

# ON POINT

MARINES

EQUIPPING THE WARFIGHTER TO WIN



# TRAINING TOOLS

MARINE CORPS SYSTEMS COMMAND MAGAZINE  
SUMMER 2008, VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

- ▶ PM TRASYS Simulates Conflict
- ▶ AE Day Stresses Diversity, Teamwork
- ▶ Security Keys On Awareness

# A message from the COMMANDER



## **To the Marines, Sailors and Civilian Marines of Marine Corps Systems Command,**

When Marines aren't fighting, they're training, and the more realistic the training the better the fighting. That's the job of Marine Corps Systems Command's (MCSC) Program Manager for Training Systems (PM TRASYS) based in Orlando, Fla., to provide the most realistic training by procuring the best high-tech training equipment and systems available. We profile PM TRASYS front and center in this issue of *Marines On Point*. You'll see how this team of more than 170 professionals excels as the Marine Corps' training systems acquisition arm.

Elsewhere in this edition, we review Acquisition Excellence (AE) Day, which most of you attended in June. At AE Day, we emphasized our diversity and teamwork, encouraging everyone to work together to achieve current and future goals. Our AE Day award presentations spotlighted a lot of people, but everyone of you can lay claim to a portion of the command's success. None of the individual or team accomplishments would have been possible without all of us in MCSC and Program Executive Office – Land Systems working together as a team.

We also look back at our Advanced Planning Briefing to Industry (APBI), one of the largest gatherings between the Marine Corps and the public sector. At the May APBI conference, we took advantage of this interaction with industry representatives to review the needs of the force: lighten the load; wheeled tactical mobility; hearing conservation; command and control and tactical networks; intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; and improvised explosive device countermeasures. Through this we hope to inspire industry's imagination so we can work together to provide the best support possible to our customer: the warfighter.

Our summer issue reminds us that fall is fast approaching and with it our next great event, the MCSC Birthday Ball planned for Nov. 8. Tickets go on sale in September, and information regarding ticket sales is located on the back cover and in the SysCom News section of this magazine. Our Product Groups and individual offices hold various fundraisers to help our most junior-ranking people attend the ball without financial hardship. These events will intensify during the next few months, and I encourage you to lend a helping hand. Our 233rd birthday celebration will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our heritage, and your participation in fundraisers leading up to that night will help make the ball a memorable occasion for everyone in the command.

Thank you for participating in all our events and activities, but most of all, thanks for all the hard work you perform day in and day out helping to equip our warfighters to win. Your dedication and commitment saves lives.

Semper Fidelis!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M.M. Brogan".

M.M. Brogan  
Brigadier General  
U.S. Marine Corps

# MARINES ON POINT

Summer 2008,  
Volume 2, Issue 3

Brigadier General Michael Brogan  
Commander  
Marine Corps Systems Command

Barry Dillon  
Executive Director  
Marine Corps Systems Command

Sanford McLaurin  
Director  
Corporate Communications

Austin Johnson  
Assistant Director  
Corporate Communications

Captain Geraldine Carey  
Public Affairs Officer

Bill Johnson-Miles  
Editor, Staff Writer

Jim Katzaman  
Primary Staff Writer, Copy Editor

Dedra Jones  
Staff Writer, Copy Editor

Taylor Burrow  
Staff Writer, Copy Editor

Barb Hamby  
Copy Editor

Pam King  
Copy Editor

**Editorial**  
Address editorial inquiries to:

Marine Corps Systems Command  
Corporate Communications Directorate  
Public Affairs Office  
2200 Lester Street, Room 153  
Marine Corps Base Quantico, VA  
22134-5050

Phone: (703) 432-3958  
Email: MCSCPAO@mcsc.usmc.mil

**Layout and Design**  
Carolyn Christiansen  
Kirk Nelson  
Professional Solutions / SAIC  
3850 Fettler Park Drive  
Dumfries, VA 22025  
Phone: (703) 649-2200  
www.prosol1.com  
www.saic.com

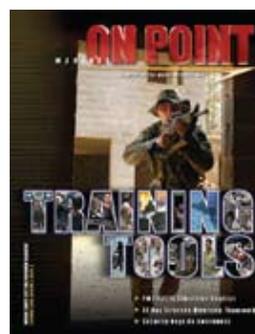
**Printing**  
Discount Newsletter Printing, Inc.  
14887 Persistence Drive  
Woodbridge, VA 22191  
Phone: (800) 826-6809  
www.discountnewsletter.com



*Marines On Point* is produced and published quarterly by Marine Corps Systems Command's Corporate Communications Directorate. It is an authorized publication for the employees and U.S. military service personnel attached to the command. Contents of the magazine are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Marine Corps or Marines Corps Systems Command.

- 2** **Commander's Message**
- 4** **Parade Deck: (Events and Activities)**  
AE Day: Speakers emphasize diversity, teamwork
- 7** Howitzers fall silent at Marine Corps museum
- 8** APBI: Command invites industry to join solutions
- 11** Congressional staffers get hands on with the Marine Corps
- 14** Dragon Eye: Marine UAV aircraft lands in Smithsonian display
- 16** **Front and Center:**  
PM TRASYS helps turn Marines into warfighters
- 20** **Equip to Win:**  
24th MEU tests new TLDHS StrikeLink in Afghanistan
- 22** **Spotlight:**  
Security Office leads culture change to protect assets
- 24** **Looking Back:**  
Higgins Boat: Dawn Higgins Murphy keeps legacy afloat
- 26** **Ooh Rah: (Awards and Achievements)**  
Employees earn annual awards at AE Day
- 28** **SysCom News**
- 32** CPAC: Marines gain edge against equipment "cancer"
- 33** Command scorecard plots multiple factors
- 34** **Snapshots**

**On the Cover:** A Marine enters a building during a training exercise at a Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) facility. MOUTs are built and maintained at Marine Corps bases around the world through the efforts of Marine Corps Systems Command's Program Manager for Training Systems (PM TRASYS). See PM TRASYS story on Page 16. (PM TRASYS photo)





## Speakers emphasize diversity, teamwork

Three separate award ceremonies, along with inspiring and motivational speakers, converged June 4 in an entertaining and informative Acquisition Excellence (AE) Day at the Hylton Memorial Chapel and Conference Center in Woodbridge, Va. (See AE Day Awards story on page 26.)

Introducing “Continuing Actions: Acquisition Support to the Long War,” Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) Commander Brigadier General Michael Brogan said the AE Day theme was especially appropriate.



# AE DAY

“As we fight the Long War on Terror,” he said, “it’s critical that we continue to support the warfighters by providing them with better and more capable systems. Their safe return to their families depends, in part, upon us doing our jobs, better, faster and with a sense of urgency.”

To help reinforce that sense of urgency and give MCSC members perspective on how they fit into the big picture, command officials presented a program that included speakers Brigadier General Jim Kessler, diversity consultant Dr. Samuel Betances

and former astronaut Mike Mullane, a retired Air Force Colonel.

“Thank you for all you do to support the Long War and to support our future,” Kessler said. Speaking as Director of the Marine Corps’ Manpower Management Division, only a few months earlier he was serving as Commanding General, 2nd Marine Logistics Group in Iraq. He addressed how people at MCSC support the warfighter.

“It’s important for folks at MCSC to understand their direct link to what you do and our success



Members of Marine Corps Systems Command listen to inspiring and motivational speakers during Acquisition Excellence Day. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

The lively and animated Dr. Samuel Betances, a diversity consultant and trainer, made his points clear in a very entertaining fashion. The educator, published author and media personality spoke during Marine Corps Systems Command's Acquisition Excellence Day in early June. (Photo by Lance Corporal Esteban Gallegos)



on the battlefield,” the General said. “You’re supporting this fight and the next one as well. After 13 months in Al-Anbar Province, I can assure you that your work is essential to our success there.”

Today’s success, Kessler added, calls for keeping an eye on the horizon and making adjustments for future conflicts before they occur. For instance, he asked, “Is our personal protection equipment too heavy? Where will we fight next? Will we still be in a desert or in a jungle? We need to get ready and get back to our amphibious roots. “We need to look for indicators of the future and not be fixated on the present

fight no matter how critical it is,” the General said. “We need MCSC’s help to be more lean, faster and lethal in the next fight than we are today.”

Focusing directly on the MCSC workforce, Brogan returned to say the command must capitalize on its diversity. Manpower officials, he said, have justified workforce needs that not only have placed people in unfilled billets but also will let MCSC grow to meet customer demands. He noted that MCSC’s way ahead mirrors that of the overall Marine Corps: the Global War on Terrorism, grow the force to 202,000 Marines, reset the force and modernization to support the mission.

At that point, Betances stepped in to explain how diversity and trans-

formation work together to support the mission and achieve success. “Together we succeed; together we excel,” he said. “One of our great challenges is educating each other in how we want to be treated in the light of reality. In order to transform people and give them opportunity, you, too, must be transformed. I am a product of diversity. I could not have been successful without people who are different.

“One of the great challenges we face in America is when we take young people with fire in their bellies and not incorporate them in organizations,” he said. “We need to use their skills to help us all

---

**“Diversity is not about counting heads. It’s about making heads count.”**

– Dr. Samuel Betances

---



Brigadier General Jim Kessler, Director of the Marine Corps’ Manpower Management Division, delivered the keynote address at Marine Corps Systems Command’s Acquisition Excellence Day in early June. He spoke from his experience just a few months earlier as the Commanding General, 2nd Marine Logistics Group in Iraq. (Photo by Lance Corporal Esteban Gallegos)



Before the scheduled Acquisition Excellence Day speakers and during breaks, members of Marine Corps Systems Command visited more than 30 kiosks and information booths at the Hylton Memorial Chapel and Conference Center. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

support the Long War. Diversity is not about counting heads. It's about making heads count."

Mullane, a veteran of three space shuttle missions, then took a close look at teamwork and leadership. "On the wings of great teamwork and great leadership," he said, "you make great things happen."

He drew from the tragedies of the Challenger and Columbia accidents to detail hard-learned teamwork touchstones: normalization of deviance, responsibility and courageous self-leadership.

"It's a natural human tendency under pressure circumstances to accept a lower standard of performance," Mullane said, referring to O-ring failures in solid rocket boosters and foam falling off fuel tanks. "Because nothing wrong happened the first time, you're tempted to do it again." The shuttle accidents, he added, showed that "accepting a deviance leads to predictable surprise."

His advice to the MCSC team was to "plan the work and work the plan. Do it intelligently. Consider your instincts."

