JOINT COMMITTEE ON TACTICAL SHELTERS TECHNOLGY BRIEFING. Jean Hampel, Team Leader of the Fabric Structures Team within the Expeditionary Basing & Collective Protection Directorate at the Army Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center provided an overview of active research projects related to soft-wall shelters. Two self-sustaining living module concepts being developed under the Rapid Innovation Fund are being developed by Leidos, Inc and Technical Products, Inc. A rapidly deployable, rigid/textile hybrid shelter suitable for arctic conditions is being advanced through a joint Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) project with the Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) and contractor Visible Good, Inc. Under a program for the US Army Medical Materiel and Development Activity (USAMMDA), methods of incorporating protection from Chemical/Biological (CB) warfare agents into the Air Supported Tent, Extendable, Modular, Personnel (TEMPER) shelter being pursued for future Combat Support Hospitals are being developed. A second generation full-scale prototype was recently completed that just includes a modified design with a new CB general-purpose fabric by Bondcote, Inc. and a new external frame-supported bump-thru door airlock. Simulant testing on the CB airbeam tent was just completed at Eglin Air Force Base. Also, a modified CB liner for retrofitting legacy airbeam shelters was prototyped. A new, high-strength CB fabric is nearing completion under an Army Manufacturing Technology (MANTECH) program with Warwick Mills, Inc. and will be demonstrated shortly in a full-scale air supported TEMPER.

PAO U14-275