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THE PICATINNY VOICE



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Staff Sgt. Jason Hopkins fires an M14 Enhanced Battle Rifle, using a 7.62mm M80 round against a 3/8 inch mild steel plate at 300 meters. The May 4 test firing at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., was part of a demonstration to show the effectiveness of the 5.56mm M855A1 Enhanced Performance Round, or EPR, compared to rounds like the M80 and the M855. Army photo.

Confluence of events helps Picatinny civilian learn of life-threatening disease

BY ERIC KOWAL

Picatinny Public Affairs

The chance to save someone's life may never occur in a person's lifetime.

Even more uncommon is for an entire organization to share in that experience.

The Picatinny Civilian Welfare Council (CWC) holds an annual blood test program but it was not until last year that CWC chairperson Bridget Dollberg knew she was part of an extraordinary sequence of events.

Recently, Dollberg found out that in 1998 Raymond Seiz, who then was a supervisor in the Armament Technology Facility here, discovered that he had a disease that could kill him.

At the time, Seiz was 59 years old and had been getting his blood checked regularly. He often saw his regular physician.

For his blood tests, he would rely on the CWC's blood test program. But that year the results of the test made him aware of a statistic that would forever change his life.

One of the many tests the CWC program offers is a Ferritin test that measures a protein that binds to iron in a person's blood.

Ferritin is found in the liver, spleen, skeletal muscles and bone marrow. Only a small amount of Ferritin is found in the blood.

The amount of Ferritin in the blood shows

"I was dying of cirrhosis of the liver and didn't even drink alcohol."

how much iron is stored in your body.

Seiz discovered that he was suffering from hemochromatosis, a disease that attacks vital organs such as the liver.

Primary hemochromatosis is usually caused by a specific genetic problem that causes too much iron to be absorbed.

When people with this condition have too much iron in their diet, the extra iron is absorbed in the gastrointestinal tract and builds up in the body tissues, particularly the liver.

"I was dying of cirrhosis of the liver and didn't even drink alcohol," Seiz said.

Symptoms of hemochromatosis include fatigue, joint pain, weakness, excess urination, and weight loss.

In Seiz's case, his levels were two and a half times above the highest accepted range. He was in trouble.

One of the only treatments of hemochromatosis is through phlebotomy or the removal of blood from the body.

"Every week I had to have 500 cc's of my

See CWA, Page 2

Enhanced Performance Round gets high marks

Greater consistency of the M855A1 is cited by Soldiers in feedback from the war front to PEO Ammunition

Army News Service

ABERDEEN, Md. -- Since last June, the Army has fielded about 30 million of its new 5.56mm M855A1 "Enhanced Performance Round" in Afghanistan.

The cartridge, sometimes called the "green bullet" because it has an environmentally-friendly copper core instead of the traditional lead, has been getting mostly good reviews in the 11 months since it first deployed to Operation Enduring Freedom.

"The vast majority of everything we've got back from the field is positive," said Lt. Col. Jeffrey K. Woods, product manager, small caliber ammunition, during a "media day" at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

Woods is assigned to Program Executive Office Ammunition, which is based at Picatinny Arsenal and commanded by Brig. Gen. Jonathan A. Maddux.

During the day-long event, reporters learned the benefits of the new cartridge, witnessed a demonstration of the round, compared to the round it is designed to replace, and had the opportunity to fire the round from both an M16 and M4 rifle.

Perhaps the biggest plus of the M855A1 enhanced performance round is the consistency it brings to the fight—more so than the 5.56mm M855 round it is designed to replace.

EFFECTIVENESS DOESN'T DEPEND ON YAW ANGLE

Woods and other officials were reluctant to talk specifically about the effects of the new bullet on a "soft target," a euphemism for enemy personnel.

But they made clear that the M855A1 is at least equal to the M855 on a soft target and did damage with more consistency.

The M855 is a good round,

A new propellant in the EPR is designed to enhance its performance in the M4 Carbine rifle—what most Soldiers carry in Afghanistan.

Woods said, but it is "yaw dependant." Like all bullets, it wobbles when it travels along its trajectory. Its effectiveness depends on its yaw angle when it hits a target.

Not so with the M855A1 or Enhanced Performance Round (EPR), which isn't yaw-dependant. It delivers the same effectiveness in a soft target regardless of yaw angle.

"On M855's best day, with that great performance that you will see, you're going to see that type of performance out of the EPR but you will see it every time," Woods said.

