

INSIDE ^{PEO} STRI

J A N U A R Y 2 0 1 1

IN THIS ISSUE

Blake addresses the workforce about upcoming challenges... Page 2

Army set to move to an enterprise e-mail system this spring... Page 3

M&S Awards presented to two STRI teams at the 2010 I/ITSEC... Page 5

STRI employee seeks to help the people and land in Africa... Page 9

WORTH REPEATING

“These training centers are critical to our ability to prepare Soldiers for combat, and at the same time, train them to do operations across the spectrum. (The National Training Center) has to be versatile enough to have a rotation one day for Afghanistan, and the next day a completely different rotation. That’s the biggest shift.”

— Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. George W. Casey Jr., during his visit to the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif., commented on the shifting role of the training centers of preparing Soldiers for conflicts in other regions by August of this year.



U.S. Army Photo/Sgt. Maj. Ruth Eggert

Sgt. Maj. Patrick Ogden (holding weapon) questions Iraqi civilians about the location of the residence of an individual suspected of building improvised explosive devices.

PEO STRI'S SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR DOING WHAT HE LOVES MOST BY HELPING SOLDIERS

By Rick Gregory, APEO Business Operations Support Staff

While it easily could have ended his career, instead it became what he calls his career highlight. It was his first combat firefight. The highlight was that he survived it.

The baptism under fire happened while patrolling the unruly streets of Somalia in 1993. Sgt. Maj. Patrick Ogden, PEO STRI's senior enlisted advisor, said when the first enemy bullets came dangerously close, his reaction kind of surprised him. "I never knew I could get that flat that fast."

It wasn't the last time the sergeant major had an opportunity to have a career highlight. Two combat tours in Iraq saw to that.

During his career he has served as a drill sergeant, Bradley Fighting Vehicle gunner, operations sergeant, platoon sergeant, first sergeant, G-3 Training Sergeant Major and Regimental Operations Sergeant Major. Those experiences along with excelling at the Army's Sniper School, Airborne School, Master Fitness School and the Demolition Trainer/Instructor School, among others, are what made him a prime candidate for his current assignment. He's been there, done that. He knows Soldiers and what they need to make them the best Warfighters in the world.

"I didn't know the Army had anyone in Orlando," Ogden

said when he was first approached to consider the assignment at PEO STRI while serving as the G-3 Training Sergeant Major for Headquarters, United States Army Europe in Heidelberg, Germany. After speaking with several leaders, including his commanding general, he realized the position would give him an opportunity to do what is most important to him – helping to train Soldiers to win



Sgt. Maj. Ogden, Senior Enlisted Advisor

Continued on page 8

A MESSAGE FROM THE PEO



DR. JIM BLAKE
Program Executive Officer

MISSION First, People *Always!*

To the PEO STRI team:

You continue to perform magnificently in supporting our Warfighters, and 2010 was another great year for you and PEO STRI. Dr. Malcolm O'Neill, the Army Acquisition Executive (AAE), and Lt. Gen. Bill Phillips, his Principal Military Deputy (PMILDEP), send their thanks for a job well done.

Whether you're reading about the DoD budgetary pressures in the news or already feeling fiscal constraints in the programs you are managing here at STRI, rest assured that your qualms are shared by many across the Army. Today and in the foreseeable future, we will be challenged to manage and execute our programs in a dramatically changing fiscal environment.

Considering our national budgetary challenges, we expect to face increased program oversight and visibility. The challenge here, and all across the DoD, is doing more work with the same amount of resources. The AAE and the PMILDEP are engaging the DoD and Army Leadership daily in support of getting the absolute best capabilities to our Warfighters with a keen eye toward cost reasonableness.

We can expect to respond to numerous data calls and execution reviews for all of the programs within the STRI portfolio. When responding to these inquiries, please keep in mind that we are part of a very large team that is attempting to maximize a diverse set of capabilities across the Army for many years to come. During periods such as this, part of our mission is to provide the best information we can so that the senior leaders charged with setting priorities and making difficult choices are aware of the potential impacts.

Amidst this era of "doing more with the same," please be reminded that the PEO STRI leadership is cognizant of your challenges and stands ready to support you in every way possible. In the meantime, remain focused on the mission; there are many dedicated Soldiers around the world depending on YOUR dedication.

Keep up the good work!

Dr. Jim Blake
Program Executive Officer

Army leaders announce Enterprise E-mail

By Jacqueline Hames, *Defense Media Activity-Army*



Army leadership discussed the progress of the LandWarNet (LWN) enterprise strategy [late last year], announcing the roll out of Enterprise E-mail.

Retired Army Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Sorenson, the former chief information officer/G-6 who made the announcement, explained that the LWN transformation's ultimate goal is to make Soldier access to the Global Network Enterprise easier. He spoke during the "Transforming LandWarNet: Implementing the Enterprise Strategy" panel at the Association of the United States Army's Annual Meeting and Exposition in October 2010.

"We're transforming this enterprise to make your access to the network simpler," Sorenson said.