Responsibility, Mullane said, includes maintaining "a team presence; don't become a passenger. Leaders empower a team."

Courageous self-leadership, in the space veteran's view, means

everyone should "dream big and set lofty goals. The edge is out there but farther out there than you think. Stay focused on the goal and be aware how you react to diversity.

"Success," Mullane concluded, "isn't a final destination. It's a continuous journey of reaching for goals."

Brogan tied into that point as he wrapped up the day's activities. "We are all on this journey together," he said. "It's a challenging uphill climb, but that's because our goals and the needs of our deployed operational forces are high. Your untiring support and proven level of performance in the Long War directly supports the warfighter on the battlefield by providing timely and effective combat capability and sustainment.

"This is a team effort," he said. "None of us can do it by ourselves."

— *By Jim Katzaman, MCSC Corporate Communications*



Marine Corps Systems Command's Acquisition Excellence Day was held at the Event Center of the Hylton Memorial Chapel and Conference Center in Woodbridge, Va. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

# Howitzers fall silent at Marine Corps Museum

After 60 years, Faith and Charity have settled into their retirement home at the National Museum of the Marine Corps at Quantico, Va. The pair of 1948-model 75mm pack howitzers began their silent vigil April 28.

Marine Corps Systems Command donated the guns, thanks to a transfer from the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA). Indeed, besides their nicknames, both howitzers bear the markings “D.S.C.R.,” denoting their ownership by Defense Supply Center Richmond, Va. DLA originally had planned to scrap the weapons.

“They were going to disposal. We looked for an opportunity to save them, and we’re grateful for this,” said retired Major General Donald Gardner, President of Marine Corps University, at the howitzer presentation. The guns, on display, give visitors a chance to learn the history behind these small howitzers.

Designed in the 1920s as mountain artillery to be transported by pack mules, the 75mm pack howitzer saw extensive service with the Marine Corps throughout World War II. Used in almost every campaign in the Pacific, the pack howitzer could be disassembled into six components and manhandled ashore.



The howitzer’s small stature allowed their crews to maneuver the gun by hand and provide close artillery support needed by Marine infantry.

– By Jim Katzaman, MCSC Corporate Communications



(From left) Barry Dillon, Marine Corps Systems Command Executive Director; retired Lieutenant General Ron Christmas, President of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation; and retired Major General Donald Gardner, President of Marine Corps University, take part in the 75mm pack howitzers presentation at the National Museum of the Marine Corps. (Photo by Jim Katzaman)

Charity is one of the two 1948-model 75mm pack howitzers on display at the National Museum of the Marine Corps at Quantico, Va.

(Photo by Jim Katzaman)



# Meeting *of* Minds

## Command invites industry to join solutions

**A**t one of the largest gatherings between the Marine Corps and the public sector, the Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics told more than 800 industry representatives, “You are integrated throughout our force, and you’re part of the fabric of our workforce.”

Major General Edward Usher emphasized that point as he led off the Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) Advanced Planning Briefing to Industry (APBI) conference May 13-14 in Baltimore. MCSC, in conjunction with the National Defense Industrial Association, sponsored the conference. The goal was “to increase industry awareness of the critical requirements for innovation that will ultimately protect our warfighters and our freedom.” To reach this goal, the conference used displays and speakers.

Usher led a parade of general officers, program managers and project officers who explained what the military needs and how industry could help. However, APBI was not a roadmap to success but rather days filled with possibilities, according to Brigadier General Michael Brogan, MCSC Commander.

“This conference gives insight,” Brogan said. “We can’t give you a marketing plan, but we can give you some of the keys for the clue locker. In the end, how you do business with us will require your imagination and discernment.”

Earlier, Usher had concluded his presentation with a video that showed how a Marine and a second-grade teacher with no mechanical training changed out a Humvee engine in 1 minute 39 seconds. The General said the video depicted capability-enhancing innovation.

Brogan drew on that example when he said to the industry representatives, “As we become a more equipment-dense force, we need more emphasis on battlefield repairs. We need to do maintenance in an



intelligent manner. If you're not designing new equipment that can have quick change-out as we saw in General Usher's video, shame on you."

The MCSC Commander said communication is an essential element between the military and industry – and it works both ways. As engineers try to abide a contract's demand for an added knot of speed or last millimeter of accuracy, Brogan said, "We need to be told if we're asking for something dumb." Schedules and budgets, he explained, mean nothing if both sides are working on unrealistic goals, which ruin credibility with customers.

Brogan also reviewed the needs of the force: lighten the load; wheeled tactical mobility; hearing conservation; command and control and tactical networks; intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; and improvised explosive device (IED) countermeasures.

"I expect we will continue to see IEDs everywhere we go, and they're going to become increasingly le-



Wanda McLennan of Marine Corps Systems Command's Ground Transportation and Engineering Systems Product Group speaks with a visitor at the Advanced Planning Briefing to Industry conference in May. (Photo by Jim Katzaman)

---

## **"I'm an optimist. I'm not an economist. I'm a Marine."**

**– Major General Duane Thiessen**

---

thal," he said. "The enemy is incredibly savvy at using the media and the Web in keeping up with us."

Similar themes emerged from other conference speakers.

Roger Smith, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition for Expeditionary Warfare, brought the perspective from the secretariat on how industry could support military requirements. "Deliver what you promise on schedule," he said. "Realistic assessments and engineering are required. Then there's the importance of accurate cost and schedule estimates."

Above all, he added, "You need to have systems integrated master plans and master schedules. We've found even

large companies have problems meeting this."

Major General Duane Thiessen, who two days later pinned on his third star, spoke of Marine Corps needs and resources as Assistant Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources (ADCPR). He noted the tough competition in the federal budget between the 61 percent of mandatory expenses such as Social Security and the 39 percent of discretionary allotments, including the 22 percent allotted for defense.

Trying to find money for people and programs was

Three gentlemen talk at the Program Executive Office Land Systems booth during Marine Corps Systems Command's Advanced Planning Briefing to Industry conference in May.

(Photo by Jim Katzaman)



Terri Conte of Marine Corps Systems Command's Communications, Intelligence and Networking Systems Product Group speaks with a visitor at the Advanced Planning Briefing to Industry in May. More than 800 industry representatives checked out the many booths and listened to speakers at the Baltimore conference. (Photo by Jim Katzaman)



a challenge, he said, adding, "I'm an optimist. I'm not an economist. I'm a Marine."

Change is coming, the General stated, even as competing interests elbow their way to the dollars. "To the degree change pressurizes the budget," Thiessen said. "There's going to be only one way to pay the bills: discretionary accounts, which means capital investments."

According to the ADCPR, success will depend on Marines and industry working together. "If we know what the challenges and needs are," he said, "there's the promise of proactive action. Everyone has to work together to solve the problems that lie ahead of us. We're in this together from the start. We're in this together now, and we're in this together to figure out how to do this."

Fresh from the front lines, Brigadier General James Kessler, who served as Commanding General, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, said industry can "help in the logistics world. We want complete transparency in the logistics pipeline from production into the theater" using radio frequency identification tags. Industry can be especially helpful, he continued, in combating IEDs. "The enemy is very smart and adaptable in the asymmetric fight," Kessler said. "IEDs still cause about 75 percent of our casualties. Robotics has helped. We also need to use IED forensics to help us determine how the enemy is moving around the battlefield. Unmanned surveillance is another tool. It gives us the ability to identify an IED and dismantle it."

To counter a versatile, determined enemy, the

General added, "The best combat system out there is the young Marine. Young [noncommissioned] officers and young lieutenants make big decisions every day, and they're making the right decisions. We have some great Americans out there. You, as our partners in industry – and as Americans – should be extremely proud of them."

As the conference closed, Barry Dillon, MCSC Executive Director, told the industry representatives that the military's job is "getting harder and tougher due to the sophistication of the threat. We need your grey matter to help solve things. Modernization is not only threat-driven but also good business. We need to get back to our expeditionary mission. Our equipment is going to be damaged or destroyed, and we'll need to replace it.

"You've seen the spectrum of the area we're engaged in, and it's only a small portion of our involvement," Dillon said. "We cover the whole gamut. We're all indebted to your ideas and initiatives to field our systems. We need to help out our warfighters; we need to know what their mission is so we can get them the support they need."

– By Jim Katzaman, MCSC Corporate Communications



Major General Edward Usher, Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics, spoke to more than 800 industry representatives at the Marine Corps Systems Command Advanced Planning Briefing to Industry conference in May. (Photo by Jim Katzaman)

# HANDS ON

## Congressional staffers get acquainted with the Marine Corps

At an authentic Iraqi cafe, congressional staffers sipped on tea and sampled pastries. This was just one of the many “hands on” experiences they received at the 2008 Marine Day held at Quantico in May.

Lieutenant General James Amos, Commanding General, Marine Corps Combat Development Command (MCCDC), hosted the invitation-only event for more than 375 staffers. Marine Corps Base Quantico and Marine Corps Air Facility Quantico (MCAFQ) served as the backdrop for this annual affair.

The day began with a sea of helicopters bursting through the clouds over the Potomac River arriving at MCAFQ. The helicopter squadron transporting many of the staffers is in its final stages of training before leaving on a seven-month tour to Iraq, and this heightened the experience for those staffers lucky enough to arrive by air. Buses transported the



Congressional staffers examine a Light Armored Vehicle during Marine Day 2008.  
*(Photo by Dedra Jones)*

remaining delegation to the base.

Marine Day showcases the Marine Corps' current and future capabilities, with almost every MCSC Product Group and independent Program Manager represented at this event. MCSC subject matters experts answered many questions while displaying systems, equipment and vehicles.

"Marine Day is a great opportunity for program offices, such as the office of the Program Manager (PM) for Ammunition to showcase their fielded commodities, as well as those new warfighter capabilities that will come on line in the future," said Jerry Mazza, PM for Ammunition. "Ammunition is typically a big draw at this event. The ability to hold, touch and feel items such as grenades, artillery, mortar, tank and pyrotechnics holds great value to the attendees, and ultimately, to the Marine Corps as we prepare and defend our budget through the many congressional briefings of the Marine Corps ammunition budget."

"Marine Day is distinct because it gives staffers an opportunity to enhance their understanding of the Marine Corps and our role with equipping the warfighter with the best possible solutions and equipment," said Pam King, MCSC's



Manned by an Iraqi role-player, this mock fruit stand sat next to a mock café nestled among the assortment of static displays during Marine Day 2008. Marine Corps Systems Command's Program Manager for Training Systems provided the two authentic displays. (Photo by Dedra Jones)

Congressional Affairs Liaison.