BULLET WAS COMPLETELY REDESIGNED

The EPR cartridge is the same length as the M855 that it's designed to replace, though the bullet it contains is about 1/8 of an inch longer. The weight and shape of the EPR is also the same as the M855, so it fits anything an M855 fits—including the M16 and the M4 for which it was designed.

The bullet itself has been completely redesigned. It features a larger steel "penetrator" on its tip that is both sharper than what is on the M855 and is also exposed.

Both bullets feature a copper jacket, but the EPR's jacket is "reverse drawn," part of its manufacturing. Perhaps the most notable feature of the EPR is that its bullet features a copper core, versus the M855's lead core.

See TEST FIRE, Page 3

CWA blood test alerts civilian of health danger

Continued from Page 1

blood taken out. I was essentially being bled out," Seiz said.

It took three months to complete the cycle. His blood was monitored quarterly for any spikes in Ferritin levels.

With a low-iron, diet Seiz was able to steer clear of any recurrence. That was until last year.

In 2010, Seiz began the blood-draining process once again after another irregularity was detected.

It is doubtful that Seiz will ever be rid of hemochromatosis, but now he has a fighting chance.

"If the CWC didn't offer this test, I may not be here today," he said.

"There was no specific or visible reason to have my Ferritin level checked with my regular doctor," Seiz said. "It virtually went undetected and I could have died. The CWC saved my life."

Medical professionals suggest that you should see your physician regularly and have testing done annually.

"It is important to have routine visits with your primary care provider with the appropriate routine blood work since the ideal situation is to identify any disease or illness before it presents symptoms," said Dr. James Bilello, who operates Picatinny's Operational Health Clinic.

"The reason for this is that many if not most medical issues have better outcomes if caught early. This way a treatment plan or procedure can prevent the disease from getting worse. In some cases, as in routine colonoscopy screening, a cure can easily be achieved," Bilello said.

The Picatinny CWC will hold its annual blood test program June 7, 8, and 9 in the Lindner Conference Center in building 93 from 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Five specific tests are offered:

- CBC - \$20
- Lyme - \$19
- PSA - \$13
- Ferritin - \$11
- Thyroid - \$10

The Picatinny CWC has existed for 31 years. The council is responsible for annually establishing and managing an approved budget that supports, through funding requests, the allocation of funds for morale, welfare and recreation activities for Picatinny.

"The blood test is an 'MWR type' of event that the council chose to hold to support the interests of the Picatinny community," Dollberg said.

The CBC test requires 12 hours of fasting. However consuming black coffee, tea or water is allowed.

On the day of testing please bring your registration form, a legal size self-addressed stamped envelope and cash or check made payable to CWC.

You can download forms at <http://www.pica.army.mil/mwr/civilian-welfarecouncil/cwchomepage.htm>

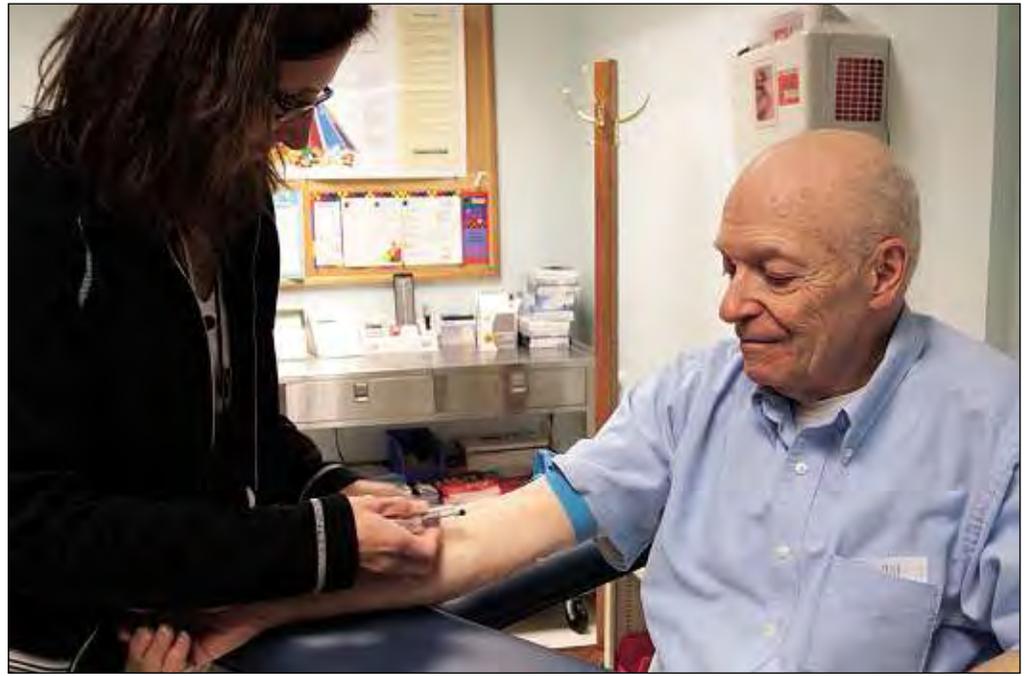


Photo by Todd Mozes

Karen Steffanie, a registered nurse at the Picatinny Occupational Health Clinic, prepares to draw blood from Raymond Seiz for a routine blood test.