To help achieve that goal the G-6 is initiating Enterprise E-mail, beginning with Army headquarters and the G-6's migration in January or February 2011, with a completed migration across the Army in December 2011. The new service will enable users to access their Army e-mail from any Defense Department location, enhancing communication and collaboration across the Army and eventually, all the services, officials said.

Enterprise E-mail was created in partnership with the Defense Information Systems Agency and will not affect Army Knowledge Online mail service at this time. According to Alfred Rivera, DISA's director of computing services, the partnership will bring the cost of e-mail service per user, per year down from more than \$100 to less than \$39.

Brig. Gen. Jennifer Napper, commanding general of the Network Enterprise Technology Command, explained that users would no longer need to migrate their e-mails when they move organizations or locations and will have one permanent e-mail address.

"I think that the selling point for a lot of folks is that it really is a GAL," Napper said, "One global address list that's DoD-wide."

In addition to implementing Enterprise E-mail, the G-6 is working to modernize and improve all aspects of LWN via a "common operating environment," or an approved set of computing technologies and standards enabling secure and interoperable applications to be deployed, officials said.

Another goal of the LWN transformation is to focus on building the capacity of the Global Network Enterprise and to remove the burden of network integration from the Soldiers downrange by aligning the delivery of the network to the Army Forces Generation cycle, said Col. John Morrison Jr., director of LandWarNet/Battle Command, G-3/5/7.

"Now, a lot of folks misconstrue that network modernization is something new. The network exists today," Morrison said. "It's out there, it's alive and well if you go downrange. What we're talking about is the continuous modernization of that network, much like industry does, that makes that better every single day for our formations and for our Soldiers."

"Your ability to connect will be seamless," Sorenson said in closing, "transparent and in many cases, a lot simpler than it is today because we will have an enterprise (structure)."

GET SMART QUICK ON ENTERPRISE E-MAIL

What is it?

During 2011, Army e-mail users will migrate to the Enterprise E-mail service. Instead of accessing e-mail through local e-mail servers at each installation, users will reach through the network to access their e-mail services from the Department of Defense "cloud."

The Army is the first service to migrate to Enterprise E-mail as part of a larger DoD effort. The goal is to improve capabilities and security, while simultaneously reducing costs. The Army Headquarters staff will be among the first Army users to migrate to the new e-mail service. Migration refers to the automated process of copying current e-mail and calendar data from each user's local e-mail account to their Enterprise E-mail account. The process normally occurs overnight at a time coordinated with customers to minimize operational impact.

What has the Army done?

In September 2010, the Army and Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) agreed to initiate the migration of Army users' e-mail address and calendars to the DISA-managed exchange service.

What does the Army have planned for the future?

The objective of Enterprise E-mail is for all of DoD to use the same service, enabling collaboration across the entire department. The initial migration begins on Jan. 31, 2011 with about 2,000 selected e-mail users from the Information Technology Agency (ITA), Office of the Chief Information Officer/G6, NETCOM/9th Signal Command (Army), and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

Army Headquarters staff is scheduled to begin migration no later than Mar. 1, 2011, immediately following successful migration of the first wave of users. The rest of the Army will migrate by Dec. 31, 2011. The ITA and 7th Signal Command (Theater) will manage headquarter's migration.

Why is this important to the Army and to individual Soldiers?

Enterprise E-mail enables users to access their Army e-mail from any Defense Department location and to collaborate with any Army user worldwide via a global address list. Enterprise e-mail users will experience a range of service improvements. Enterprise E-mail provides a minimum four gigabytes of online e-mail storage—that's 40 times the current baseline—so users no longer need to worry about exceeding mailbox size limits. Enterprise E-mail allows Army users to share calendars and contact information across DoD, eliminating gaps caused by multiple e-mail service providers based on unit, installation or DoD component. Enterprise E-mail accounts remain online, active and accessible during PCS moves and unit relocations, eliminating user downtime.

Where can I find more information?

<http://ciog6.army.mil>

Another Booming I/ITSEC Comes and Goes

By Megan Jeffers, PEO STRI External Affairs Specialist

The 2010 Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation and Education Conference (I/ITSEC) proved to be another successful event for the U.S. Army Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI). With the Air Force as the lead service, the conference, held in Orlando, Fla. Nov. 29 through Dec. 2, is the world's largest modeling, simulation and training conference.

Despite the economy, attendance for the conference was approximately 20,000 attendees—a jump of 1,000 registrants from last year's conference—and hosted representatives from 57 countries. With close to 500 exhibits on the show floor, thousands of visitors representing the military services, industry, academia and public sector toured the convention hall, watched demonstrations of the latest in simulation and attended seminars and discussions about the benefits of current training devices.

Among the wide array of cutting-edge technology displayed at the aptly themed "Training Centric...Readiness Focused" conference, PEO STRI displayed several of its own Warfighter-focused systems, often inviting conference attendees to take a front row seat in simulation exercises.

The Medical Simulation Training Center exhibit was one such display. With simulated combat conditions and wounded Warfighters, Soldiers

in the tent reenacted what occurs during an attack and the life-saving actions that must be employed for optimum patient outcome and recovery.

