

# INSIDE STRI

ORLANDO, FLORIDA

JANUARY 2007

## Bolton's TADSS Memo Sets STRI Apart

By Kristen Dooley, Public Affairs Specialist

The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (ASA(ALT)) granted the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI) the acquisition authority for all Army Training Aids, Devices, Simulators and Simulations (TADSS) in a memorandum released Dec. 11.

"As the U.S. Army's acquisition center of excellence for training and testing enablers, I expect PEO STRI to work with all PEOs and PMs as they ensure effective and cost efficient execution of TADSS acquisition programs," Claude M. Bolton Jr., assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, wrote.

The policy represents a paradigm shift to the Army's current business model for system and non-system training devices and situates PEO STRI as the supporting-arm in the acquisition of all training devices for the other Program Executive Offices (PEOs) and Program Managers (PMs).

"[The policy] will allow the Army



Under the U.S. Army's new business model, PEO STRI will become an integral part in the acquisition of training devices and simulators, such as the Engagement Skills Trainer pictured above.

U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub

to maximize the training infrastructure investments in both the Equipping and Training Program Evaluation Groups," said Joseph A. Giunta Jr., strategic integrator for PEO STRI. "This also means we will now be able to leverage our mission programs both technically and from a programmatic

perspective to gain the maximum efficiencies possible for all Army training requirements."

In accordance with the Army's transformation process, the policy will facilitate interoperability across the live, virtual and constructive training environments. The policy effects operational,

Continued on page 7

## Citizen STRI

“What is your New Year's resolution?”

Want your opinion heard? Answer February's Question! *In light of President's Day, what U.S. president has had the greatest impact and why?* Send your response to [kristen.dooley@us.army.mil](mailto:kristen.dooley@us.army.mil) and put Citizen STRI in the subject line.



**Glenda Torres**  
PM ITTS

"My New Year's resolution is to learn as much as possible about the PM ITTS programs to be able to support our customers and meet their needs."



**Frank Dougherty**  
PM TRADE

"My New Year's resolution is to lose 15 pounds!"



**Briann Richardson**  
PM CATT

"I seriously didn't make any resolutions this year in order not to disappoint myself."



**Mario Aquirre**  
PSG

"My New Year's resolution is to grow spiritually."



U.S. Army Photos

# Digital Media Forum to feature MARCbot

By Kristen Dooley, Public Affairs Specialist

The Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI) will represent the Robotic Systems Joint Project Office at the second-annual Orlando Electronic Interactive Entertainment Convention (OTRONICON).

“OTRONICON was created to show how the cultural phenomenon of video games is changing everything from art, to education, to business, to military training,” said Dr. Brian Tonner, president and chief executive officer of the Orlando Science Center. “PEO STRI is a compelling example of how this technology serves as a vital resource for a Soldier’s training.”

The 10-day convention commences Jan. 12 at the Orlando Science Center and explores technology, science, culture, and simulation through competitions, workshops, exhibits and games. PEO STRI will exhibit the Multi Function Agile Remote-Controlled Robot, or MARCbot, a device used primarily for reconnaissance

and Improvised Explosive Device detection.

“The MARCbot is the robot of choice because it’s fairly inexpensive, maneuverable and easy to operate,” said Dusty Woodlee, customer advocate for the PEO STRI customer support group. “The X-box generation can become a pro in operating the robot after about 10 minutes.”

The MARCbot resembles a large remote-controlled car with a retractable arm, all-terrain wheels and a wireless video camera. The operator maneuvers the robot with a monitored remote-control that allows the operator to see what the robot sees.

In addition to operating PEO STRI’s MARCbot and visiting the array of exhibits, convention attendees will be able to play videogames on the IMAX-style domed theater.

The convention highlights primarily Orlando-based companies and emphasizes Central Florida’s flourishing digital media industry.

The Orlando Science Center’s website touts OTRONICON as an event intended for people of all ages and interests.