Photo by Todd Mozes

Rabbi Dovid Bendory of Livingston, N.J., spoke at the Holocaust Days of Remembrance May 4 at the Lindner Conference Center. The subject of his talk was "Justice and Accountability in the Face of Genocide: What have we learned?" The event was sponsored by Team Picatinny.

THE PICATINNY VOICE



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All manuscripts, photos or artwork may not be returned without prior coordination. Digital images should be submitted at a resolution of at least 200 pixels per inch.

Due to space limitations, the editor reserves the right to edit submitted articles. Contributions can be sent by e-mail to picavoic@conus.army.mil.

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Submissions must be signed or received via e-mail through your own account to be considered for publication, but writer's names may be withheld upon request. Opinions expressed are those of each author and not an official expression of the Department of the Army or the Command.

The PicatinnyVoice reserves the right to select, reject or edit letters and articles to meet space constraints, achieve clarity or for propriety considerations.

<https://www.pica.army.mil/eVoice>

Test-fire experience helps Soldiers overcome any lingering skepticism

Continued from Page 1

There's also a new propellant in the EPR, designed to enhance its performance in the M4 Carbine rifle—what most Soldiers carry in Afghanistan.

The M4 has a shorter barrel than the M16 rifle, and barrel length is directly related to a bullet's velocity.

"The M855 leaving an M16 had a higher muzzle velocity than when it left the M4," Woods said. "Because the M16 is the longer barrel, you get the full burn of the powder, pushing a bullet to its maximum velocity before it left the barrel."

On an M4, however, the M855 bullet might leave the barrel before its powder is completely burned. That means the bullet isn't getting the full benefit of all the powder contained in its shell as well as increased muzzle flash.

"A longer-burning propellant is still burning when the round is leaving the barrel and you are going to get a brighter flash, which is obviously not good for Soldiers," Woods said.

IMPROVED MUZZLE VELOCITY

With the M855A1, both issues have been addressed.

The SMP-842 propellant in the EPR burns quicker, ensuring less muzzle flash in the M4, and improved muzzle velocity.

The performance of the EPR against soft targets equal to the M855 but is more consistent.

The new round is also superior to 7.62mm M80 against soft targets, Woods said.

At the same time the new "green round" is more Earth-friendly than both the M855 and the M80, it is also more effective than both of them against hard targets.

A test fire at Aberdeen Proving Ground range pitted the M855A1 round against the M855 and the M80 in multiple weapons.

"Coming up here and shooting it and seeing the performance, I'm sold on it. The trajectory and the ballistics are just as good as the M855 and the penetration is far superior to the M855."

The two 5.56mm rounds were fired in both the M4 and the M16, and the 7.62 M80 round was fired in an M14 Enhanced Battle Rifle. All three rounds are in use today.

In all test firings against a sheet of 3/8-inch mild steel plate at 300 meters, the M855A1 came out on top.

Test center video also showed the EPR to be equally superior against concrete masonry units that are similar to cinder block. The M855A1 was able to penetrate such a block up to about 75 meters with the M16, and up to about 50 meters with the M4.

The M855 round could not penetrate the blocks at those ranges.

Woods said Soldiers have been told to turn in M855 cartridges and switch now to EPR.

The month of February was the first time there has been more expenditure in theater with the EPR than with the M855.

Testing at Aberdeen has shown that the round is effective against realistic targets, Woods said.

But the round can't be effective against the enemy unless Soldiers use it in their weapons. Before they will want to use it, they need to trust that it works.

Staff Sgt. Jason Hopkins, of the Maneuvers Center of Excellence, Fort Benning, Ga., has served four years in Af-



Jim Newill of the Army Research Laboratory explains the effectiveness of the Army's M855A1 Enhanced Performance Round fired from an M4 Carbine against a 3/8 inch mild steel plate, and compares its performance against that of a 7.62mm M80 round fired from an M14 during a test fire at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The M80 round, unlike the M855A1 round, was unable to penetrate the plate at 300 meters. Army photo

ghanistan and two years in Iraq.