"One of the greatest potentials for simulation growth is in the medical arena," said Peter Marion, assistant program executive officer for customer support and the Army Principal for the 2010 I/ITSEC. "I think we'll really start to see more diverse, and digital, medical and educational learning applications in the coming years."



U.S. Army Photo/ Doug Schaub

A Soldier steps out of the MRAP Egress Assistance Trainer at the 2010 I/ITSEC after demonstrating the proper reactions to a vehicle rollover situation.

In addition to advances in medical training for the military, PEO STRI showcased many other devices that represent the latest and greatest in Army training, such as the Project Manager for Combined Arms Tactical Trainers' MRAP Egress Assistance Trainer which demonstrates vehicle rollover situations.

Panels discussed the logistics of today's simulation tech-

nology, while events such as Warfighters' Corner provided conference attendees the opportunity to hear firsthand accounts of how modeling, simulation and training technology prepared our Soldiers for deployment and aided in their missions.

"Warfighters' Corner gives us feedback on how well our products serve their purpose," Marion said.

One standout moment occurred when PEO STRI—in collaboration with the Training and Doctrine Command Capability Manager for the Live training environment (TCM-Live)—revealed to industry representatives an enhanced Web portal for the live training community. The updated Web site design aims to expand communication among the Army, the live-training business development community and the public.

An additional conference highlight featured the Army Modeling and Simulation Awards, in which PEO STRI

employees took home two team awards. The award for training went to the Common Virtual Environment Integration team for producing a sophisticated system with the capability to transform current virtual training systems from stand-alone trainers to a multifaceted system with the capability to support full spectrum operations.

The award for testing was presented to the Intelligence Modeling and Simulation for Evaluation team, which focused on the evolution of counter/terrorism/counterinsurgency within a distributed live, virtual and constructive environment. The team's system portrays collection and reporting capabilities for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance to U.S. Army inventory and is able to support multiple simulation tests by creating a threat-based environment.

The STEM initiative was also another success for the 2010 I/ITSEC. Representing

Continued on page 10



U.S. Army Photo/ Doug Schaub

Soldiers demonstrate life-saving techniques during a simulated attack at the Medical Simulation Training Center exhibit at the 2010 I/ITSEC.



TWO PEO STRI TEAMS WIN ARMY MODELING AND SIMULATION AWARDS

By Megan Jeffers, PEO STRI External Affairs Specialist

Two teams from the U.S. Army Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI) were presented Army Modeling and Simulation awards at the 2010 Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation and Education Conference (I/ITSEC) in Orlando, Fla.

The selection board evaluated 58 nominations for the Nov. 30 award ceremony and recognized select individuals and teams for excellence in the modeling and simulation field during the previous fiscal year. The year's theme was "Modeling and Simulation in Restoring Balance and Setting the Conditions for the Future of the Army."

Accepting the Army Modeling and Simulation Team Training Award on behalf of PEO STRI's Common Virtual Environment Integration (CVE) program was John Womack, assistant project manager for Project Manager for Constructive Simulation's (PM ConSim) Synthetic Environment Core, and John Foster, assistant project manager for Project Manager for Combined Arms Tactical Trainers (PM CATT) Close Combat Tactical Trainer. Fellow team members include the lead engineer, Bruce Robbins, of PM ConSim's Project Manager for One Semi-Automated Forces and Maj. Jon Stevens, project director, for PM CATT's Project Manager for Air and Command Tactical Trainers.

The CVE team produced a system able to transform current virtual training systems from stand-alone trainers to a multifaceted system with the capability to support full spectrum operations. Previous virtual environments limited the

components of simulation, such as semi-automated force simulation, synthetic terrain and realistic visual models, to just one alteration at a time. For example, only the terrain would change, but other factors—the semi-automated forces and visual models—would remain the same for each simulation. The CVE team focused on the task of being able to update all three factors simultaneously.

While the team certainly had its obstacles along the way, namely in its challenge to resolve requirements between the levels of detail in conflicting programs, the engineering of the systems proved successful and interoperability was achieved. This accomplishment will allow the three most critical elements of virtual training—semi-automated force simulation, synthetic terrain and visual models—to be switched at once, providing an improved training system for our Soldiers.

The Army Modeling and Simulation Team Testing Award for Intelligence Modeling and Simulation for Evaluation (IMASE) was accepted by PEO STRI employee Brittney Hester, an engineer for the Threat Simulator Management Office, a division of Project Manager for Instrumentation, Targets and Threat Simulators (PM ITTS).

IMASE is designed to support multiple tests by creating a threat-based environment. Hester, along with members from the U.S. Army Operation Test Command, won the award for the evolution of counter-terrorism/counterinsurgency modeling and simulation within a distributed live, virtual and constructive environment. Their system is cited by the Army Modeling and Simulation Office for having "laid the foundation

for the future of intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance testing and will continue to be a major benefit to maintaining balance for the Army."