“Not solely an educational symposium, a series of videogame tournaments or a simulation exhibit, OTRONICON is an assemblage of all three and much more. More importantly, it is open to everyone from serious gamers to the simply curious, from teens to families. The general public is able to see firsthand the enormous impact that interactive technology is making on our lives.”

Last year, the digital media festival attracted more than 16,000 attendees, in which PEO STRI featured military-based videogames including DARWARS Ambush! ■

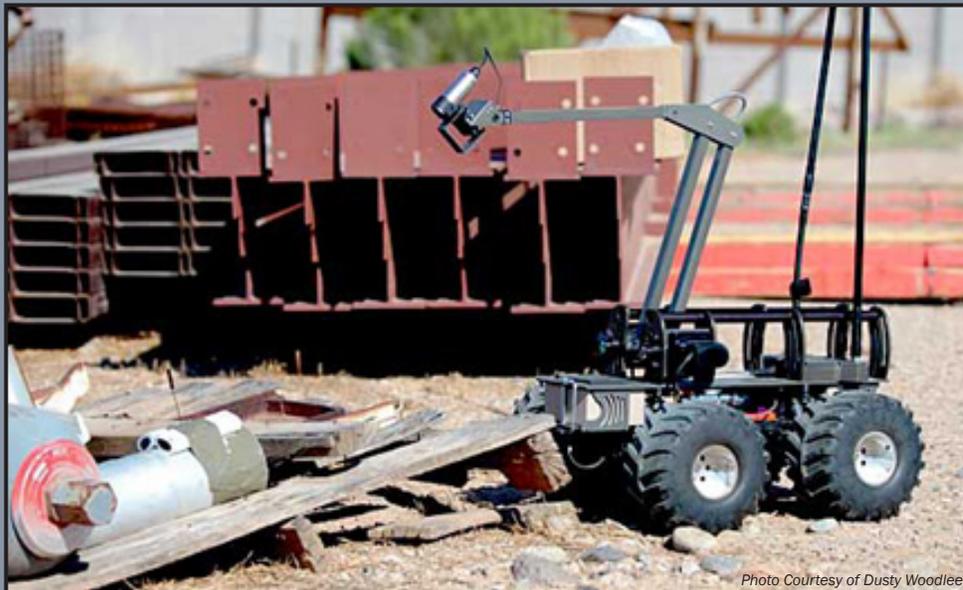


Photo Courtesy of Dusty Woodlee

**OTRONICON.** The MARCbot, which is set to appear at the upcoming Otronicon, resembles an oversized remote-controlled car one could find at the local toy store. This robot was chosen for the virtual gaming convention largely due to its operational ease.



## Hours

Monday-Thursday: 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
 Fridays: 4:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.  
 Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.  
 Sundays: 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

## Volunteer Information

Contact Ms. Stephanie Hicks at (407) 384-5403 to volunteer in the PEO STRI booth. Exhibitors will receive complimentary parking and free admission into the Orlando Science Center. While you volunteer, ask for a complimentary pass for friends and family to enjoy the Orlando Science Center’s OTRONICON.

## Contact Information

777 East Princeton Street,  
 Orlando, Florida 32803-1291  
 Phone: 407.514.2000  
 Toll Free: 888.OSC.4FUN

# Traveling Overseas?

By Bill Osborne, Chief Security Officer

Overseas travel briefings should already be a routine part of your preparation for all overseas trips. Once provided with your destination country and itinerary, the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation's (PEO STRI) Security Office reviews the Defense Intelligence Agency's (DIA) Threat Matrix, completes an all-source search of intelligence products, highlights information deemed most relevant for our personnel and prepares briefing materials for review by each traveler.