He's seen combat, and confirms that he's used his weapon against soft targets. At Aberdeen, he was one of the Soldiers who test fired the new round and says he's convinced.

"We were a little skeptical—like any change in the military," Hopkins said of the EPR.

"But coming up here and shooting it and seeing the performance, I'm sold on it. The trajectory and the ballistics are just as good as the M855 and the penetration is far superior to the M855."

"It looks like just a more consistent round," he continued. "With the M855 you may not always get the same thing, but everything we've seen with this EPR has been dead consistent every time."

Regarding the new round's accuracy, Hopkins said: "It's on par if not better."

Woods said testing also shows the EPR does produce a tighter shot group by about 2 inches at 600 meters.

As far as "stopping power" of the new

round, Hopkins expanded on what the term means to him—and reaffirmed his faith that the round would do its job when he might need to use it.

"Stopping power is incapacitation of a target so he cannot engage me or continue his mission," Hopkins said.

"I haven't used the EPR in that situation yet, but I've used the M855. It's been effective. But I truly believe the M855A1 will be more consistent."

Pvt. 1st Class Scott Lafferty, 1st Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, has served once in Iraq. He was also a tester at Aberdeen.

When he talks to other Soldiers about the round, he said he's going to tell them what he learned during his test experience.

"I'm going to tell them how we've shot both different kinds of rounds and how the M855A1 is superior," Lafferty said.

"They can test for themselves and find out. ... I'm confident the bullet will do what I've seen here today."

Why is the new ammunition so good?

Lt. Col. Jeffrey K. Woods
Product Manager
Small Caliber Ammunition

Copper jacket ... It uses the same copper cup (the cup is what it is called before it's drawn into a jacket) as the current M855, but is reverse drawn. This allows us to gain a significant cost savings on the jacket cups since we can use the same material as the M855. An earlier version used a more expensive cup. This was one of the cost reduction efforts that was a success.

Copper slug ... This slug replaces the lead slug in the current M855 and it's what makes the round environmentally friendly, eventually eliminating approximately 2000 metric tons of lead from production each year (once the M855A1 completely replaces the M855). This was also a planned cost reduction, but was accelerated when the original bi/sn (bismuth tin) slug had performance issues.

Penetrator ... This is the exposed hardened steel penetrator, giving the tip of the cartridge a bronze color due to the corrosion protection. This also



allows the M855A1 to have significant improvements in hard target performance, being able to penetrate 3/8" steel at approximately 400m distance. (Much further than the current M855.)

The M855 also has a steel penetrator hidden in the tip of the jacket, however the M855A1's penetrator is almost twice as heavy, sharper, and exposed, a combination that produces better performance.



Maj. Kralyn Thomas, Staff Sgt. Jason Hopkins and Pvt. 1st Class Scott Lafferty do battle damage assessment on a truck that was used for target practice on a range at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. Both Hopkins and Lafferty fired weapons as part of a demonstration to show the effectiveness of the Army's 5.56mm M855A1 Enhanced Performance Round. Army photo.

Military working dogs add combat bite

EDITOR'S NOTE: Military working dogs have long performed a variety of important duties. The use of a dog as part of the team that raided Osama bin Laden's compound has sparked interest in such dogs.

KHOWST PROVINCE, Afghanistan -- A dog jerks his leash and barks, showing his teeth, while his owner eggs him on. At first fiercely determined to warn any interlopers from coming closer, Anax, a 4-year-old German Shepherd, immediately stops barking when his handler gives the command, looking back as if to ask, "Well, how did I do?"

Anax, along with several of his fellow military working dogs and their handlers attached to Task Force Duke, conducted training April 5 involving detection, obedience and patrol skills at Forward Operating Base Salerno,

Afghanistan.

The training had three parts. The first involved a detection demonstration where the dog had to find an explosive in a building.

To complicate things, the scenario incorporated real-life distractions, to get the dog accustomed to such stimuli before going out into the field, said Sgt. Adam Murphy, a canine handler attached to 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Task Force Duke.

Dogs have thousands more sensors in their noses than humans, making them the ideal asset when it comes to detecting hidden explosives or narcotics, said Murphy.

After the detection phase, handlers conducted obedience training, where the dogs were run through an obstacle course.

Obedience is the foundation on which everything else is built, said Air Force Senior Airman Erin Sims, a canine handler from Robins Air Force Base, Ga., attached Task Force Duke.

"If you don't have obedience, you don't have anything else," Sims explained.