"I feel honored that IMASE won the 2010 Army Modeling and Simulation Award for the testing category," Hester said. "Both the team and I feel extremely privileged that all the hard work on this program over the years was recognized by the Army. Most importantly, we are proud that IMASE

has provided and will continue to provide the test and evaluation community with a valuable test asset."

The Army Modeling and Simulation awards have been presented annually since 2003. The mission of the Army Modeling and Simulation Office is to coordinate a vision and strategy for modeling and simulation across the Army and to assist in developing a fully capable modeling and simulation community.



U.S. Army Photo/ Doug Schaub

Representatives John Womack (PM ConSim), center, and John Foster (PM CATT), right, accept the Army Modeling and Simulation Team Training Award Nov. 30 at the 2010 I/ITSEC for their team's Common Virtual Environment Integration program. The team produced a system with the capability to support full spectrum operations.



U.S. Army Photo/ Doug Schaub

PEO STRI employee Brittney Hester (PM ITTS), center, accepts the Army Modeling and Simulation Team Testing Award for Intelligence Modeling and Simulation for Evaluation along with members from the U.S. Army Operation Test Command on Nov. 30. Presented at the 2010 I/ITSEC, the award recognizes the team's achievement for having laid the foundation for the future of intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance testing.





Support Our Nation's Wounded Warriors!

OPERATION GIVEBACK

*Inaugural 5K and 10K Walk/Run/Roll Event
Benefiting the Wounded Warrior Project*

**SATURDAY
MAY 14, 2011**

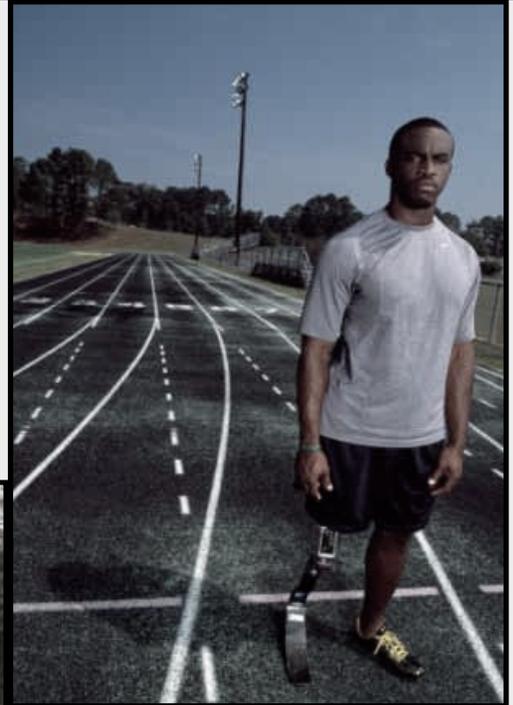
7:00 AM

at the University of
Central Florida

Register for the race at:

<http://www.operation-giveback.com>

\$40.00 per runner/walker/roller/stroller, includes an event t-shirt.
Donations of any amount are welcome. For additional information
or questions, e-mail OperationGiveback2011@gmail.com.



CFC#11425 - 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization #20-2370934

The mission of the Wounded Warrior Project is to honor and empower wounded warriors. Its purpose is to raise awareness and to enlist the public's aid for the needs of injured service members, to help injured men and women aid and assist each other, and to provide unique, direct programs and services to meet their needs. WWP is a national, non-partisan organization headquartered in Jacksonville, Fla.



A NOT-SO-NEW PAY SYSTEM IN THE WORKS FOR SPRING 2011

By Megan Jeffers, PEO STRI External Affairs Specialist

On May 22, 2011, the U.S. Army Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation workforce will convert from the National Security Personnel System (NSPS) into the Department of Defense (DoD) Civilian Acquisition Workforce Personnel Demonstration Project (AcqDemo).

The conversion out of NSPS was mandated by the Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Act that included the repeal of NSPS, and instructed DoD agencies to transition back to the personnel system under which they were previously covered. For PEO STRI, as well as 14,000 other DoD employees, this means a return to AcqDemo. This is the second time PEO STRI's workforce will be under the AcqDemo system since approximately 55 percent of the current PEO STRI workforce converted from AcqDemo to NSPS in 2007 and 2008.

AcqDemo was developed as an opportunity to re-engineer the civilian personnel system to meet the needs of the Acquisition, Technology and Logistics workforce and to facilitate the fulfillment of the DoD acquisition mission. Although many of the AcqDemo personnel system changes and flexibilities differ from NSPS, it was designed to overcome the limitations of the existing system.

AcqDemo and NSPS share some common ground. For example, benefits (retirement, health, life, etc.) will remain the same under both systems.

The concept of banding GS grades together is a common

feature. What is different is the banding scheme, in other words, which grades are banded together.

Ken Wheeler, the assistant program executive officer for business operations, and Mae Hazelton, the PEO STRI transition manager, are leading the conversion efforts and are working to ensure that the transition continues smoothly while maintaining the PEO STRI mission with minimal disruption to the workforce. The consistent and equitable treatment of employees and transparency throughout this process is a high priority for the conversion, Hazelton said.

