

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY BRIEFING ON THE PATH FORWARD TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON TACTICAL SHELTERS (JOCOTAS)

On 18 Nov 2014 Natick Soldier Research Development and Engineering Center (NSRDEC) staff from the Expeditionary Basing and Collective Protection Directorate (EB/CP) presented seven briefings at the JOCOTAS 2014 Fall Meeting held at NSRDEC. EB/CP guides the organization's strategic planning and oversees the tactical operations including chairing the technical working groups, setting up and organizing two biannual meetings and, managing waiver requests across DoD for the use of nonstandard shelters. This effort is led by the Executive Secretary who is also the Director of EB/CP. JOCOTAS was established to prevent the duplication of Tactical Shelter research and development, establish and maximize the usage of a DoD Standard Family of Shelters and reduce the proliferation of non-standard shelters in the DoD inventory. A standard family reduces costs, improves interoperability between Services, enables sustainability through a system of, support parts, operator training and technical manuals, and insures intermodal transportability and operator safety. Standard shelters are developed to meet a formal requirement from Combatant Commanders, undergo rigorous testing and are approved by a milestone decision authority for fielding, typically a Program Executive Officer. In 2010 JOCOTAS branched into a, systems of systems approach in support of the worldwide contingency basing mission. In 2014 JOCOTAS through its link to Joint Standardization Boards was requested to broaden its role into non shelter areas. The Executive Secretary briefed a path forward related to, how to set the theater for the Warfighter,

provide strategic agility to the joint force, and maintain freedom of movement and action during sustained and high tempo operations at the end of extended lines of communication in austere environments. The goal is to ensure that troops are self-sufficient through leap ahead technologies and non-material solutions that increase the time between resupply. Army S&T enhances initial and temporary capabilities (Prime Power, Water storage & distribution and others) and leverages basing planning tools, analysis tools and other base camp and regionally aligned capabilities. A potential list of Contingency Basing equipment for Standardization could consist of shelter systems integrated with high performance insulation, low energy lighting, blackout, energy efficient doors and flooring systems. The basing shelter building block should be environmentally controlled by efficient; mobile units that are augmented with shelter based renewable energy. The broader contingency basecamp needs water related technologies to reduce overall external demand driven by showers, laundries, latrines, and field feeding sanitation units. To close the circle waste management ranging from reduction at the source, practical recycling and conversion to energy needs to be considered. PAO #: U15-015