Before the obedience training could begin, however, each canine and his handler spent several minutes playing. This was to get the dog more relaxed.

The objective is to ensure the dog has a good time, Murphy said. The best results come when the dogs are in a playful frame of mind.

One of Murphy's favorite aspects of working with military working dogs is letting the dog be herself.

"Watching her run around just being be a dog is reward-



Military dogs go through their own form of basic and advanced training.

ing," Murphy said.

Patrolling was the last part of training, where the dog learns to subdue or apprehend a suspect through non-lethal methods.

A service member served as a decoy and the dog latched onto his arm during the attack.

"The first time you're a decoy may be scary, because you see a big dog running at you and you think 'what am I supposed to do?'" said Sims. "After a while you get used to it."

Before the dogs can begin this scenario-specific training, they go through their own version of basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, where they learn the fundamental skills necessary to operate as a working dog. The course is about four months long.

Dogs emerge out of training with the most basic of skills, much like Soldiers straight out of basic training. They are soon assigned to a handler, who prepares them to go into combat.

Going over obedience skills daily is the key to getting them up to speed, said Murphy.

When a handler first picks up a dog, the handler spends many hours trying to build a rapport. In many ways, it's like trying to build that team mentality Soldiers often build in their squads, said Murphy.

However, dogs don't think as humans do. To build that relationship, handlers often spend hours playing with them, taking

them for walks and just spending time with them. It's often frustrating and time consuming work, Murphy said.

"They have to know that you'll take care of them," Murphy said. "Every dog is different. It can take a couple days or a couple of months before the dog starts clicking with you."

Missions can be unpredictable and the handlers need to be ready to move at any time. The dogs don't know what's going on, so the handlers have to guide them and keep them focused, said Spc. Marc Whittaker, a canine handler.

"Your dog is as fast-changing as you can be," Whittaker said, speaking of the need to be able to react to any situation while in the field. "It's all about how you get the dog to accept it."

One of the hardest aspects of being a canine handler is getting too attached and eventually having to leave the dog. The handlers spend a lot of time getting to know their dog and often become emotionally invested in their well-being, Murphy said.

Leaving them or sending them into harm's way can be devastating.

"You built that connection, and you know somebody is going to pick up that dog," Whittaker said.

"No dog is like your first dog, but as a Soldier you have to suck it up and drive on and continue the mission."

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Teams' Tournament winners

BY BETH ALBINSON

The U.S. Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center (ARDEC) held its 24th Annual Teams' Tournament on May 9.

This team-building event provided an opportunity for Picatinny's teams to compete for prizes with a rally atmosphere to celebrate their accomplishments.

Thirty teams submitted entries and competed in one of seven different categories: Integrated Product Team (over and under \$1 million), Natural Working Group, Self Directed Work Group, Process Action Teams, Community Outreach and Six Sigma.

First and second place winners in each category received awards. The winning teams were presented with a certificate signed by ARDEC Director Dr. Gerardo Melendez and a Teams' Tournament medallion.

Dual frame/clocks were awarded to the first-place teams, and clocks designed by Peggy Karr were presented to second place teams. The awards were based on team write-ups evaluated against pre-established criteria by independent judges from across Picatinny.

More than 200 employees received an award. Door prizes were also given out to persons in attendance. The ceremony was open to the entire Picatinny workforce. The Dover High School Band and ARDEC Chorus provided patriotic music, which augmented the celebratory mood and contributed to the event's success. The event was planned and orchestrated by the ARDEC PEPPERS Team.

The following are the winning teams by category:

IPT Over \$1million 1st Place: Green Ammo Team

The Green Ammo Team's main objective over the last year was to field the M855A1 Enhanced Performance Round (EPR). The M855A1 EPR is an environmentally friendly 5.56mm cartridge that provides the Warfighter with superior small arms defeat capability. The M855A1 EPR provides consistent performance, increases effectiveness at extended distances and significantly increases the range of hard target performance with no increase in cartridge weight. The M855A1 EPR program delivers an improvement to the existing M855 cartridge that incorporates environmental requirements as well as a new propellant that increases velocity and reduces muzzle flash. Field reports of performance issues with M855 coupled with the environmental hazard of lead accumulation at military ranges, spurred the need for the M855A1 EPR lead-free round. The fielding of the M855A1 rounds represents the most significant accomplishment in small caliber ammunition in decades.