"Both of us are firm in our commitment to have the same level of expertise to transition us from NSPS to AcqDemo as we had when we transitioned from AcqDemo to NSPS," Hazelton continued.

Right now, Wheeler and Hazelton are working closely with the Army and other PEO NSPS transition managers to develop readiness checklists and protocols to move the acquisition workforce to AcqDemo in an open, strategic and orderly manner. The DoD is finalizing a "Transition Guide for Transition Managers and HR Practitioners" modeled after the GS transition guide in support of the upcoming transition.

While guidance for classification, automation and training areas are still "under construction," there is one aspect of the conversion mandated by the 2010 National Defense Authorization Act – there will be no loss or decrease in pay for employees transitioning from

NSPS to AcqDemo.

"This is the bottom line," Hazelton said. "We understand that employees will have questions about the transition, and communication is critical. We will continue to provide information to employees on the process that will be used, including information on NSPS performance management close-out and classification under AcqDemo."

Hazelton said she is ensuring PEO STRI conversion issues are addressed in the DoD NSPS to AcqDemo conversion guidance and training material, both of which are under final review prior to rollout to the organizations.

In the weeks ahead, Hazelton said she will be working with the DoD, Army, PEO STRI leadership and others to move forward in a strategic and deliberate approach as PEO STRI navigates its way through the conversion.

"Here at PEO STRI, change has become very much a part of our lives," she said. "We should handle this major conversion the same way we deal with all the other transitions affecting

us today – by getting as much information as we can, being as proactive as possible, asking the questions we need answered and above all, continuing to be the epitome of a professional workforce.

"Please don't hesitate to ask questions," Hazelton added. "If we don't have answers yet, it's good to know the issues so we can ensure they are considered by Army."

For more information, visit <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/ops/acqdemo.html> or contact Mae Hazelton at mae.hazelton@us.army.mil.



Ms. Mae Hazelton
Personnel Resources

HOLIDAYS Events

- Town Hall Meeting Feb. 3
- Valentine's Day Feb. 14
- Washington's Birthday Feb. 21
- AUSA Winter Symposium Feb. 23-25



and survive on the battlefield.

“Being able to be a part of a team like we have here at PEO STRI where we have a very positive impact on the future of the Army is an honor,” he explained. “In the field, you don’t realize the talent of the people supporting you until you come to a place like this and see it. When you come here and look at this environment, you quickly learn that it’s a group of professionals responsible for a great deal.”

With that thought in mind, he has a message for all Soldiers and employees of PEO STRI.

“Even on your worst day here at work, remember that somewhere in the world is a young Soldier who is getting ready to execute a mission. You could have played a role in how he or she prepared for that mission. Whether that Soldier comes back alive at the end of the day could very well be based on how well you performed your job here,” he said.

He knows that because he has seen the result of PEO STRI employees’ work first-hand when he witnessed a Soldier save another Soldier’s life by employing the life-saving skills he had learned at a Medical Simulation Training Center (MSTC). He added that using the MSTCs had such a huge impact that in most units the commanders made it an absolute battle task required of all Soldiers before deployment.

Ogden said that, because of training enablers acquired by PEO STRI, the realism of training has improved immensely since he graduated from Basic Infantryman School in 1983. “When I first joined, we learned how to put on a pressure dressing, make splints with sticks, those kinds of first aid things. The last time I deployed, thanks to the MSTC, we (combat lifesavers) were learning how to handle traumatic amputations with tourniquets while medics could do chest tubes and thoracic decompression.”

The sergeant major also sees an increased need for training simulators as the Army moves next year to extending the amount of time Soldiers spend in garrison at their home station before redeploying.

“There is only a certain amount of training space at places like the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, Calif. Back in the day, that was the Super Bowl of training,” he said. “There is competition for that space and when all units are back on the post at the same time, you just don’t have the land space to maneuver. It was constrictive at best before, but in the future it will be worse.

“That’s why training simulators will be even more important,” Ogden continued. “We need to use them. Embrace them. We can’t allow those valuable training systems like the Engagement Skills Trainer to be put on the shelf. Being able to react quickly and put rounds on the target is the difference between surviving and not surviving on the battlefield.”

To keep them off the shelf, he said, training enablers have to continually mirror the technology young Soldiers see in the consumer market, be as realistic as possible and be easy to use. And, equally important, the developers need to get feedback from the Soldiers on how the simulators can be improved. That’s where the role of the senior enlisted advisor for PEO STRI comes in and where Ogden feels he can have a real impact.

“When I go out on the road and visit units, I can immediately remember what it was like to be that squad leader, platoon sergeant, operations sergeant or first sergeant,” he explained. “I know the questions to ask. Because of that, I get a lot of feedback from Soldiers. I love talking to young enlisted Soldiers and sergeants. They tell the blunt truth. They don’t spin anything. Even a young lieutenant is reluctant to tell a general something is messed

up. A private won’t hesitate to tell anyone who will listen. Industry can react to their needs, but only if they are told.”