Amos also used Marine Day to deliver key messages. During his opening remarks, he thanked the staffers for all they do with supporting the warfighter. He then stressed the importance of lightening the load for Marines while ensuring they still remain lethal, survivable and effective. He noted how the Marine Corps continues to work with the science and technology community as well as industry partners to achieve this goal.

As with every year, wide-eyed enthusiastic staffers received hands-on familiarization with many high-tech systems and equipment that MCSC procures on behalf of the Marine Corps. In addition to MCSC, the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab, Program Executive Office - Land Systems, Chemical Biological Incident Response Force, Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Directorate, Marine Corp Marathon Office as well as industry partners rounded out the static displays at MCAFQ.

A Congressional staffer takes his turn at the MK 19 grenade launcher during Marine Day 2008. (Photo by First Lieutenant Geraldine Carey)





Marines demonstrate a 60mm mortar during Marine Day 2008. (Photo by First Lieutenant Geraldine Carey)

“From concepts to reality ... staffers get to see it all at Marine Day,” King said. “Having tangible equipment and systems can be powerful. This event narrows the gap between the known and unknown by exposing participants to the direct value of the appropriations approved by Congress and the impact constituents have in supporting Marine Corps programs.”

In addition to the static displays, the morning events featured an air show at MCAFQ, including extensive aeronautical demonstrations of the MV-22 Osprey, F/A-18 Hornet and AV-8B Harrier II. For a genuine Corps experience the staffers dined on meals-ready-to-eat for lunch. Afterward, the staffers were transported to Range 15 for live-fire weapons handling and demonstrations. The afternoon’s events captured the camaraderie and warfighting spirit that exemplifies the Corps – “Every Marine is a rifleman.”

“It is tremendous to actually get the chance to see the power of those weapons and be able to experience just a little bit of what it is that you men do,” one attendee said at the range.

“I really appreciate what you all are doing,” another staffer said. “You all just sacrifice so much,

and we are here to help you. Thanks so much for what you have done.”

With a day full of hands-on experiences, demonstrations and conversations with Marines and subject matter experts, attendees left with an increased awareness of MCSC’s role in equipping the warfighter with the best available equipment and systems, and the impact they could play with influencing and supporting existing MCSC programs and emerging requirements.

– By Dedra Jones, MCSC Corporate Communications

The Marine Day 2008 air show included a V-22 Osprey aircraft. (Photo by Dedra Jones)



# DRAGON EYE

## Marine UAV aircraft lands in Smithsonian display

In a room bristling with large, shiny winged robots, the small, almost fragile Dragon Eye stands on its tail, mounted in a clear protective case overseeing its bigger brethren.

From the ceiling of the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum's "Military Unmanned Aerial Vehicles" (UAVs) display hang the silent, foreboding Predator, DarkStar, X-45A, Shadow 200 and Pioneer. Representing the Air Force, Army and Navy, they loom poised and ready. They showcase a cross section of modern unmanned flight technology: jets, piston-driven props and elec-

tric motors for propulsion; and surveillance radars, precision bombs and missiles for combat.

Then there is the Marine Corps' AeroVironment RQ-14A Dragon Eye, added to the Smithsonian collection in April. The Smithsonian's Modern Military Aircraft Curator Dik Daso spoke almost affectionately of the miniature system whose components are light and compact enough to be carried in a Marine's backpack. Indeed, the Dragon Eye display case also contains its computer control, eye goggles (to see what the sensors see), a parts-and-tool kit and bungee-cord launching system.

"If you build model aircraft, you'll like Dragon Eye," Daso said as he led



The Marine Corps' unmanned aerial vehicle AeroVironment RQ-14A Dragon Eye is on display at the Smithsonian Institute's National Air and Space Museum in Washington. (Photo by Eric Long, National Air and Space Museum - © Smithsonian Institution)

the way up the stairs to the aircraft's perch.

At first glance, it was easy to see scars of heavy use and rough landings. Grey duct tape – that matched the color of its fuselage – held the miniature aircraft together. Dragon Eye bore the wounds of flying to hell and back, which indeed it had.

The U.S. military began experimenting with unmanned aircraft as early as World War I. By World War II, unmanned craft could be controlled by radio signals, usually from another aircraft.

Vehicles that could return from a mission and be recovered appeared in the late 1950s. Today, UAVs perform a wide range of missions and are used by all four branches of the military.

The Dragon Eye, displayed at the Smithsonian, traces its origins to early 2001. That's when the Naval Research Laboratory and the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory designed and built the Dragon Eye reconnaissance mini-UAV. They used an extremely quiet electric motor and small wingspan to make the aircraft difficult to detect in flight. The scientists added sensors to record real-time, high-resolution color or infrared images. The aircraft emerged as a fully autonomous, hand- or bungee-launched UAV designed to provide tactical reconnaissance and surveillance information to field commanders.

Dragon Eye was first used operationally during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 for reconnaissance and battle damage assessment. The 3rd Marine Division flew the Smithsonian Dragon Eye in Afghanistan in 2005. They used it for surveillance in the Nangarhar and Kunar provinces, the city of Jalalabad and the Korengal Valley, during which it received its wounds.

“These are the pointy end of the spear,” Daso said of all the UAVs on display. “They are the future of America’s combat air forces.”

“Military Unmanned Aerial Vehicles” will be at the National Air and Space Museum for about a year until the exhibit goes on tour around the country.

– *By Jim Katzaman, MCSC Corporate Communications*

The Marine Corps' AeroVironment RQ-14A Dragon Eye (left) recently joined the Predator, DarkStar, X-45A, Shadow 200 and Pioneer at the Smithsonian Institute's National Air and Space Museum's Military Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Display. (Photo by Eric Long, National Air and Space Museum - © Smithsonian Institution)





## PM TRASYS helps turn Marines into warfighters

Many staff members working for Colonel Frank Kelley, Program Manager for Training Systems (PM TRASYS), like to borrow a phrase from the Army: "All but war is simulation." It can be interpreted that when our warfighters are not actually in the conflict, they are simulating conflict; they are training and preparing for the conflict. PM TRASYS personnel use this quote to stress the importance of good quality training systems and equipment.

That's their job, procuring most of the training equipment for the Marine Corps. As an independent program manager for Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC), PM TRASYS is the Corps' training systems acquisition arm. Its mission is to improve the warfighting effectiveness of the Marine Air Ground Task Force and globally deployed Maritime Expeditionary Forces by providing training support, and developing and sustaining training systems and devices. "We can't keep a ready force without training infrastructures, and these tools come from PM TRASYS," said Lieutenant Colonel Walt Yates, PM TRASYS Modeling and Simulation Officer.

"We provide training items, everything from \$50 rubber rifles to \$3 million motion-based high-fidelity visual systems," said Brian Kummer, PM TRASYS Business and Operations Manager.

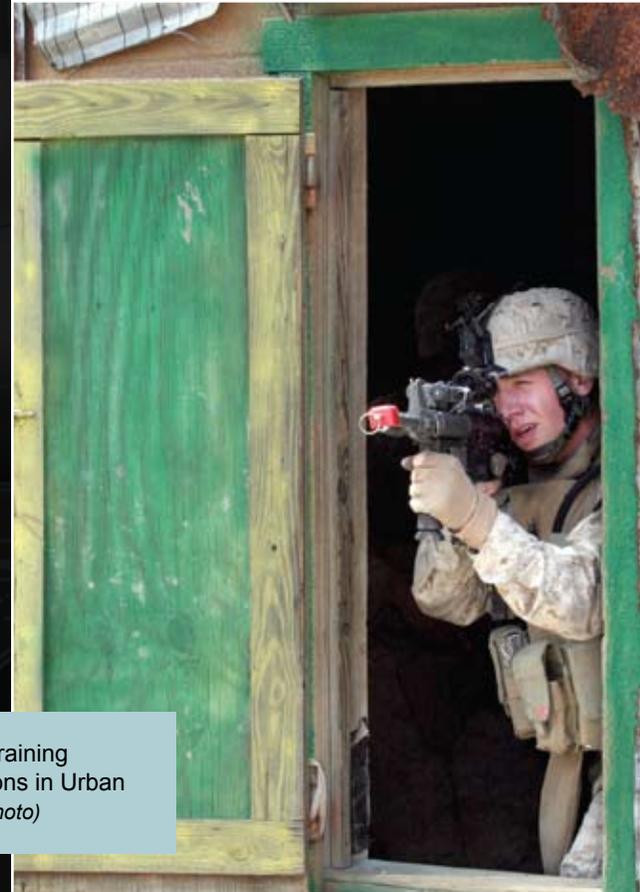
The various training products include simulators, mock weapons, range targets and range instrumentation along with many other devices. Besides training equipment, PM TRASYS provides support services, including training technology research and development, distributed learning capabilities, simulations, training observation capabilities, after-action review systems, training personnel and combat environment role players.

The command accomplishes all this with a team of more than 170 professionals, most located in Orlando, Fla. This includes 44 PM TRASYS civilians, 12 ac-

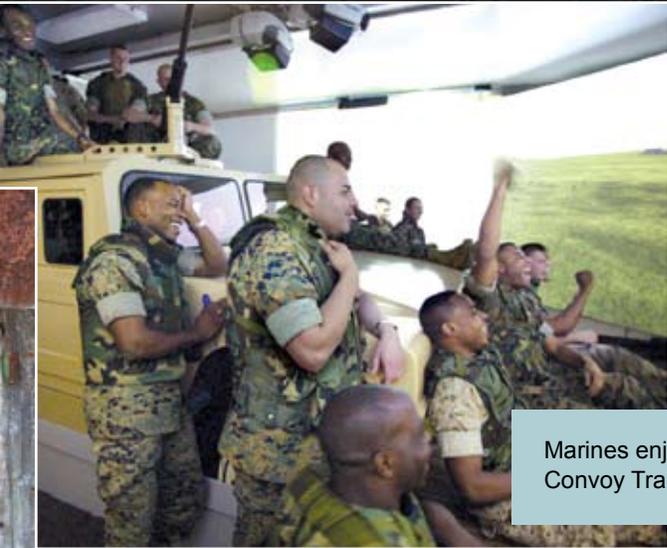
tive-duty military members, five MCSC contract personnel, 30 Navy civilians and 85 defense contractors. Their work has really increased during the past few years, handling a budget growing from \$40 million in 2001 to \$580 million in 2007. The PM TRASYS team manages 40 to 50 ongoing programs, some fielded and in the sustainment stage, some in development and the rest somewhere in between.