IPT Over \$1million 2nd Place: REDSHIRT Team

The main objective of the REDSHIRT team is to provide warfighters the capability to perform missions remotely and to protect from Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) without putting Soldiers in the line of fire, rugged enough to perform in any operational environment, and perform multiple mission types that meet the current capability gaps. The REDSHIRT team has refurbished and upgraded the existing Ripsaw MS2 for the purposes of CONOPS/TTP development CONUS and is planning to manufacture 5 prototype Ripsaw MS4 systems, as well as provide spare parts to support limited user assessment in OEF. The team is also providing engineering support during system integration, manufacturing, and test and evaluation phase CONUS to assure MS2 and MS4 are safe for troops to operate a successful operational assessment (OA).

IPT Under \$1million 1st Place: Lab Demo Automation System Team

This team was tasked by ARDEC leadership to develop software to automate the new Laboratory Personnel Demonstrator Contribution based pay system (Lab Demo). The software developed by the team is called Lab Demo Automation System (LDAS.) With an extremely aggressive schedule, Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) from across ARDEC were assembled in August of 2011 to form a cohesive and comprehensive team that could gather requirements from the customer, draft a software design and architecture, develop and test the software, Pilot the software to the community at Picatinny, develop training and subsequently train all ARDEC Lab Demo personnel and launch the software by the Federally mandated launch date of March 27, 2011.

Natural Work Group 1st Place: Value Engineering (VE) Team

The team's objective is to continuously improve the VE presence at the Picatinny site. This includes providing adequate VE training to the workforce, being proactive through various forms of outreach to the community and closely integrating ourselves with other cost savings/cost avoidance efforts in order to maximize the overall success of the VE activity at Picatinny.

Natural Work Group 2nd Place: Ideas Bucket Team

The Ideas Bucket Team's objective is to create an initiative that generates improvement activities for ARDEC, QESA both as an organization and in our work environment. The team also aims to create a means to offer QESA associates opportunities to volunteer and take ownership (if desired) of pieces of the improvement activities for our organization. Lastly, the team is to develop a method of assessing the Ideas that are generated through the initiative. The above stated goals were accomplished through the Concept phase of the project with the deliverables of: the Ideas Bucket website and the Ideas review panel. In execution of the project, the team's objectives are to encourage Idea generation and provide the tools necessary for Ideas to succeed.

Self Directed Work Team 1st place: Target Behavioral Response Team

The Target Behavioral Response Laboratory (TBRL) conducts research on human behavior



30 teams compete for awards

in response to non-lethal weapons stimuli in operationally-relevant situations. In addition, the TBRL conducts full scale target measurements on human-in-the-loop systems, collecting data on system performance measures, operator position/orientation and physiological responses. The TBRL evaluates the performance of Scalable Effects, lethality-enabling systems, less-than-lethal weapons, emerging technologies and devices. Testing occurs at all points of the development cycle in order to meet the needs of the US Army warfighter. The TBRL conducts several experimental protocols and projects concurrently. Scientists and engineers with different areas of expertise are assigned to activities based on the needs of the particular research. The diverse experience of the group assures a comprehensive interdisciplinary approach to the problem to be solved or the question to be answered.

Self Directed Work Team 2nd place: ARDEC Science Fair Team

The primary purpose of the event is to have ARDEC S&T programs share information on their projects with all stakeholders. It is my intent to have all ARDEC TECHBASE programs participate in the events of this day. The projects include In-House Laboratory Independent Research (ILIRs), Army Technical Objectives (ATOs), Army Manufacturing Technology (Man Tech), tech base programs other than ATOs, Congressional and Technical Exploitation, Experimentation and Examination (TEXX) Programs. Displays will be set up to give an opportunity for Engineers and Scientists to have a one-on-one dialogue with the participants. This event will increase visibility and awareness of the programs that are being worked on within ARDEC.

Community Outreach 1st Place: Picatinny Toastmasters

With public speaking listed as the number one fear across business professionals, the Picatinny Toastmasters Club's main objective is to create a safe and growth-oriented environment where club members and guests can hone their public speaking and presentation skills and receive encouraging evaluations from their peers. Members get an opportunity to build listening and feedback skills by providing evaluations on speakers, organizers, and the overall meeting. Finally, our members have multiple opportunities to develop their leadership experience by taking on specific roles within the meetings and club management on a local and district level.

Toastmasters program increases employee morale, and community support, by providing continual opportunities to actively exercise communication, leadership and listening skills, all of which enhance the image of ARDEC and the professionals employed here.

