- Ballistics, Impact, Compression, Environmental
- Best material and processing to be down selected

#### End Item Options

- Rifle Protection Helmet
  - Performance requirement: 7.62x39mm MSC at 100M stand off; M80 protection; 50% heavier than current ACH
- Enhanced ACH
  - Performance Requirement: some degree of rifle protection, muzzle 7.62x39 LEAD, M80 stand off; same weight as current ACH



LOWER EXTREMITY PROTECTION



# Soldier Protection Demonstration (SPD) VI



### **Lower Extremity Protection (LEP)**

## Objective:

Assess lower extremity protection system(s) (and/or system characteristics) which provide ballistic protection for Soldiers performing duties and functions for mounted and dismounted operations. Demonstration of candidate systems of lower extremity body armor to recommend best technical approaches, identify best solutions and current capabilities.



# Milestones



SSV Products	Key Milestones	Projected Contract Actions
ACH 7.62 Variant	Testing: D/OT&E Down Select: 4QFY08	Sep 08
ACH Pad Suspension SystemImproved	RFI: Closed Feb 08 Down Select: Apr 08	Sep/Oct 08
Helmet Sensor	Data Collection: Phase II	Oct 09
Lower Extremity Protection	SPD VI: 4QFY08	Oct/Nov 08
ACH Standard	Completed	None