What would Sergeant Major Ogden tell industry he would like to see fielded?

“I want to see an infantry simulator developed that the Soldiers will fight to go in; one that they get excited about when they see it on the training schedule. When they get into it they need to feel like they have been in a fight. It will bring the sweat. It should shock them or knock them down if they do something wrong,” he said. “It needs to be at a skill level where an infantryman gets out and says, ‘Yes, that was challenging!’”

He doesn’t want his knock-down, drag-out training simulator to just be used by combat arms Soldiers, though. He feels strongly that every combat support Soldier should also receive that intense combat training. He said there should never again be a situation where combat support Soldiers are attacked and not trained to take out the enemy.

That’s because he cares deeply about all Soldiers. From the deer-in-the-headlights look of a fresh-from-basic-training Soldier to the unhesitating bravery of a combat-weathered Soldier, he is profoundly impressed with the men and women he has served with. “I take great pride in being an NCO in this Army with these Soldiers,” he said. “They’re smart. They’re adaptive. They’re strong. They’re brave. My God, they are brave!”

Those Soldiers are what keep him in the Army with no plans to hang up the uniform anytime soon. “At

some point, I will have to retire. I love the Army. I am going to give to the Army until the Army tells me I can’t give anymore,” he said. “I don’t even want to think about backing off yet.”

When he does have to back off though, it seems the type of work he sees being accomplished at PEO STRI has had a major influence on the type of civilian career he would like to pursue. “I don’t have any plans, but when I do have to make that decision I would like to work in an environment like this where I can continue to help Soldiers.”

Wherever Sgt. Maj. Ogden’s second career takes him, perhaps it won’t cause him to “get flat fast.”



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Russell

Sgt. Maj. Ogden (kneeling) and three Warfighters celebrate the Tactical Operation Center coming online in Diwaniya, Iraq.

“ Even on your worst day here at work, remember that somewhere in the world is a young Soldier who is getting ready to execute a mission. You could have played a role in how he or she prepared for that mission. Whether that Soldier comes back alive at the end of the day could very well be based on how well you performed your job here.”

— Sgt. Maj. Patrick Ogden

PEO STRI EMPLOYEE HELPS TACKLE A BIG WORLD ISSUE



By Kristen A. McCullough, PEO STRI Public Affairs Officer

In everyday life, it's easy to find many examples of how the power of passion breeds success. Whether success is achieved on the battlefield, the playing field or in life, it all derives from passion... intense passion. One of PEO STRI's very own employees exudes that type of intense passion, a zeal for restoring the land and helping the people in a faraway place.

Lindsey Jones, a budget analyst intern supporting two project management shops at PEO STRI, Field Operations and Future Force Simulation, joined the charity Redeeming Africa's Hope (R.A.H.) in 2010. The nonprofit organization seeks to restore the land and hearts of Africa's most diseased and poverty stricken environments.

Quite a task, you say? Jones and this team of eight dedicated individuals are up to the task. "We're going to take on one project at a time. Our initial effort kicks off this spring in which we'll begin the construction of our first toilet and shower facility—with many more to follow—in the Kawangware slums of Kenya," Jones said.

The R.A.H. team made the toilet and shower facility project their first undertaking in order to create a cleaner and safer environment for this community of African people. R.A.H. has even taken it one step further by partnering with local bio-gas plants to turn human and animal waste into reusable energy. "This allows the contamination to not just be moved from one location to another, but completely eradicates the waste in the most eco-friendly way," Jones mentioned.

In addition to this monumental

undertaking, R.A.H. sees an immense importance in supporting Kenyan micro-businesses to help the people of the Kawangware community become financially independent. R.A.H. recently partnered with a Kenyan micro-business that makes handmade, beaded, leather-bound bracelets. "It's our desire to expand this business, and other businesses like it, into a teaching workshop to enable other people with this skill so that it can help provide [financially] for their families, and also to financially assist R.A.H. with its sanitation projects in the Kawangware community," Jones said.

Jones made it clear that "R.A.H. believes in giving a hand-up, not a hand-out because when people are taught, they can help teach others." Education remains a prominent pillar of this nonprofit organization. Not only are they educating the Kenyan people about proper sanitation and hygiene, and

basic business principles, but most importantly, a very simple life lesson: others help those who help themselves.

Jones said she plans to make her first trip to Africa this May. While there, she will make a site visit to the project facility, and also build relationships with the people of the Kawangware village. In the meantime, she will continue to support the organization in her normal capacity by coordinating trips to Africa for the other R.A.H. members and their supporting organizations like local churches.

"One of my biggest joys is seeing people headed to this third world country thinking they are going to change someone or something. In turn, they're the ones who come back from the trip changed," Jones elatedly said.

For more information on R.A.H. and the passion breeding its success, visit www.iamrah.org, or look them up on the social networks Facebook and Twitter.