"I've been told how professional the people are at PM TRASYS, and they really are," Kelley said. "And it's not just because they're likable people. They're very credible, and they know how to get the work done."

The team receives their requirements from the Training and Education Command (TECOM) in



A Marine takes aim during a training exercise at a Military Operations in Urban Terrain facility. (PM TRASYS photo)



Marines enjoy a victory in the Virtual Combat Convoy Trainer. (PM TRASYS photo)

“We have a flawed policy that is in conflict with what we want our PMs to do regarding training,” Kelley said. “We need to formulate a new policy, still emphasizing that PMs are responsible for training, but a new policy that defines the training roles more clearly for PMs, more clearly for the PGDs (Product Group Directors) and more clearly for us.”

Whatever training decisions PMs make, PM TRASYS supports their mission and can offer assistance. “Our people know the business, they know acquisition, they know

training, and so if you are a program manager up at Hospital Point, you might want to consider using PM TRASYS,” Kelley said. “Because now you don’t have to worry about your logistician who sits on your IPT [Integrated Product or Process Team], and who’s worried about a million other things and training. I’ve got a team of people who know training. That’s their job.”

training, and so if you are a program manager up at Hospital Point, you might want to consider using PM TRASYS,” Kelley said. “Because now you don’t have to worry about your logistician who sits on your IPT [Integrated Product or Process Team], and who’s worried about a million other things and training. I’ve got a team of people who know training. That’s their job.”

Quantico, Va., but the command’s customers include theater commanders, Marine Corps bases and stations, and MCSC program managers (PMs). All PMs are responsible for cradle-to-grave management, and that includes training. However, according to PM TRASYS leadership, official documents also instruct PMs to use PM TRASYS as the agent for training devices and simulators. “PMs need to complete an upfront analysis as they procure a new system to determine the impact to Marine Corps training and manpower,” said Anne Sullivan, PM TRASYS Assistant PM for Advanced Distributed Learning. “PM TRASYS has moved the importance and need for training to the forefront throughout MCSC. Training is a vital part of any weapons system. It cannot be an afterthought.”

The PM TRASYS team is organized into five primary areas: Constructive Systems, Live Training Systems, Virtual Training Systems, Advanced Distributed Learning and Training Technology. It’s Virtual that’s receiving a lot of attention lately, probably because, as one Marine put it, many of their training systems seem like huge video games.

“The warfighter is immersed into a virtual environment using actual or simulated gear,” said

# SIMULATING CONFLICT

Annette Pike, PM TRASYS Assistant PM for Virtual Training Systems. “We surround Marines with video or projection screens showing a simulated environment, placing them in a more realistic scenario. It not only teaches familiarity, helps to sharpen skill levels and provides good sustainment training, but it also saves fuel, ammo, and wear and tear on vehicles and equipment.”

There are more than 10 training systems under Virtual including the Combat Convoy Simulator (CCS), High Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV) Egress Assistance Trainer (HEAT), Operator Driving Simulators (ODS) and Supporting Arms Virtual Trainer (SAVT).

“Virtual training is very important,” Pike said. “It keeps Marines proficient in what they do, even when war goes away. And it’s safer than live training. We immerse Marines into virtual worlds without the dangers.”

Those virtual worlds are also getting more high tech.

“We are pushing innovations with new image generators, creating more 3-D images, more realistic images,” Pike said. “This creates high-fidelity terrain scenes that are more realistic. And the more realistic, the more immersed the Marines, the better quality the training. We’re looking at virtual simulation

centers at each of our main bases to include CCS, HEAT, USMC ODS and SAVT.”

“Providing the simulation trainers and contract services allows Marines to understand and know their

Training Systems team members attend a Deployable Virtual Training Environment briefing in the Training Systems laboratory. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



equipment prior to live-fire training situations,” said Randy Futreal, PM TRASYS Liaison Officer for Camp Lejeune, Cherry Point, New River, Quantico and Beaufort. “This leads to a better trained Marine. That’s what I believe and have witnessed.”

“Virtual training is not a replacement for live training because you need live training to validate skills,” Yates said. “But there are big gains in skill when we immerse Marines in realistic virtual environments. However, some people believe that if Marines are not sweating and smelling gun powder, they aren’t training.”

It’s Live Training Systems where the smell of gun powder and sweat fills the air. Live primarily includes range and field operations and systems. Military Operations in Urban Terrain facilities also fall under Live. Even these systems



Brian Kummer, Training Systems Business and Operations Manager, talks about training with a visitor during Acquisition Excellence Day. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



Maria Beauford, Training Systems Office Manager, listens to Captain Nathan Dmochowski in their Orlando, Fla., headquarters. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

are starting to use more simulation to make the training more realistic.

“The environment is made to represent what they will see when they deploy,” said Brad Valdyke, PM TRASYS Assistant PM for Live Training Systems. “And that includes Iraqi role players. There are 375 role players in Mojave Viper at Twentynine Palms.”

Mojave Viper is a demanding Phase 4 Pre-Deployment Live Training program certification exercise held in the deserts of California. Just about

every Marine goes through Mojave Viper before deploying to theater. It’s like their graduation exercise, a final test of their warfighting skills. PM TRASYS provides the training systems, and role players provide the necessary language and cultural training.

“Our systems help to improve mental and physical skills,” Valdyke said. “We

want Marines to commit these skills to muscle memory, which helps them make decisions faster, increasing their survivability.”

Coupled with the training provided by the people at TECOM, PM TRASYS produces a better Marine.

“The minute a Marine puts on the Eagle, Globe and Anchor, he’s not quite a warfighter yet, until he trains with the equipment that we produce,” Kelley said. “We directly contribute to that man’s survivability, as an individual, because he’s going to fall back on the training that he receives.”

“The work we do here is very important,” Kummer added. “We help to prepare Marines the best we can by simulating the conflict before they go into theater. We’re making a difference. That’s why everyone does this. The warfighter is better because of systems we’re providing.”

Kelley concluded, “We don’t make the Marine, we make the Marine better. We help turn the Marine into a warfighter.”

— By Bill Johnson-Miles,  
MCSC Corporate  
Communications



Annette Pike, Assistant Program Manager for Virtual Training Systems, discusses the Combat Convoy Simulator (CCS) with Luis Garcia, CCS Project Officer. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



Cecilia Hansborough, Marine Corps Systems Command Contract Specialist attached to Training Systems, talks with Master Sergeant Thomas Ossi, Training Systems Reserve Liaison Operations Chief. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

## 24th MEU tests new TLDHS StrikeLink in Afghanistan

The 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) tested the new Target Location, Designation, Hand-off System (TLDHS), called StrikeLink, in April outside friendly lines in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. This marks the first time a MEU has used this device in a combat environment and only the second time ever for any combat unit.

StrikeLink is a digital targeting system that provides forward air controllers, forward observers and reconnaissance teams the ability to see and quickly acquire battlefield targets for indirect fire and close air support in almost any weather condition.



“The Marine Corps determined they needed a digital fire-support capability,” said Major Brian Newbold, Liaison Officer, Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC). “MCSC hired Stauder Technologies to develop and build the system. [For more than a year] it went through testing and safety inspections. After waiting for it to be validated as a legitimate piece of gear, we are at the last step in the process – field testing.”

The 24th MEU (along with 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment) seemed ideal to receive and employ the system because of their upcoming combat operations in Afghanistan, said Major Philip

Corporal Andrew Leroy, fire supportman, Fire Support Team, Weapons Platoon, Charlie Company, Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, NATO-International Security Assistance Force, examines terrain using Vector 21B binoculars, a component of the new Target Location, Destination and Hand-off System (TLDHS) during live-fire mortar range in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. (Photo by Corporal Alex Guerra)



# STRIKE HARD STRIKE FAST STRIKE LINK

Williams, Air Officer, 24th MEU, NATO-International Security Assistance Force (ISAF).

Stauder Technologies dispatched technicians to Afghanistan to teach Marines about the operation and maintenance of the system for use in upcoming missions.

“I want to see StrikeLink utilized by Marines as effectively and efficiently as it was designed to, which is to take out the enemy,” said Jim Davey, Training Instructor, Stauder Technologies.

The hands-off system allows observers and controllers to paint a better picture of the battlefield than the human eye alone ever allowed.

Compared to what was used in the past, it’s night and day,” said Captain Ryan Ward, AV-8B Weapons Tactics Instructor, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 365 (Reinforced), 24th MEU, NATO-ISAF. “In the past, we were using binoculars, compasses and maps to plot out a target and then send the coordinates via radio. That method really hasn’t changed since the Vietnam War.”

“Now, we use digital binoculars that give the distance and range of a target and transmit that information through StrikeLink directly to aircraft or artillery batteries,” Newbold said. “The system completely reduces human error and time.”

In addition to being an efficient communication tool, the system is able to side step some of the enemy’s countermeasures.

“In an environment where we could have an enemy trying to jam our signal or listen into our transmission,” Ward said. “This process is all done in a manner where the enemy can’t listen to what we are doing and has no idea at all about what is going on”.

Among the host of new features TLDHS offers, scout observers never lose sight of what matters most.

“This piece of gear is to support the ground troops,” said Staff Sergeant David Baldock, Artillery Liaison Chief, Headquarters Platoon, Weapons Company, BLT 1/6, 24th MEU, NATO-ISAF. “When an infantryman is taking fire, he needs that support fast. We’re not talking about minutes to get that support; we’re talking seconds he wants that support. Anytime I can save minutes on the battlefield, it is lives saved.”

– By Corporal Alex Guerra, 24th MEU



Vector 21B binoculars, a component of the new TLDHS, overlooks mortarman from Weapons Platoon, Bravo Company, Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, NATO International Security Assistance Force, during live-fire mortar range in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. (Photo by Corporal Alex Guerra)

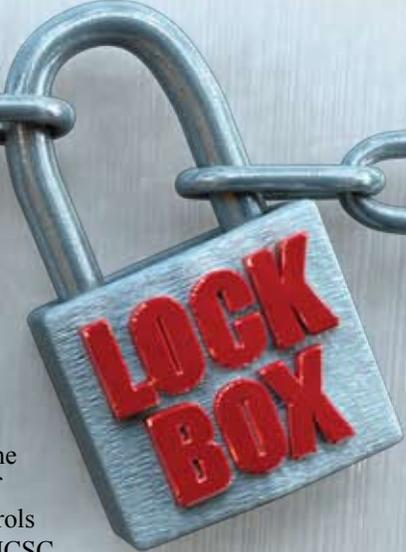
## Security Office leads culture change to protect assets

Security is as plain as the nose on your face, especially the one pictured on your common access card (CAC). Whether via CAC or heightened awareness of program and system protection, security concerns pervade Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC), especially since MCSC is the heart of the sensitive Marine Corps acquisition arena.