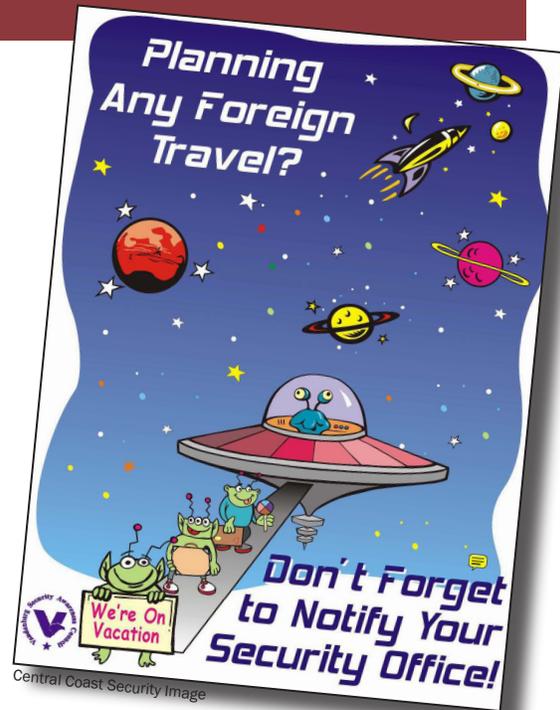
Updated daily, the DIA Threat Matrix provides the most current intelligence assessments available for the threat to the Department of Defense's interests worldwide. DIA prepares the information for a wide variety of customers including planners, deployed forces, personnel being assigned overseas and individuals on temporary duty. Threat assessments are categorized by source, such as foreign intelligence service activity and terrorism and are assigned relative risk values of critical, high, medium and low. Based on the current risk and threat assessment, you may be scheduled to come to the Security Office to review classified intelligence summaries to better prepare for your overseas travel.

Sometimes a trip to the Security Office isn't

necessary. In those instances, the Security Office will compile unclassified information pertinent to your destination from the State Department website and e-mail it to the traveler. The information nominally includes the appropriate embassy page that contains contact information, worldwide travelers' advisory, and a "Tips for Travelers" information sheet prepared by the Security Office and the local 902nd Military Intelligence Field Office. The State Department website (<http://www.state.gov/travelandbusiness>) is publicly accessible and contains a wealth of information you and your family might find helpful.

The Security Office provides classified overseas travel briefings for all assigned military, civil service employees and support contractors. The only criteria for accessing this information are a valid secret security clearance and need to know (both are validated by the Security Office before you are scheduled for your briefing). This service is provided for both official travel and unofficial travel. Intelligence analyses are essentially a snapshot in time and quite often considered "perishable." For that reason, the Security Office schedules briefings as close to your departure date as possible.

Personnel with access to Sensitive Compartmented Information must report all



official and personal overseas travel to the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division special security officer, Ms. Jennifer Breiner at (407) 380-8754.

The PEO STRI Security Office point of contact is Ms. Donnette Hart at (407) 384-3541. ■

## Hails and Farewells

### Hails

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Scott Syring      | PSG     |
| Leigh Kellstrom   | PSG     |
| Glenda Torres     | PSG     |
| Mario Aguirre     | CSG     |
| Nancy Potts       | PSG     |
| Justin Woolsey    | PSG     |
| John Loper        | PSG     |
| Aida Caron        | PM ITTS |
| Frank Dougherty   | PSG     |
| Vicky Wei         | PSG     |
| Briann Richardson | PSG     |

### Farewells

|                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Thomas Kelso      | PM FF(S)  |
| Valerie Redd      | PSG       |
| Sonia Graham      | PEO Staff |
| Lorraine Hotz     | PSG       |
| Alvin Boudreaux   | PM CATT   |
| Ivette Feliciano  | PSG       |
| Everette Stephens | CSG       |

## Protocol TIP OF THE MONTH

By Marge Hadbavny

When You're Invited...

Whether it's to a wedding or a conference, an invitation comes with very important responsibilities. Here is a quick guide to keep you on the guest list:

- RSVP within a day or two of receiving an invitation
- Reply in the manner indicated on the invitation
- Do not cancel if a better offer arises
- Do not ask to bring someone not included on the invitation
- Thank your host before you leave

SOURCE: Emily Post Institute, Inc.