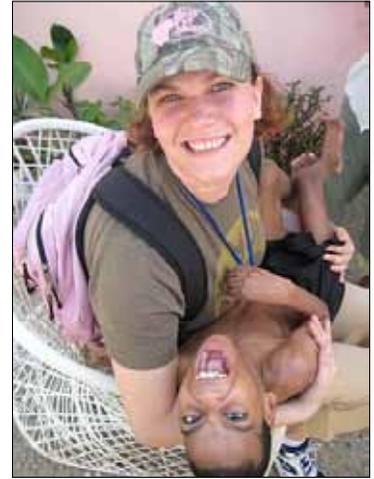


Photo Credit

Lindsey Jones, a PEO STRI budget analyst intern, sits on the board of directors for an international, nonprofit organization, Redeeming Africa's Hope, which aims to restore the land and help the people of Africa's poorest, most poverty-stricken communities.

R.A.H.



Photo Credit

Redeeming Africa's Hope, a registered nonprofit organization, breaks ground on a new toilet and shower facility March 2011 in Kenya. The project will provide the people of the Kawangware community a sanitary and private area to use the bathroom and bathing facilities, much different than what they currently use, as pictured here.



science, technology, engineering and mathematics, STEM seeks to support and promote activities encouraging students' interest in the aforementioned fields. Students from across Central Florida attended the conference to learn about the exhibits and in some cases take part in the demonstrations.

While I/ITSEC continues to grow, evolve and diversify, Orlando remains the nexus for modeling and simulation, Marion said. "Broader arrays of products were on the showroom floor than in the past, and I expect the trend to continue. I/ITSEC really gives us insight into the art of the possible."

With the Army being the lead service representing I/ITSEC 2011's "Prepare the Force, Secure the Future" theme, Marion, PEO STRI's veteran I/ITSEC

host, knows a great deal about the extreme planning, coordination and effort that goes into hosting a conference that thoroughly displays the "art of the possible."

Accepting the torch for 2011 to lead the way as the Army's I/ITSEC principal, Traci Jones, assistant program executive officer for Project Support, said she is very happy to be stepping into the role.

"We plan to communicate how the Army is shifting from a focus on preparation and execution of counterinsurgency to full spectrum operations and the impact that it will have on training, simulation and education," Jones said.

"I look forward to continuing to serve I/ITSEC," she said, "and I know that 2011 will be the best conference ever."



PEO STRI
American Classics
Town Hall

PEO STRI
Town Hall Meeting

Thursday, Feb. 3, 2011
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Regal Theater Waterford Lakes

★ **All PEO STRI military, civilian and in-house support contractors are invited to attend.**

★ **SHOW YOUR SPIRIT!**
Wear apparel from the American Classic 1950s or 1960s era!

TEAM ORLANDO IN PHOTOS



U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub

Maj. Tony Camarato, a member of Project Manager for Constructive Simulation's (PM ConSim) Live, Virtual Constructive-Integrating Architecture program, was promoted from captain to major in a ceremony Jan. 3 presided over by Col. Karen Saunders, project manager for PM ConSim.



U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub

During the annual TechNet Conference hosted Jan. 19-21 at the Radisson University Hotel in Orlando, Fla., Rob Reyenga, deputy program executive officer for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation, made a presentation about the transition of training the Army for counterinsurgency operations to Full Spectrum Operations. He also discussed the increased demand for training resources and the expectations for future training.



U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub

Paul Patrick (center), deputy assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs (readiness, training and mobilization), visited Team Orlando Jan. 12 with his aides, Army Col. Jaime Lugo (left) and Navy Capt. Robert Bennett (right). During the visit, he received an overview of the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation's virtual simulation efforts, in addition to briefings from the Navy and Marine Corps.



U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub

Rob Reyenga, deputy program executive officer, represented the Army at the annual Combined Professionals Associations Group Defense Forum Breakfast Jan. 7 at the Radisson University Hotel in Orlando, Fla. Reyenga presented alongside senior representatives from each of the military services: Capt. Bill Reuter, Navy, Col. Marcus Boyd, Air Force, and Col. David Smith, Marine Corps.

BOO Wins Golf Match Yet Again!

By Megan Jeffers, PEO STRI External Affairs Specialist

The seventh annual PEO STRI golf championship was another win for the Business Operations Office (BOO) team, as it took home the first place trophy for the sixth consecutive year with a score of 64. Congratulations go out to Rob Reyenga, deputy PEO, Ken Wheeler, assistant PEO for business operations, Kristy Murray, director of the Joint Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL) Co-Lab, and Dean Marvin, also from the Joint ADL Co-Lab.

Hosted at the Rio Pinar Country Club on Dec. 22, the tournament brought out teams from seven PEO STRI departments, as well as PEO STRI alumni and honored guests Earle and Carol Denton. The day was a great outdoor escape from the office on one of December's sunniest days and resulted in a compelling team building event.

With a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m., the game was played in a scramble format. Teams of four were staggered among the first 10 holes, with the ladies playing off red tees, men playing blue and the 60-plus crowd teeing off white. All 18 holes were played, and only a few teams scrambled to finish in time for lunch. Open only to current and former PEO STRI employees and immediate family members, a total of 18 teams participated in what ended up to be a close tournament.

