

One June 11, 2008 Lieutenant General Thomas F. Metz, Director of Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization (JIEDDO), visited Picatinny to assess the latest products and technologies available to help JIEDDO accomplish its mission of defeating the threat from roadside bombs (IEDs) and the enemy networks that make them. The visit included an up-close view of the Self Protection Adaptive Kit (SPARK) and the Rhino briefed by PM CCS PM IED Defeat/Protect Force and the IED Interrogation Arm and Vehicle Optic Sensor System presented by PM Countermine & EOD.

JIEDDO has an annual budget of roughly \$4 billion to counter lethal weapons such as IEDs. LTC Metz was accompanied on his tour by Dr. Charles Lind, Deputy of the Technology & Requirements Integration Division of JIEDDO and Dr. Jim Wargo, Science and Technology Advisor of JIEDDO.