# Phishing: A Very Dangerous Sport

By Bill Osborne, Chief Security Officer

Modern day outlaws no longer need a gun and a mask. Most of today's cyber criminals need a computer, an internet connection and a comfortable armchair.

The vulnerability of the internet has become more obvious with the increase of sophisticated scams, such as "phishing," an analogy for internet scammers who use e-mails to "fish" for sensitive information from a "sea" of unsuspecting users. Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI) employees have not been immune to phishing, in which our local area network has included e-mail messages that appear to have originated from trusted businesses such as Bank of America. Fortunately, our employees took the appropriate steps to report the incident. Unwitting victims who respond to phishing scams on a government unclassified network could compromise the security of the entire network.

Spear phishing, a relatively new technique, is a much greater threat and a highly targeted phishing attempt. The attacker selectively chooses the recipient and usually has a thorough understanding of the target's command or organization. Since this is not a random e-mail, the attacker may use command-specific jargon and commonly used abbreviations, and may even address you by name! He or she will reference standard operating procedures or Department of Defense (DOD) instructions. The e-mail may appear quite genuine and

have legitimate operational and exercise nicknames, terms, and keywords in the message.

Should you be worried? Definitely. These kinds of attacks are occurring within DOD. The attacker's primary objective is to get you to open an attachment or follow a web link. These actions may install malicious software. Unlike typical phishing attacks, spear phishing attacks within the DOD are not for identity theft. They are intended to gather sensitive information. Everyone within DOD is a target.

This year's web-based Information Assurance (IA) Awareness training contains information designed to raise your situational awareness of the threat and identify the appropriate actions to counter a threat. Training is mandatory and must be completed by Jan. 17.

The IA Awareness training may be accessed from inside or outside the PEO STRI local area network: [https://ssl.peostri.army.mil/TRAINING/course\\_web.jsp](https://ssl.peostri.army.mil/TRAINING/course_web.jsp).

After 11:00 a.m. on Jan. 17, the chief information officer will lock user accounts of those who have not completed the training. To have a locked account unlocked, users will need to call the Help Desk at extension 4832. Users

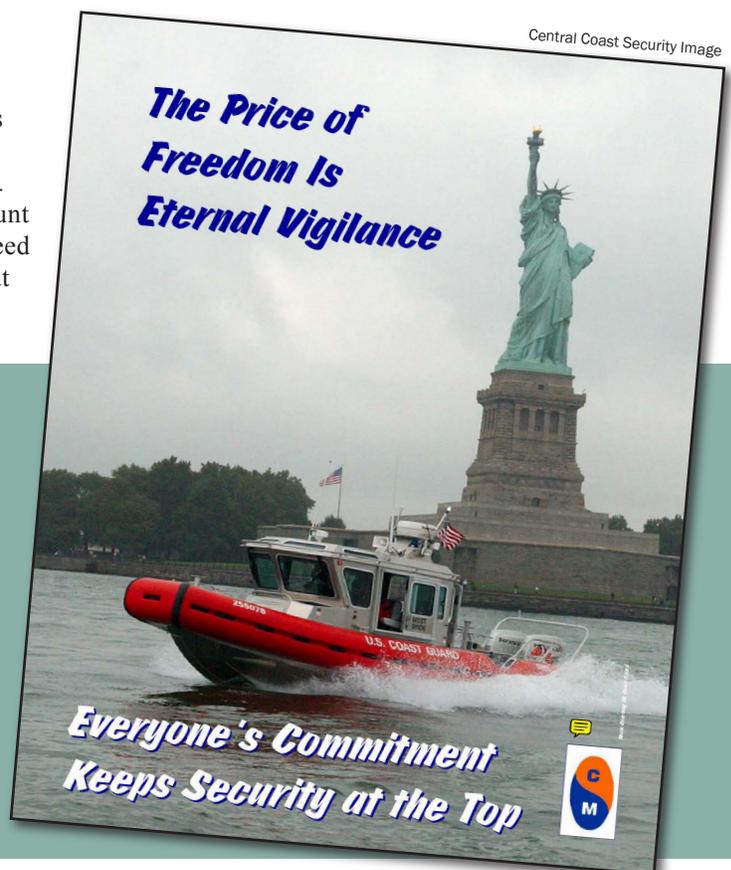
will be given four hours to complete the training or the account will be relocked.