Community Outreach 2nd Place: Ecybermission Judges Team

ARDEC volunteers participated in judging of the eCYBERMISSION challenge - part of the Army's effort to promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) with today's youth through a Web based science fair competition. Sixth through ninth grade student teams identify a community problem related to topics including Energy, the Environment, National Security and Health & Fitness. Teams work collaboratively using the scientific method to conduct research, hypothesize, run experiments to test hypotheses and draw conclusions from data to propose a solution. Picatinny participants evaluated hundreds of projects across the nation and Department of Defense territories worldwide. Winning teams are recognized with scholarship awards at the state, regional, and national levels. By reaching out to neighboring schools and students worldwide, we have enhanced the image of Picatinny, its role in the community and potentially helped develop the next generation of ARDEC Scientists and Engineers.

Process Action Team 1st Place: ARDEC 5S Challenge Team

ARDEC 5S Challenge Initiative Development Team was formed in response to ARDEC's goal of developing efficiency initiatives and processes to reduce potential safety risks in support of the pursuit of the Shingo Prize.

The 5S (Sort, Straighten, Sweep, Standardize and Sustain) Challenge is one component of the larger mission to become a more effective and efficient enterprise. The ARDEC 5S Challenge is an ARDEC wide effort led by the ARDEC Lean Six Sigma Competency Office and QE&SA team members to improve processes and procedures based upon 5S concepts that are a subset of Lean Methodology. It was the organizing team's mission to develop and deploy training and mentoring to foster an environment in which 5S event teams could successfully complete a 5S improvement event. More importantly teams were required to utilize a 5S "common sense" approach within ARDEC's facilities and office areas to improve organizational efficiency, while reducing or mitigating safety related hazards

Process Action Team 2nd Place: Effects System Integration Domain Team

The Effects SID serves as the Command functional lead for technology integration and engineering solutions within the Effects domain to optimize commonality, reduce complexity and life cycle costs, and manage technology transitions and integration. The Effects domain includes all individual or platform integrated weapon systems that create a specific lethal or non-lethal effect on target to include ammunition, missile, weapon, guidance and fire control. We are responsible for understanding current and future Army and Joint requirements and threats by identifying capability gaps and road maps to synchronize development efforts across platforms and technologies. Support to OPORD 10-010, SID/TFT process enables RDECOM to strategically manage its portfolio through an efficient and effective planning and management process utilizing prioritized capability gaps and needs to drive program formulation & transition; allowing RDECOM to be the Army's "Honest Broker" for technology development.

Continued on Page 10





Michael Seery



Colleen Baron

FEB honors Picatinny Arsenal employees

Two Picatinny Arsenal employees were recognized for their workplace contributions at the 2011 Federal Executive Board (FEB) Award presentation May 6 at the Brownstone in Patterson, N.J.

Michael Seery, an electrical technician for the Advanced Materials Technology Branch at ARDEC, won for Craftsman/Tradesman.

Colleen Baron, a staff member with Morale, Welfare and Recreation, won the 2011 FEB Award for Non-Federal Employee.

Other federal employees were also recognized for their contributions to safety, quality healthcare, innovation and community support.

Seery has building manager responsibilities in Building 60 and supports engineers, for short-term corrosion and mechanical engineering testing. However, over the past three years, his responsibilities have greatly increased as the branch has made a push to enter new technology area, including lithium-ion battery materials testing, thermal battery testing, and nanoink development for inkjet

printing of flexible electronic circuits.

Throughout his years, Seery has demonstrated ingenuity. When engineers from the Non-lethal Munitions Branch needed assistance in setting up a high-energy power test bed, Seery suggested they recycle the large capacitor banks that Picatinny used on a previous electromagnetic gun program.

Baron works at the Cannon Gate Catering Center and Sam Adams Pub.

She was nominated for her professionalism in supporting efforts to publicize the dining options at Picatinny Arsenal.

Her work has led to improvements and enhancements in the operations of the facilities, which in turn has generated more business for MWR.

Baron interacts with a wide-range of people from the ARDEC community and families that live on the post.

Baron is noted for having a cordial nature that makes all persons feel welcome when they are planning or hosting a large event.

PicatinnyBriefs

Memorial Day speakers needed

Once again, the Public Affairs Office is looking for military officers and non-commissioned officers willing to represent Picatinny and the Armed Services at several local Memorial Day observances later this month.

Won't you please consider volunteering for one of these requests?

Public Affairs will provide remarks, directions and the name/number of points of contact.

To volunteer for this important community relations function, call Gordon James at x6364.

ARDEC visit planned for Shingo Prize

ARDEC headquarters has received notification by the Shingo Prize Program Office that ARDEC will be receiving a site visit to clarify, verify and assess our deployment of lean principles based upon The Shingo Prize for Operational Excellence model and criteria.