A tie with a score of 64 between four teams—BOO, Cus-

tomers Support Group (CSG), Project Manager Constructive Simulation (PM ConSim) and the alumni team—had to be broken by the handicap method, leaving CSG team members Jim Godwin, Mark Russell, Don Schlomer and Dave Tolliver to take second place and PM ConSim's Rick Copeland, Don Stewart, Keith Flail and Eldrick Woods with third.

Played using the best ball strategy, teams made up of experienced golfers mixed with new players sporting beginners luck, gave a glimpse of 2011's competition. The tournament is held every year, so put this new year to good use and practice your swing. Let's see what team, if any, can upset the BOO and give the first place trophy a new home.



U.S. Army Photo/Yvette Pue

Joe Giunta, director of the Acquisition Center, and Ron Crowder, also from the Acquisition Center, smile after warming up for the seventh annual PEO STRI team golf championship Dec. 22 at Rio Pinar County Club in Orlando, Fla.



U.S. Army Photo/Yvette Pue

Rob Reyenga, deputy PEO, Ken Wheeler, assistant PEO for business operations, Carol and Earle Denton, PEO STRI alumni and honored guests, and Yvette Pue of the Business Operations Office, pose with the coveted first place trophy during the award ceremony following the seventh annual PEO STRI team golf tournament Dec. 22 at the Rio Pinar County Club in Orlando, Fla.



U.S. Army Photo/Megan Jeffers

PEO STRI Acquisition Center teammates Jason Graham and Scott Welcheck look on as Phil Davis attempts to make the putt at the 9th hole at Rio Pinar Country Club in Orlando, Fla. on Dec. 22.



STRI LEADERS SPEAK AT WARFIGHTER CONFERENCE

By Kristen A. McCullough, PEO STRI Public Affairs Officer

Three senior leaders from the U.S. Army Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI) offered presentations at the annual TechNet Conference Jan. 19-21 in Orlando, Fla. The Orlando Chapters of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association and the Association of the United States Army hosted the three-day event that focused on “supporting the Warfighters evolutionary battle space requirements.”

Ken Wheeler, PEO STRI’s

assistant program executive officer for business operations, addressed the conference attendees with a short welcome speech. “This year’s theme is very appropriate because [our Warfighters’] requirements certainly are evolutionary. It seems they are constantly changing. One thing that hasn’t changed, though, is our joint commitment to provide them with the best equipment and the best training enablers possible to ensure they are never in a fair fight,” he said.

Rob Reyenga, PEO STRI’s

deputy program executive officer, sat on a panel hosted by Army Maj. Gen. Nick Justice, commander of the Research Development and Engineering Command. The panel addressed what the military services need to do to equip and train troops during a period of rebalancing the forces and a tightening fiscal environment.

“At PEO STRI, we are proud to support our warriors, whether in counterinsurgency or Full Spectrum Operations, with high-fidelity training devices and enablers that ensure they are never in a fair fight,” Reyenga said.

Pete Marion, PEO STRI’s assistant program executive officer for customer support, also participated in a panel, “Military Mo-

bile Applications: Initiatives and Opportunities,” which reviewed the initiatives, potential and limitation of each services’ mobile devices and mobile app stores.

The conference also gave attendees the opportunity to hear about the plans for future enablers that help Warfighters overcome the challenges they face. In addition, attendees engaged in presentations on the Joint Warfighter Requirements for 21st Century Missions, the important role that C4ISR will continue to have in support to the Warfighters, and what the simulation and training community needs to do to assure they continue to equip and train U.S. and allied troops during a period of rebalancing the forces.

PEO STRI Annual Org Day

APRIL 8, 2011

8 A.M. - 3 P.M.
RED BUG LAKE PARK

Attendance is required for all PEO STRI military, civilian and in-house support contractor employees.

Protocol
TIP OF THE MONTH
By Marge Hadbavny, Protocol Officer

Smile when you talk on the phone and when you record your voice mail.

Have you ever noticed a person who sounds depressed on their voice mail? Try recording it both ways, playing it back and you’ll experience the difference. People are not attracted to those who reflect a sad, angry or bored demeanor.

INSIDE PEO STRI

Inside STRI is an authorized publication for military and civilian members of the U.S. Army Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation, Orlando, Fla. 32826. Inside STRI is published under the authority of AR 360-1 and applies the Associated Press Stylebook industry standard.

Contents of Inside STRI are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or PEO STRI.

Editorial material for publication should be submitted to PEO STRI Public Affairs Office, 12350 Research Parkway, Orlando, Fla. 32826. The PAO reserves the right to edit all material submitted for publication.

For more information about PEO STRI or to view Inside STRI online, visit our website at www.peostri.army.mil

Editor:

Kristen Dooley McCullough
Editor-in-Chief
Kristen.McCullough@us.army.mil

Design:

Dwain Fletcher Co.
CGraphics@us.army.mil