For more information on security, IA matters, or if you suspect any unusual activity or security compromise on your government workstation, contact the IA program manager, Craig Thornley at extension 3971; the IA manager, Don Cruden via e-mail; the IA security officer, Judy Crawford at extension 5333; or the security office, Bill Osborne at extension 3540 or Donnette Hart at extension 3541.

Be aware! Social engineering can be a very effective method for persuading individuals to compromise both information and infrastructure. It is a threat that will always exist and cannot be contained by anti-virus software, firewalls or intrusion detection systems. It only takes one unaware employee to make a social engineering attack successful and as a result, makes employees the weak link in a security policy. Don't be that weak link. An informed, vigilant user is the best protection we have from these attacks. ■

## While there is no way to recognize an e-mail message as a spear phishing attempt, here are some factors to watch for:

- Generic greeting,
- Fake sender's address,
- False sense of urgency; e.g., "We need this information IMMEDIATELY!"
- Fake web links, or deceptive web links within the e-mail,
- E-mails that appear like a website, and
- Misspellings and bad grammar.



# OneSAF Training Teams Deploy

By Heather Kelly, Public Affairs Officer

*Software distribution teams with the Product Manager One Semi-Automated Forces (OneSAF) will deploy in January to begin on-site training around the country.*



The first Army stations to receive the OneSAF Objective System (OOS) training are Fort Hood, Texas, and Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

“We are sending five to six individuals out to train OneSAF users at different installations,” said Lt. Col. Rob Rasch, product manager for OneSAF.

“They are teaching everything from basic OneSAF 101 to how to install and run specific admin functions, how to set up for distributed networks and how to get in there and start manipulating the system,” he said.

“The unique thing about this program is that it’s open

source,” said Rasch. “So it allows users to make adjustments based on their needs,” he added.

A mobile training lab will accompany the OneSAF training teams to the installations. “We have a suite of 20

laptops that we take for the users to train on so we can start training immediately and it will all be integrated,” said Rasch.

“The goal at the end of two weeks is to run OneSAF off the site’s software,” said Rasch. “We have a culminating event, a battalion-level scenario, so they can apply what they have learned and fight the fight,” he said.

“We have a culminating event, a battalion-level scenario, so they can apply what they have learned and fight the fight,”

— Lt. Col. Rob Rasch

The OneSAF software distribution team is scheduled to train users at Fort Rucker, Ala., Fort

Lee, Va., Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., Fort Knox, Ky., and the Soldiers Battle Lab at Fort Benning, Ga.

OneSAF version 1.0 was released in September 2006. Final testing of OneSAF version 1.1 is currently underway. ■

## PM ITTS Reaches Out to the Community at Christmas

By Kathleen Lopez, Senior Project Coordinator, Threat Systems Management Office

The holidays can be a stressful time of year especially for those in need. It’s a time when the less fortunate can really use the assistance of others to get through the season.

Christmas Charities Year Round (CCYR) is a program through the Crisis Services of North Alabama, a non-profit organization, that provides support to needy families in the Huntsville, Ala. area. The Project Manager for Instrumentation, Targets and Threat Simulators’ Threat Systems Management Office (TSMO), has supported CCYR for the past six years and the program has become a signature public service event during the holiday season.