Command Security Manager Susan Jones furrows her brow at the daunting task of running a tight ship free of leaks. All persons in or working with the military, and especially MCSC, Jones said, should assume their projects are targets of adversaries. If there is any doubt, she added, “Think what would happen if all you did was lost.”

That is just one of the concerns of the MCSC Security Office as it manages an assortment of the command’s interests in the ever changing areas of personal security; information security; physical security; antiterrorism and force protection; classification management; and the Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF).

Even with 11 people working in or with the Security Office, their workload can get heavy, according to Jones, which makes having a specialist in any particular area a luxury. “Everyone knows a little bit about everything,” she said.



At the top of their priorities is the conversion of security controls throughout MCSC to permit CAC-only access starting Sept. 1. From that date on, Jones said, everyone will need to use the card to unlock doors at command facilities, which might entail a new mindset.

“People need to condition themselves to take their CAC with them when they leave their building or area that’s affected,” Jones said. “We’re going to go through a cultural change to remember to have our CAC with us all the time.”

Carrying the CAC is just one example of the overall awareness those in the Security Office hope to enhance.



Don Zaegel, Communications Security Custodian, discusses radio operations with Marine Corps Systems Command Security Manager Susan Jones. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



“The workforce needs to understand that their tour of duty begins at Room 145 [at MCSC Headquarters] when they check in,” Jones said. “We’re called Security Service because we provide a service. We give you the key to the door and turn on your email.” Beyond that, she added, “There’s an enormous amount of work that goes on.”

Personnel Security processes more than 200 personnel security investigations a year, more than 2,000 contract validation of employee requests, maintains more than 4,000 contractor system accreditation access requests and more than 435 requirements for classified contracts.

Information Security maintains more than 1,200 documents; destroys more than 500 documents annually; maintains more than 500 Secure Internet Protocol Router Network, also known as the SIPRNET, accounts; and provides all requirements of classified transmission, including communications security and encrypted key requirements for the warfighter.

The other portions of the Security Office also keep a busy schedule. The SCIF provides SCI access, transmission and storage requirements and security

support for special access programs. Physical Security manages the access control system. Antiterrorism and Force Protection manages the requirements for MCSC’s portion of the Quantico program. Classification Management manages all Security Classification Guides, including those created by the Marine Corps as a result of new program projects.

Responsibility for security rests with everyone within MCSC, Jones emphasized, and the Security Office staff has taken the lead to drive home the change in culture.

“Security management training will facilitate and accommodate the transition of security policies into electronic applications,” she said, noting that security remains the ultimate goal. “The box has changed, but the rules are the same.”

– By Jim Katzaman, MCSC Corporate Communications

Kermit the Frog always remembers his Common Access Card (CAC). Beginning Sept. 1, the CAC will be needed to access all doors at Marine Corps Systems Command buildings at Quantico. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

The Security team manages personal security, information security, physical security, antiterrorism and force protection, classification management and the Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility. (Photo by Jim Katzaman)





## Dawn Higgins Murphy keeps legacy afloat

She moved gingerly up and down the steps, but Dawn Higgins Murphy was determined to take part in the Andrew J. Higgins Award presentation during Marine Corps Systems Command's Acquisition Excellence Day. The sole surviving daughter of the award's namesake presented a trophy and a signed photo of the Andrew Jackson Higgins National Memorial located in Columbus, Neb., to the Higgins Award winner Colonel John Bryant, Program Manager for the Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle.

Andrew Higgins, Murphy's father, is remembered as the creator of the boat that helped carry the Allies to victory in World War II. According to Doug Brinkley of the Eisenhower Center for American Studies at the University of New Orleans, President Eisenhower once told Dr. Stephen Ambrose, historian and founder of the National D-Day Museum, that Andrew Higgins was the man who "won the war."

"Higgins ran a ship building and designing company, which built 20,094 boats during World War II," Brinkley told USA Today. "It was Higgins



Dawn Higgins Murphy, the daughter of Andrew Higgins, presents gifts to Higgins award winner Colonel John Bryant (left), Program Manager for the Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle, during Marine Corps Systems Command's (MCSC) Acquisition Excellence Day. Brigadier General Michael Brogan, MCSC Commander, presided over the ceremony. (Photo by Lance Corporal Esteban Gallegos)

Industries in New Orleans that designed and produced the landing craft - LCP, LCPL, LCBP, LCM, PT boats and airborne life boats. Ninety-two percent of the ships the U.S. Navy used during the war were designed by Higgins Industries."

Higgins' story actually begins with the Marine Corps. In the late 1930s, the Corps was still grappling with how to move troops from ship to shore under hostile fire. In 1937, Marine 1st Lieutenant Victor Krulak, the father of future Commandant of the Marine Corps General Charles Krulak, was stationed in China. During a Japanese amphibious assault on Shanghai, Krulak borrowed a tugboat to



The view from a Higgins Boat as warfighters hit Normandy Beach on D-Day in June 1944. (National D-Day Museum photo)

get a better look. He saw – and clandestinely photographed – Japanese men and equipment coming onto the beach from a landing craft with a retractable ramp.

Secretary of Defense Robert Gates told Krulak's story at a conference a year ago. "Lieutenant Krulak sent those photos and an accompanying report back to Washington," he said. "You can imagine what happened next. They gathered dust in a cabinet, with a note labeling them, and I quote: 'the work of

higher rate of Allied casualties,'" the USS Rankin Association stated on their website.

According to the association, the Higgins Boat could land a platoon of 36 men with their equipment, or a jeep and 12 men, extract itself quickly, turn around without broaching in the surf and go back out to get more troops or supplies. This was critical – any landing craft that could not extract itself would hinder the ability of succeeding waves to reach the beachhead. The tough, highly maneuverable Higgins



A Higgins Boat is on display at the National D-Day Museum in New Orleans. (National D-Day Museum photo)

some nut in China.' Krulak eventually returned to Washington and doggedly pursued his idea until a Marine general hooked him up with an eccentric New Orleans boat maker named Higgins."

It was Higgins who turned Krulak's thoughts into reality. A modification of the "Eureka" boat, Higgins Industries basically added a retractable ramp and constructed it of wood. The Navy used these new landing craft to transport fully armed Marines, light vehicles, and other equipment and supplies essential to amphibious operations. These boats made the D-Day landings at Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Normandy, Iwo Jima and hundreds of lesser-known places possible.

"Without Higgins' uniquely designed craft there could not have been a mass landing of troops and material on European shores or on the beaches of the Pacific islands, at least not without a tremendously

boats allowed Allied commanders to plan their assaults on relatively less-defended coastline areas and then support a beachhead staging area, rather than be forced to capture a port city with wharves and facilities to offload men and material.

The 20,000-plus Higgins boats, manufactured by Higgins Industries and others licensed to use Higgins' designs, landed more Allied troops during the war than all other types of landing craft combined. By the late 1990s approximately a hundred were still around, according to the USS Rankin Association.

The boat's designer passed away in the 1950s, but his daughter is still telling her father's story and presenting awards in his name.

— By Jim Katzaman and Bill Johnson-Miles, MCSC  
Corporate Communications



### Marine Corps Systems Command Awardees

#### Bronze Star

Lieutenant Colonel Donald Gordon  
Program Executive Office – Land Systems



Lieutenant Colonel Donald Gordon, Program Executive Office – Land Systems, was presented the Bronze Star during a ceremony at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in mid-June. (Photo by Dave Branham)

#### Meritorious Service Medal

Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Eckberg  
Life Cycle Logistics

Major Henry Blackshear  
Communications, Intelligence & Networking Systems

Major Todd Krome  
Communications, Intelligence & Networking Systems

Major Peter Poppe  
Program Executive Office – Land Systems

Donna Sewell, the wife of Gunnery Sergeant Ronald Sewell who is deployed to Iraq, receives the Eugene M. Stoner Award on her husband's behalf from Brigadier General Michael Brogan, Commander, Marine Corps Systems Command. (Photo by Lance Corporal Esteban Gallegos)



## Employees earn annual awards at AE Day

Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) personnel received more than 30 awards during three ceremonies at the command's annual Acquisition Excellence (AE) Day on June 4. A board of MCSC senior acquisition officers and civilian professionals recommended award nominees to Brigadier General Michael Brogan, MCSC Commander, and the Commandant of the Marine Corps selected the winners. Nominations totaled 135 for 15 categories, including 49 individuals and 86 teams.

"I was privileged to recognize our individual and team award recipients from throughout the Command," Brogan said. "We spotlighted a lot of people, but every MCSC team member can lay claim to a portion of the Command's success. None of their individual or team accomplishments would have been possible without all of us in MCSC and Program Executive Office – Land Systems (PEO-LS) working together as a team."

The first three awards the Commander presented included the prestigious Andrew J.

Higgins, Eugene M. Stoner and Donald Roebling awards for acquisition innovation and excellence. The Marine Corps established these three annual awards in 2002.

The men the awards are named for were responsible for the design, development, production and sustainment of three critical items of warfighting equipment, each leaving a major and enduring impact on the U.S. Marine Corps. The Higgins award is presented to a Marine Corps officer, the Stoner award goes to a Marine staff noncommissioned officer, and the Roebling award is bestowed upon a Marine Corps civilian acquisition professional.

Colonel John Bryant, PEO-LS Program Manager for the Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle, earned the Higgins award, Gunnery Sergeant Ronald Sewell from Armor & Fire Support Systems received the Stoner award,

and Scott Adams, representing Combat Equipment and Support Systems, accepted the Roebling award.

"Recognized for excellence and innovation, these award winners carry on the examples set by those for whom these awards are named," said Harold Terry, AE Day awards narrator.

