

To support Expeditionary Force 2021 the Marine Corps (MC) is upgrading its Family of Tactical Soft Shelters (FTSS) to provide protection from natural environments incorporating the latest energy efficiency advancements. The baseline minimum requirement for the FTSS is a system R value of 2. A complementary effort to develop a single source multi-purpose heater using a modernization strategy to upgrade the existing SHC-60 is currently in phase I. The unit will have a variable output ranging from 15K BTU to 40K BTU. The MC is teaming with Product Manager Force Sustainment Systems and Hunter Defense Technologies. The project will include the development and validation of software models for use with softwall shelters. The MC's long range heater strategy is to develop a Multi-Fuel Burning Heater System that reduces fuel consumption, weight and cube. They will work with the Office of Naval Research executing a multi phase SBIR strategy. Reducing energy consumption protects Warfighters by cutting convey numbers and increases lethality by making more Marines available to seek out and destroy enemy units. Also underway are programs on rigid wall shelters that house electronics maintenance and an expandable BICON project that reduces shelter transport cube by 50%. The Marine Corps works closely with other Services and considers commercial off the shelf solutions.