“We do this in the true spirit of giving and not for any recognition,” said Deborah McLemore, business management division chief for TSMO. “All donations are voluntary on the part of TSMO employees.”

The organization provides year-round support services such as clothing, food, utilities, and other services for families who apply and qualify for assistance.

This past Christmas, TSMO was asked to support two families in the Huntsville area with two children each. TSMO was able to provide approximately \$800 per family. Their contribution consisted of toys, clothing and food.

In addition to two families, TSMO was asked to adopt a third family less than a week before Christmas. Without hesitation, TSMO gladly accepted the request by supporting this family with more than \$450 in clothes, toys and household items. CCYR supplied the third family with the food they needed.

All items were purchased, wrapped, and delivered by TSMO personnel to the families on the Friday before Christmas. Christmas is an especially busy time of the year for CCYR. The list of families in need of assistance during the holiday season runs in the hundreds. The Crisis Services of North Alabama continues to thrive with the assistance of donations from the community.

For more information on the charity, visit [www.csna.org/view\\_agency.php?agency\\_id=118](http://www.csna.org/view_agency.php?agency_id=118). ■



**For more information on the charity, visit [www.csna.org](http://www.csna.org)**



We do this in the true spirit of giving and not for any recognition.”



— Deborah McLemore

# LEGAL CORNER

## You May Be Eligible for a Social Security Tax Credit

By Laura Cushler, PEO STRI Associate Counsel

Are you a federal employee under the Federal Employees Retirement System and a member of a Reserve component or the National Guard? Do you have a second job besides your federal position?

If so, you may be entitled to a dollar-for-dollar tax credit for some of the Social Security that you paid. There is a limit to the amount of income subject to Social Security, so if you have more than one employer—even if those employers are both part of the Department of Defense—you may have paid too much Social Security tax and may claim a credit on your tax return.

Under the current law, each employer only deducts Social Security from the wages paid to each employee by that employer. There is no

“big system in the sky” that is keeping track of how much Social Security tax is taken out of your total wages from more than one job.

Therefore, you should look at “Social Security Tax Withheld” (Box 4) on each Wages and Tax Statement (W-2) that you receive for 2006 and add up the amount of Social Security you paid.

If the amount exceeds \$5,840.40, you may claim a credit for the excess amount. In 2006, the maximum amount of income subject to Social Security tax is \$94,200. If you made more than that, you should feel very good about it. In addition, if your income exceeded the \$94,200 cap, you paid too much Social Security and you are entitled to a credit.

If you receive a refund, every dollar of credit is an additional dollar in your pocket. If you owe the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the amount of tax owed will be reduced by the excess amount of Social Security you paid.

You must actively claim this credit when you file your taxes. In order to claim this credit, you must file a regular Individual Tax Return (Form-1040). You may enter the amount of excess Social Security tax paid in Block 67.

For more information, see IRS Publication 17, chapter 37, “Other Credits.” See specifically the section on “Credit for Excess Social Security Tax or Railroad Retirement Tax Withheld.” This publication is available from the IRS on [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). Happy filing! ■

### JANUARY



### Upcoming Holidays and Events

- January 1 . . . . . New Year’s Day
- January 5 . . . . . Colors (all military)
- January 6 . . . . . Army All-American Bowl Game
- January 15 . . . . . Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 23-25 . . . . . TechNet Symposium
- January 24 . . . . . Lt. Gen. Ross Thompson III Visits

### ON CYBER PATROL

As covered or mandated by AR 25-2



TADSS article... continued from front page

institutional, home station, combat training centers and deployed training.

“The policy is only as good as the implementation process we put in place over the next few months,” Giunta stated.

In order to amend the current procedure of procuring training devices, PEO STRI will work with the other PEOs and PMs to develop the strategy and partnerships needed to implement the policy.

“This policy has officially opened the door for us to now educate the other PEOs on what we bring to them in terms of program, technical and financial value,” Giunta asserted.