– By Bill Johnson-Miles, MCSC Corporate Communications



Dawn Higgins Murphy, the sole surviving daughter of Andrew Higgins, presented the Andrew J. Higgins Award to Colonel John Bryant, the Program Executive Office – Land Systems' Program Manager for the Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle. (Photo by Lance Corporal Esteban Gallegos)



Barry Dillon (right), Marine Corps Systems Command Executive Director, presents Scott Adams of Combat Equipment and Support Systems with the Donald Roebling award. (Photo by Lance Corporal Esteban Gallegos)

## Acquisition Excellence Day Award Winners

### Andrew J. Higgins Award

Colonel John Bryant  
Expeditionary Fighting  
Vehicle,  
PEO Land Systems

### Eugene M. Stoner Award

Gunnery Sergeant  
Ronald Sewell  
Tank Systems,  
Armor and Fire  
Support Systems

### Donald Roebling Award

Scott Adams  
Chemical Biological  
Radiological Nuclear,  
Combat Equipment and  
Support Systems

### Award for Excellence in Contract Management

**Individual Award:**  
Lee Hoyland  
MAGTF C2, Weapons &  
Sensors Development &  
Integration  
**Team Award:**  
Optics and Non-Lethal  
Systems Contracting  
Team

### Award for Excellence in Engineering

**Individual Award:**  
Mike Halloran  
Joint Mine Resistant  
Ambush Protected Vehicle  
Program  
**Team Award:**  
Ground/Air Task  
Oriented Radar Program  
Engineering Team

### Award for Excellence in Financial Management

**Individual Award:**  
Christine Costello  
Ground Transportation  
and Engineer Systems  
**Co-Team Award:**  
Deputy for Financial  
Management Process  
Improvement Team  
**Co-Team Award:**  
HIMARS Program  
Management Team

### Award for Excellence in Information Technology

**Individual Award:**  
Gary Lindeen  
Information Systems &  
Infrastructure  
**Team Award:**  
Transportation and  
Distribution Systems Team

### Award for Excellence in Logistics

**Individual Award:**  
Kathy Embrey  
Information Systems &  
Infrastructure  
**Team Award:**  
Light, Medium and Heavy  
Fleet Team

### Award for Excellence in Staff Support

**Individual Award:**  
Charlotte Embrey  
Ammunition  
**Team Award:**  
Common Aviation  
Command and Control  
System Support Team

### Award for Knowledge Management

**Individual Award:**  
Captain Jason Lovell  
Programs  
**Team Award:**  
Capabilities Assessment  
Support Center

### Award for Excellence in Provisioning

Jeff Verner  
Ground Transportation  
and Engineer Systems

### Award for Innovation

**Individual Award:**  
Captain Dave Burgess  
Information Systems &  
Infrastructure  
**Team Award:**  
Lightweight Mine Roller  
Team

### Lawrence P. Kreitzer Leadership Award

Dennis Zarnesky  
Ammunition

### Award for Customer Focus

**Individual Award:**  
Jeffrey J. Wilson  
Resource Management,  
Albany  
**Team Award:**  
Combat Identification  
Team

### Award for Excellence in Operations Research and Systems Analysis

**Individual Award:**  
Captain Michael Mastria  
Programs  
**Team Award:**  
Joint Mine Resistant  
Ambush Protected Vehicle  
Program Cost Analysis  
Study Team

### Award for Excellence in Program Management

**Individual Award:**  
Paul Mann  
Joint Mine Resistant  
Ambush Protected Vehicle  
Program  
**Team Award:**  
Joint Mine Resistant  
Ambush Protected Vehicle  
Program Management  
Team

### Award for Teamwork

**Individual Award:**  
Jeffrey Forbes  
PEO Land Systems  
**Co-Team Award:**  
Excalibur Team  
**Co-Team Award:**  
MAGTF C2, Weapons &  
Sensors Development &  
Integration Contracting  
Team

### Command Vision Achievement Award

**Individual Award:**  
Jeffrey D. Wilson  
Systems Engineering,  
Interoperability,  
Architectures and  
Technology  
**Team Award:**  
Competency Alignment  
Team

### Meritorious Service Medal (continued)

Major David Yost  
Communications,  
Intelligence &  
Networking Systems

Captain Paul Detar  
Programs

Captain Wesley Woolf  
Marine Corps Tactical  
System Support Activity

Chief Warrant Officer  
Thomas Morris  
Marine Corps Tactical  
System Support Activity

Master Gunnery  
Sergeant Byron  
Constance  
Communications,  
Intelligence &  
Networking Systems

Master Gunnery  
Sergeant Byron  
Edmund Maziariski  
Infantry Weapons  
Systems

Master Gunnery  
Sergeant Jeffrey Weller  
MAGTF C2,  
Weapons & Sensors  
Development and  
Integration

Master Sergeant  
Jon Dewberry  
Communications,  
Intelligence &  
Networking Systems

Master Sergeant  
Donald Hooper  
Infantry Weapons  
Systems

Master Sergeant  
Lee Mew  
Ground Transportation  
and Engineer Systems

Master Sergeant  
Torry Wells  
Marine Corps Tactical  
System Support Activity

Gunnery Sergeant  
Lavarra Jeffreys  
Systems Engineering,  
Interoperability,  
Architectures and  
Technology

# Marine Corps Systems Command Awardees (continued)

## Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal

Lieutenant Colonel James Howard  
MAGTF C2, Weapons & Sensors  
Development and Integration

Major Shawn Miller  
Light Attack Vehicle

Captain Gerald Collins  
Command Information Office

Captain Melissa Simmons  
Facilities and Services

Captain Juan Svenningsen  
Armor & Fire Support Systems

Gunnery Sergeant Davy Cadd  
Armor & Fire Support Systems

Gunnery Sergeant Patrick Cross  
Armor & Fire Support Systems

Gunnery Sergeant James Price  
Marine Corps Tactical System Support Activity

Gunnery Sergeant Jeffery Tomlinson  
Infantry Weapons Systems

## Joint Service Commendation Medal / Iraq Campaign Medal

Gunnery Sergeant Shelly Willis  
(USMC Reserve)  
Contracts

## Certificate of Commendation

Joanne Darden  
Headquarters Office

Kara Hayes  
Corporate Communications

## Certificate of Retirement

Robert Barry  
Life Cycle Logistics

David Cannon  
Armor & Fire Support Systems

Lynda Carriveau  
Global Combat Support System – Marine  
Corps

Sherry Davis  
Resource Management Ronald Demott  
Infantry Weapons Systems

Ronald Demott  
Infantry Weapons Systems

Jimmy Goulden  
Program Executive Office – Land Systems

Tony High  
Operational Forces Systems

James Kelley  
Combat Equipment and Support Systems

Timothy McClelland  
Operational Forces Systems

Dottie Robinson  
MAGTF C2, Weapons & Sensors  
Development and Integration

## Federal Length of Service Award

Dolores Peterkin (35 Years)  
Ground Transportation & Engineer Systems

Jonathan Carpenter (30 Years)  
Ground Transportation & Engineer Systems

Sandra Davey (30 Years)  
Contracts

Buddy Rodgers (30 Years)  
Information Systems & Infrastructure

Diane Sarkis (30 Years)  
Combat Equipment and Support Systems

David Greer (28 Years)  
Communications, Intelligence & Networking  
Systems

Nina Barcus (20 Years)  
Workforce Management & Development

Betty Davis (20 Years)  
Facilities and Services

Christine Kuney (20 Years)  
Contracts

## 2008 Dr. Delores M. Etter Top Scientists and Engineers Award

Peter Manternach  
Ground Transportation & Engineer Systems

## 2008 National Women's History Month Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Recognition Award

Chief Warrant Officer Melissa Tafoya  
Systems Engineering, Interoperability,  
Architectures and Technology



Reservist Gunnery Sergeant Shelly Willis, who works as a civilian in Contracts for Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC), receives the Joint Service Commendation Medal from Brigadier General Michael Brogan, Commander, MCSC. The medal represents more than 10 months of in-theater achievements and accomplishments for Joint Contracting Command – Iraq/Afghanistan.

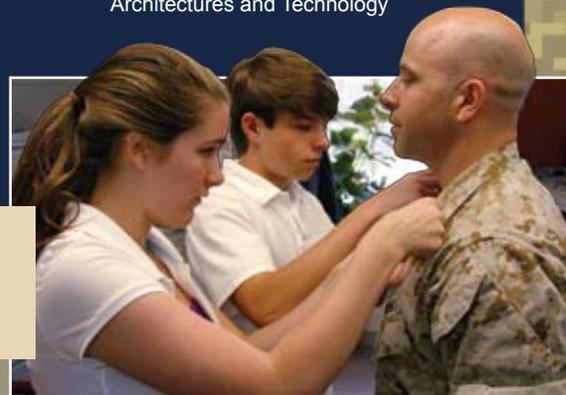
(Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

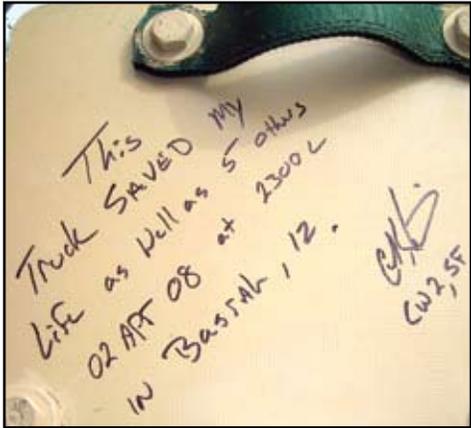
Captain Raymond Gileta  
Global Combat Support System – Marine  
Corps

Captain Grant Heinrichs  
Communications, Intelligence & Networking  
Systems

Captain Edna Rodriguez  
Information Systems & Infrastructure

Major Michael Mastria, Marine Corps Systems Command Programs, receives his new rank insignia from his children during his promotion ceremony in June. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)





In April, a Special Forces warfighter wrote a note on the door of a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle in Iraq, and the photo was forwarded to the MRAP Joint Program Office. The note reads, "This truck saved my life as well as 5 others on 02 Apr 08 at 2300 in Basrah, IZ."

## 10,000th MRAP vehicle delivered to government

The rapid response to protect the warfighters by the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) Joint Program Office (JPO) and the rest of the Department of Defense (DoD) MRAP team reached a major milestone in early July when the 10,000th MRAP vehicle rolled off the assembly line and into government hands.

In February the MRAP JPO, headed by Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC), recorded its 5,000th MRAP vehicle acceptance. That milestone was reached less than a year after Secretary of Defense Robert Gates made MRAP vehicles DoD's top acquisition priority. Since then, the program has advanced at near-unprecedented speed, doubling production of the life-saving vehicle in just over four months.

"This is a significant achievement," Gates said. "This program has gone from zero to 10,000 in just about a year and a half. These vehicles have proven

themselves on the battlefield and are saving lives."

"The many successes of the joint MRAP vehicle program are the result of an overwhelming team effort by the many players in this program," said Brigadier General Michael Brogan, Commander, MCSC. "From production to integration, from transportation to fielding, many commands and organizations have played major roles in this program."