Dates for the site visit are yet to be determined, but the visit is expected to last two or three days with site-visit teams at various ARDEC geographic locations to meet and speak directly with members of the workforce.



Photo by Todd Mozes

Picatinny Commanding General and Program Executive Officer for Ammunition, Brig. Gen. Jonathan Maddux, and New Jersey's oldest Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, Nicholas Oresko, speak during a Peter F. Leslie Chapter 54 Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge meeting at the Cannon Gate Catering and Conference Center May 11. Both were special guests at the meeting. Former Master Sgt. Oresko was awarded the Medal of Honor in 1945 for single-handedly attacking two enemy bunkers after deadly automatic enemy fire had pinned down his unit.

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The Program Executive Office for Ammunition now has its own Facebook and Twitter sites.

The Picatinny Public Affairs Office invites you to friend PEO Ammo, ask questions, leave comments and interact via our social media sites at:

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Looking Back ... At Picatinny



BY PATRICK J. OWENS
ARDEC Historian

Tomorrow, May 21, is Armed Forces Day. Picatinny could not hold a ceremony this year, but it has held or participated in many in the 62 years since the first Armed Forces Day in 1949.

Here are photos of the second celebration, a parade sponsored by the Morris County Citizens Committee and held in Dover on May 20, 1950.

In the first photo is the arsenal's float on Blackwell Street. Also among the 5,000 participants were members of the New Jersey National Guard's 113th Tank Battalion shown, in the second photo.

Also note the Fannie Farmer's sign to the left. It may spark fond memories in chocolate lovers of a certain age.

Tournament winners show excellence in performance

Analytical tools help achieve project goals

Continued from Page 7

Six Sigma 1st Place: Redefining the Problem Change Team

LSS Project 676 reviewed the inefficiencies of Data Review Boards (DRBs) held to discuss defects in software systems. A Problem Change Request (PCR) documents software defects throughout the lifecycle of a project.

All PCRs are prioritized based on MIL-STD-498, Priority 1 (critical) through Priority 5 (Minor). In order to Materiel Release (MR) a software project, all Priority 1, 2, and 3 PCRs must be closed, and all Priority 4 and 5 PCRs must be closed or deferred.

A DRB inefficiency experienced was the time spent arguing PCR priorities. Currently, the PCR priority definitions used are highly subjective and inconsistent.

Improperly prioritized PCRs represent a quality risk in that high priority or safety issues have the potential for being released to soldiers in the field.

Our goal was to develop a standard set of clearly defined PCR priority definitions to be used across multiple software development projects, and to reduce the reprioritization rate of PCRs by 20 percent.

Six Sigma 2nd Place: T65E1 Barrel Erosion Team

LSS black belt project # 540 "T65E1 Replacement Project for 7.62 mm Barrel Erosion Test" was initiated to develop a new method for replacement of the T65E1 machine gun with M240 machine gun to conduct 7.62 mm barrel erosion test.

The project was sponsored by PM-MAS. Team members worked on modeling and simulation, test development, root cause analysis, statistical analysis, and conduct of live fire tests lead by the black belt who integrated the project actions.

Team members were successful in developing a new method and SOP using CDOV methodology which resulted in projected cost savings of \$560,000 dollars, reduced lead time from one month to less than a one week, and increased user confidence due to performance of barrel erosion test.



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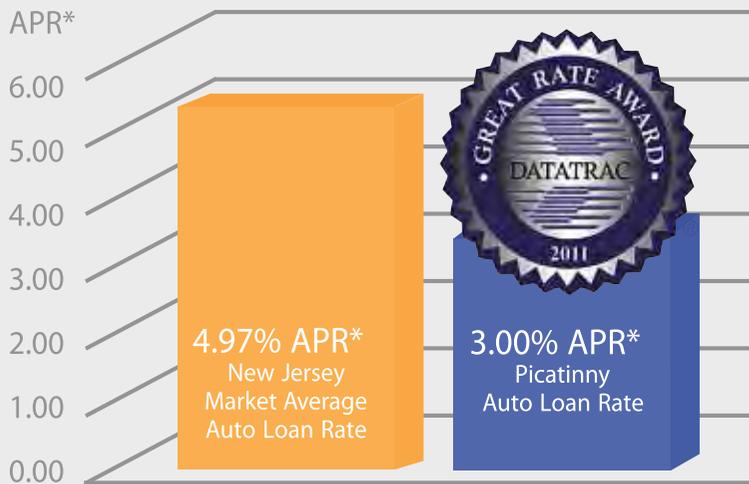


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