Under the policy, PEOs and PMs are encouraged to develop and field TADSS as part of weapons systems. In addition, they must understand the demands of software-intensive and network-enabled weapon systems and train as part of a network.

“My objective is to achieve greater efficiencies across the entire Army TADSS investments and ensure we are enabling U.S. Army training strategies that meet the needs of existing systems and emerging network-enabled systems,” Bolton detailed in his memo.

System PEOs and PMs have the option to maintain responsibility for the procurement and lifecycle management of their TADSS, but are strongly encouraged to coordinate their acquisition strategy with PEO STRI to guarantee conformity with the training and network environments.

As a result, the new business model will inherently increase the workload of the organization. In order to properly execute the effort, PEO STRI will obtain additional resources or shift existing resources within the organization to facilitate the new work as required.

“We will need to be ready to respond to potential changes throughout our organization that might be required as we work the implementation process of the policy with our sister PEOs and PMs,” Giunta affirmed.

The TADSS memorandum was initiated to better execute the limited resources available to the training domain. Several PEO STRI program initiatives, including the Common Gunnery Architecture and Common Driver Trainer, are examples of how PEO STRI could potentially reduce costs and increase performance.

“We believed that working with ASA(ALT) to institutionalize this same type of strategy, but at the Army level, would allow us to get a greater return on investment and that is why we actively pursued this idea with the ASA(ALT) leadership,” Giunta said.

PEO STRI’s customer support group and business operations office will lead the initial implementation process. The team, also comprised of members from each PM within PEO STRI and other essential staff, will first define the team’s membership and develop a preliminary implementation schedule due to the board of directors Jan. 8 for review and approval. ■

## TADSS Defined

**TADSS is a general term that includes:**

- Combat Training Centers and training range instrumentation
- Tactical engagement simulation and battle simulations
- Targetry and training-unique ammunition
- Casualty assessment systems and graphic training aids
- Other training support devices

**The Army reduces training costs by replacing actual systems or equipment with TADSS because the substitution:**

- Minimizes personnel injuries
- Reduces sustainment costs
- Saves actual equipment for unit missions
- Utilizes low-priced simulation
- Fosters a safe environment for training

*Source: U.S. Army’s Regulation 350-38, Training Device Policies and Management*

# Team Orlando in Pictures



Dr. Jim Blake (left) and former Program Executive Officer, Brig. Gen. Stephen Seay, (Ret.) celebrate the conclusion of the 2006 Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation and Education Conference at the annual reception and banquet.

U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub



Lt. Col. Rick Stroyan was promoted Nov. 28 in a ceremony presided over by Col. Kevin Dietrick. Lt. Col. Stroyan is the operations officer for Program Manager Field Operations.

U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub

## The PEO STRI

# Employee Spotlight



Courtesy Photo



## Brian Grison

By Kristen Dooley, Public Affairs Specialist

In charge of everything from conference room technology to video editing, Brian Grison is the man behind your meeting.

"It is my responsibility to support the mission of the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI) by assisting employees with their audio-visual needs," said Grison, a PEO STRI support contractor through the Dwan Fletcher Company.

"I am responsible for getting presentations projected in meeting rooms, videotaping meetings, trainings and simulators, and editing videos of the work performed here at PEO STRI."

Out of all his audio-visual duties, Grison enjoys videotaping

events and editing film the most.

"So far, the most interesting thing I have been able to do while at PEO STRI was videotape the events surrounding the Capitol Hill Demonstration in Washington, D.C.," Grison reminisced.

Before taking the position at PEO STRI, Grison did all the audio-visual work for the United States Military Academy at West Point's football program.

As for the future, he hopes to start his own video business to cover sporting events. In the meantime, he intends to support all of PEO STRI's audio-visual requirements, spend time with his daughter and visit the many local attractions. ■

## The 3rd Annual PEO STRI Golf Tournament

## INSIDE STRI

ORLANDO, FLORIDA

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# Happy New Year!