Within weeks this 10,000th truck, which is built to help withstand close-up impact of an improvised explosive device while protecting warfighters inside, will join its predecessors on the front lines in Iraq and Afghanistan. Before being shipped overseas, the MRAP vehicle will be installed with weapon stations, radios and other equipment by the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command center in Charleston, S.C. From that point the U.S. Transportation Command will ship the vehicle by sea to the combat zone.

The final contract order for MRAP vehicles is expected later this summer, bringing the overall total to more than 15,000 vehicles in the current build-up. As of July 1, more than 6,470 MRAP vehicles had been fielded and another 970 had arrived in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait waiting final processing.

## Robots compete at Modern Day Marine Expo

Modern Day Marine, the annual premier Marine Corps equipment, systems, services and technology exposition, will be held

Sept. 30 through Oct. 2 at Lejeune Field on Marine Corps Base Quantico. The event is co-sponsored by the Marine Corps League and Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC). It showcases defense industry equipment and technology suppliers to the Marine Corps.

A highlight for this year's expo will be a new Ground Robotic Obstacle Demonstration Course. This course will allow exhibiting companies to demonstrate their ground robotic systems capabilities to the Marines. The expo is included on the Marine training schedule and gives Marines a chance to provide feedback to companies who build and provide useful equipment and services.

MCSC will provide an educational display giving warfighters an opportunity to review new equipment and systems. The displays will feature



Marines arrive at last year's Modern Day Marine Expo. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

Infantry Combat Equipment; Medical; and Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense Systems. MCSC and the Marine Corps Combat Development Command plans to provide a joint Marine Enhancement Program display, and Program Executive Office – Land Systems will also provide a display.

## Ball tickets go on sale in September

**T**icket sales for the upcoming 2008 Marine Corps Birthday Ball will commence Sept. 15 for Marine Corps Systems Command and Program Executive Office – Land Systems government employees and Marines. Beginning Oct. 6, ticket sales will open to everyone, including contractors, on a first-come, first-served basis. Ball Committee department sales representatives will be selling tickets through noon Oct. 24, unless tickets sell out prior to that date.

Tickets are limited, and it is recommended that ball goers purchase their tickets early. People purchasing tickets in the first few weeks after sales begin will be eligible for a variety of pre-ball prizes. Prizes may include a free hotel room, gift certificates and ticket cost reimbursements.

The ball will be held Saturday, Nov. 8, at the same location as last year's event, in the Grand



Marines escort the official birthday cake during the opening ceremony at last year's Marine Corps Birthday Ball. (Photo by Sergeant Kara Coonrod)

Ballroom at the Renaissance Hotel, 999 9th St. NW, in Washington. The block of hotel rooms set aside for ball attendees is expected to sell out early. Those wishing to spend the night should make their reservations as soon as the block becomes available.

MCSC will continue to host a series of Marine Corps Ball fundraising events in the upcoming months to help defray the cost of tickets and enable all junior enlisted Marines to attend free of charge. For more information, visit the command's Birthday Ball website on Tiger, left side of page under MCSC.

## LAV celebrates 25 years

**T**he Light Armored Vehicle (LAV) turns 25 this year, and the LAV community, both government and industry, is celebrating with a reunion dinner and a donation ceremony Oct. 3 at the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

Marine Corps Systems Command's Program Manager's Office for the LAV will

donate an LAV to the museum during a ceremony scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m. The donation ceremony is open to the public and is free of charge, and various LAVs will be on display.

At 5:30 p.m., the museum will host the reunion dinner that is expected to be attended by many of the key players responsible for successfully guiding the LAV program from its inception through today. An active duty Marine general officer is expected to deliver the keynote speech. A number of awards will also be presented to Marines of the current LAV community.



A Light Armored Vehicle (LAV) fires 25mm rounds during a live-fire event in the Republic of Korea in March. The 25th anniversary of the acceptance of the first production LAV will be celebrated in October. (Photo by Lance Corporal Eric Arndt)

The \$55 dinner tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis and can be ordered by contacting Suzanne Miller at [sue.miller@us.army.mil](mailto:sue.miller@us.army.mil).

## FAQs available for Primary MOS 8059

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are available for individuals interested in the Primary Acquisition (ACQ) Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) 8059 Program. This guide covers general information to include the MOS 8059 Board, Acquisition Command /Command Equivalent Boards and available key leadership positions.

To locate the FAQs, visit [www.marcorsyscom.usmc.mil/sites/acqworkforce](http://www.marcorsyscom.usmc.mil/sites/acqworkforce), click on MOS Career Maps and then find the FAQ link on the bottom left hand corner of the page. Sample questions in the FAQs include: (1) Where can I find more information on the MOS 8059 career path; (2) Where can I find more information on the MOS 8059 boards; and (3) Who can I contact if I have questions about current or future assignments to Marine Corps Systems Command.

In addition to the FAQs, Military Manpower Representatives at Workforce Management Division, Chris Bangs at [christine.bangs@usmc.mil](mailto:christine.bangs@usmc.mil) or Jackson Kottmyer at [jackson.kottmyer@usmc.mil](mailto:jackson.kottmyer@usmc.mil) are available to answer questions about this program.

## Sign-ups start for acquisition classes

Registration has started for Fiscal Year 2009 (FY09) Defense Acquisition University residential classes that begin Oct. 1.

“This is your absolute best opportunity to get the classes you need in FY09,” said Michelle McKamy, Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA) Manager for Marine Corps Systems Command. “The earlier you register, the better your chances.”

For best results in obtaining a seat in a desired class, she added, “choose offerings in cost-effective locations that still have vacant seats. Remember that all prerequisites must be met before the Navy Defense Acquisition Career Management [DACM] Registrar Office

can give you a reservation.”

Supervisors must approve applications as soon as possible to maximize registration opportunities. The DACM Registrar Office does not have access to student applications until supervisors approve them. The updated DAWIA Operating Guide is available on the DACM website at [http://acquisition.navy.mil/career\\_management](http://acquisition.navy.mil/career_management).

“If this is your first time seeing this document, please take the time to thoroughly review the content,” McKamy said. “This document replaces Secretary of the Navy Instruction (SECNAVINST) 5300 and provides more clarification regarding acquisition-related topics than previous documentation. Even though it is an operating guide, it is Department of the Navy policy in management of the acquisition workforce and is considered to have the same authority as a SECNAVINST.”

The following Workforce Development representatives can answer requirements or policy questions:

- A-K (Civilians): Angela Robinson, (703) 432-4457, [angela.l.robinson1@usmc.mil](mailto:angela.l.robinson1@usmc.mil)
- L-Z (Civilians): Nancy Buckle, (703) 432-4458, [nancy.buckle@usmc.mil](mailto:nancy.buckle@usmc.mil)
- A-Z (Marines): Harold Terry, (703) 432-4496, [harold.terry@usmc.mil](mailto:harold.terry@usmc.mil)

For more information on changes and updates, visit the Marine Corps Acquisition website at [www.marcorsyscom.usmc.mil/sites/acqworkforce](http://www.marcorsyscom.usmc.mil/sites/acqworkforce).



Information about the Primary Acquisition Military Occupational Specialty 8059 Program is provided during Acquisition Excellence Day. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

## Marines gain edge against equipment 'cancer'

**B**y the hundreds, Marine Corps trucks, tractors, trailers, generators, water tanks, earth-moving equipment and other vehicles not being used in the Global War on Terrorism sit in storage lots around the world waiting for another conflict to erupt. But what most people don't know is the equipment is fighting another battle right where it sits – the fight against corrosion.

According to Hancel "Hank" Porterfield, Marine Corps Systems Command's (MCSC) former Program Manager for Corrosion Prevention and Control (CPAC), many of the storage lots are near salt water. "This humid salt environment along with ultraviolet sun rays accelerates corrosion," he said. "Corrosion-induced degradation destroys the ability of these assets to perform their mission as surely as cancer destroys a person's ability to perform life functions."

Recognizing this, the Marine Corps developed aggressive programs over the past five years to combat corrosion. One of the programs stresses the acquisition of new equipment with materials and manufacturing processes that reduce the susceptibility for corrosion. Another program, one that CPAC introduced throughout the operating forces, includes frequent fresh-water washing, applying corrosion-prevention compounds, rust removal, repair and repainting at the organizational level and placing equipment in controlled humidity environments.

"This control-humidity environment staging has shown a return on investment of \$8 for every \$1, and the CPAC treating and repair of assets has shown a cost avoidance of every \$1 spent saving \$4.91," said Porterfield, who retired from MCSC in October 2007. "The CPAC has greatly helped the warfighter maintain mission readiness."

CPAC also contains a research and development (R&D) arm with the mission to look for and evaluate new materials, processes and technologies to reduce this cancerous action for both new acquisitions as well as operational units.

"New products and materials are evaluated against a given standard and the results posted on the CPAC web site," Porterfield said. "The Marine in a given motor pool now has a standard by which he may determine whether to buy a new product."

Looking to the future, CPAC R&D funds a laser technology project that is testing a laboratory prototype device. According to Porterfield, it takes the laser energy from a laser oven and transfers it to a hand-held remote device for removing rust and coatings. "The controls are sufficiently precise to allow removal of corrosion and leave the primer coat or remove both to bare surface," he said. "Since the residue is burned, no hazardous materials are produced. Initial interest was to use this technology to remove coatings from surfaces hard or impossible to reach with normal stripping operations."

Besides CPAC, the Marine Corps' success in this battle against equipment cancer can be attributed to many others, Porterfield said. The Army Communications Electronics Command Rapid Response Contracting Office at Fort Monmouth, N.J., made it possible for CPAC to provide funding to complete required work within specific, Defense Department-mandated, funding windows. More than 95 contracted civilian technicians work within motor pools from North Carolina to Okinawa serving the Marine Corps' expeditionary forces.

"And much credit for the success of this program goes to the end users of CPAC services," Porterfield said. "Logistics specialists throughout the Marine Corps were quick to realize the savings in manpower to their organizations and the cost avoidance numbers. They bought in to the CPAC program early on and made it a success."



A Marine cleans off a truck in the Corrosion Prevention and Control Automated Vehicle Wash Rack system on Marine Corps Base Hawaii at Kaneohe Bay. (Photo by Dedra Jones)

# KEEPING SCORE

## Command scorecard plots multiple factors

At Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC), it is easy to tell when football season arrives. There's a special excitement in the air on Monday mornings as fans rave or rant about Sunday's games over their morning cup of coffee. Whether it's football, the Olympics or any sporting event, the team with the best score wins.

However, scoring an acquisition program is a bit more complex. According to George Seidl, Change Consultant in the MCSC Strategic Change Management Center, the command measures a program using three fundamental factors: cost, schedule and performance. A program's initial "scorecard" or dashboard is the Acquisition Program Baseline Agreement (APBA) that serves as the contract between the program manager and the milestone decision authority.

"This is the tricky part," Seidl said. "Factors on the program's dashboard are seldom, if ever, unrelated. The relationship quickly becomes apparent when one factor falls short of the APBA. A system that has problems with its performance requirements might

need more time, money or both to correct the deficiency. On the other hand, a system behind schedule might require more funds or need to loosen performance requirements to field the system on schedule."

Besides that, Seidl added, most programs have multiple performance factors and more than one cost factor. "The program manager's challenge is to balance these interrelated and competing factors," he said.

Just as in sports, Seidl explained, MCSC has a command-level scorecard, which the Executive Steering Team (EST) approves in concert with the development of the Command Strategic Plan.

The scorecard includes both operational and strategic measures. EST reviews selected elements of the Command Scorecard at their monthly meetings. They also review associated initiatives established to achieve the desired levels of performance. These initiatives, Seidl said, are designed to move the measure in the "positive" direction.

Operational measures indicate the operational status associated with achieving the command mission. The primary operational measures for individual programs are cost, schedule and performance.

"At the command level, we aggregate across programs," Seidl said. "This lets EST gauge overall cost, schedule and performance trends. The team

believes the strategic goals and associated measures are necessary to position MCSC to serve our Marine warfighters in the future. Strategic measures change or are replaced as the strategic goals evolve."

The scorecard and measure status are located on the command's Tiger website, on the left side of the page in the MCSC section.

"Because of the MCSC focus on the Global War on Terrorism – and managing a scorecard is an added burden – the EST chose to slowly evolve the scorecard," Seidl said. "This way, product and support groups can focus on supporting Marines in harm's way."

– Submitted by the MCSC Strategic Change Management Center

On the Marine Corps Systems Command Scorecard, operational measures are color coded burgundy. Strategic measures are color coded to correspond to their respective strategic goal. Measures not sufficiently mature for publication are color coded grey.





# Snapshots



Marines take over Times Square during New York's Fleet Week in May. Marine Corps Systems Command took part in the festivities providing a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle and other items for display. (Photo by First Lieutenant Geraldine Carey)



Linda Everetts of Program Executive Office – Land Systems' Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle program undergoes a bone density screening during Acquisition Excellence Day in June. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



Members of the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Joint Program Office (from left) Ester Terry, Kuenapa Slagle and Tom Carmody smile for the camera during Acquisition Excellence Day in June. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



Elaine McCusker, former advisor for the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development & Acquisition, shows the mock Marines On Point magazine cover she received during her farewell luncheon at Marine Corps Systems Command. (Photo by Jim Katzaman)



Members of the Ammunition Program Management Office help raise funds for the command's Marine Corps Birthday Ball by selling drinks and snacks during Acquisition Excellence Day in June. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

Marines On Point encourages members of the command to submit photos. Printed photos may be delivered to magazine staff members in Building 2200, Room 153, or mailed to *Marines On Point* magazine, Corporate Communications, 2200 Lester St., Quantico, VA 22134. High resolution digital photos should be emailed to [MCSCPAO@usmc.mil](mailto:MCSCPAO@usmc.mil). Please identify all people in each photo and include event details.

# CONNECT

with the new Quantico Section of the  
American Society of Naval Engineers

## New "Quantico Section" Kick-Off

Marine Corps University  
Quantico, Virginia  
September 18, 2008  
0800 - 1200

Learn more about ASNE and what a  
professional society can do for you.

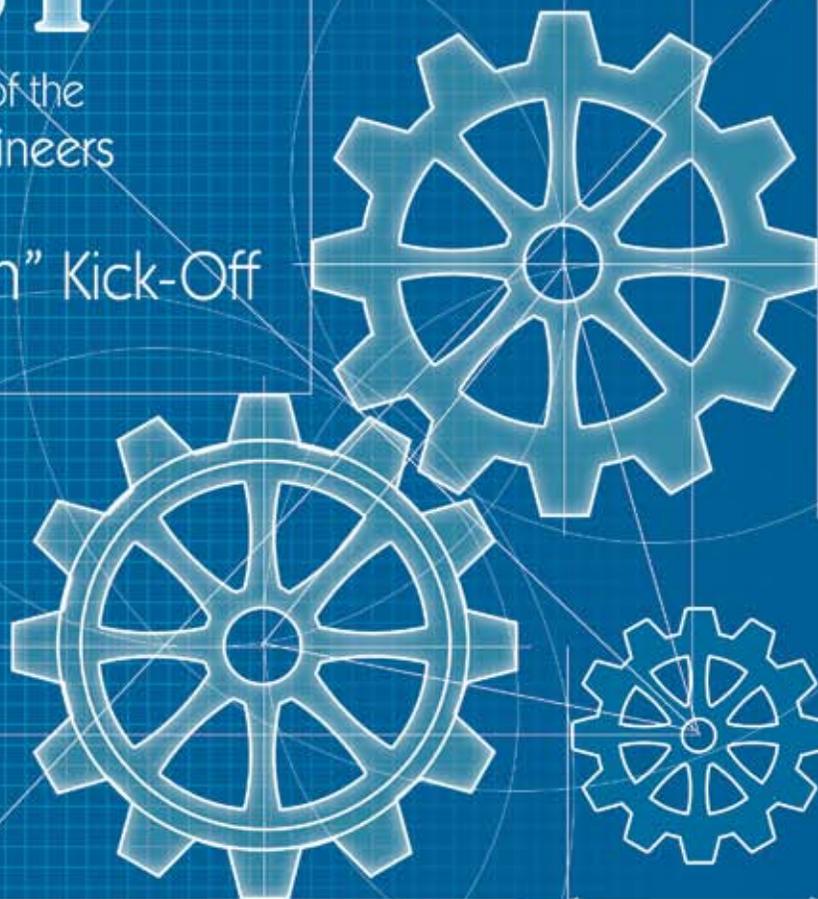
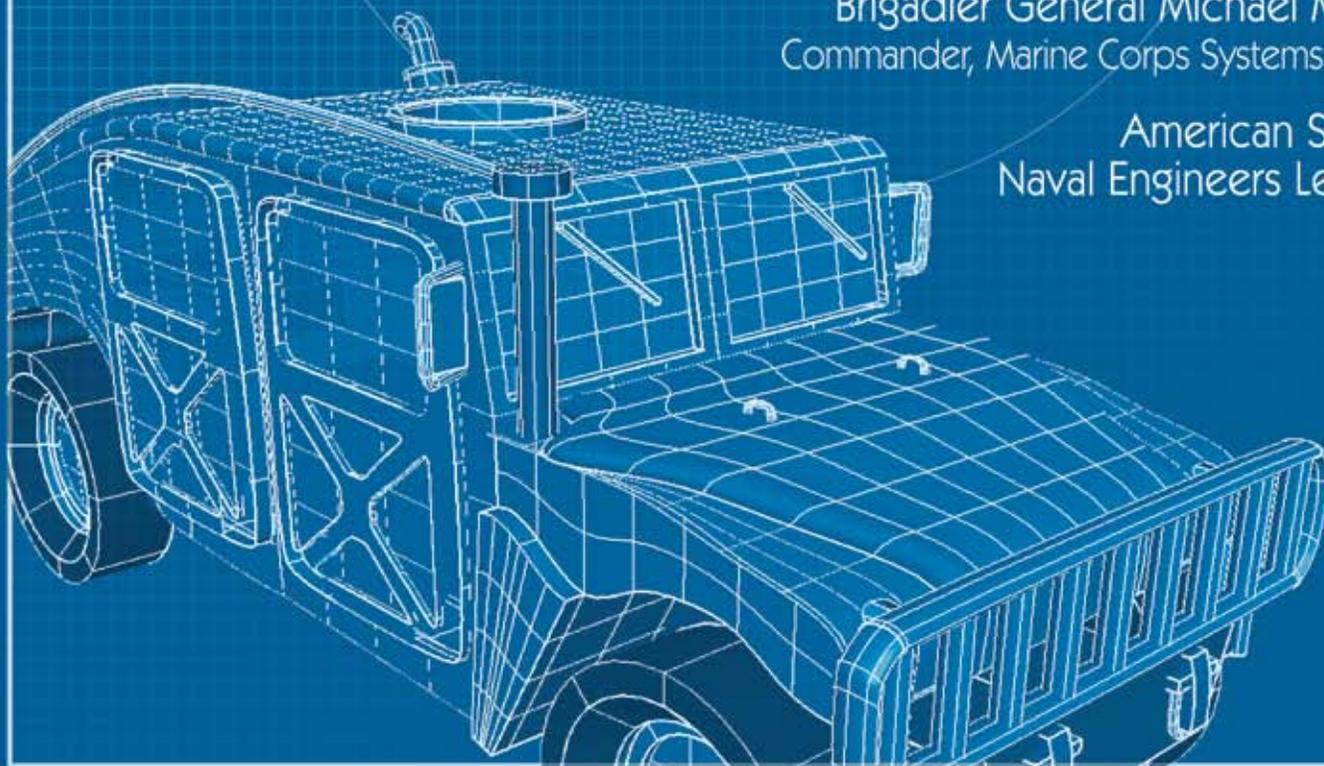
Volunteer and leadership  
opportunities are available.

Additional information  
available on TIGER.

## FEATURED SPEAKERS:

Brigadier General Michael M. Brogan  
Commander, Marine Corps Systems Command

American Society of  
Naval Engineers Leadership



# UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Marine Corps Systems Command and PEO Land Systems

Tickets are limited and available on first-come, first-serve basis.

**Sep. 15** Tickets available for command Marines and Civilians

**Oct. 06** All other tickets available

**Oct. 24** Ticket sales close at noon

Members who purchase tickets early have a chance to win pre-ball prizes. Possible prizes include free hotel room, gift certificates and/or ticket cost reimbursements.

**Contact your  
Ball Committee  
sales representative**

**1775 - 2008**

Celebrating 233 years  
of Honor, Courage and  
Commitment

Additional Ball information  
available on TIGER - left side  
under MCSC: SYSCOM MC Ball



*Birthday  
2008 Ball*

*Marine Corps  
Birthday Ball*

*November 8, 2008  
Renaissance Hotel  
Washington, D.C.*