MARINE CORPS SYSTEMS COMMAND
EQUIPPING THE WARFIGHTER TO WIN

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Stimulating

Tactical Power Systems Surge Toward Production

When the call went out to propose projects to fund through the economic stimulus bill and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) was ready. Almost overnight, three power systems had $10 million in financial backing with production soon to follow.

Within the next three years the Command will deliver On-Board Vehicle Power (OBVP) systems, Integrated Trailer-Environmental Control-Generators (ITEG) and improved efficiency Environmental Control Units (ECU) to the field. Each system will provide energy savings while enhancing expeditionary power and cooling capabilities.

This was a case of good fortune and good timing, according to Mike Gallagher, Program Manager (PM) for Expeditionary Power Systems (EPS) at MCSC. The team was also prepared for a call, whenever it might come.

“Early in the year the Command had a quick drill to apply for procurement dollars as part of the economic stimulus, if the possibility arose,” Gallagher said. That meant program managers had to prepare their best candidates to meet a short-notice call for projects to fund. “It turned out there would be no funds for procurement,” he said, “but there might be some for research and development, as long as the project could stimulate the energy sector of the country.”

After President Barack Obama signed the economic stimulus bill in mid-February, the Department of Defense was given $300 million for energy efficiency improvements. The Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), Army, Air Force and the Department of the Navy were each allotted $75 million.

“Everything moved really fast,” said Jonathan Carpenter, Lead Engineer for Expeditionary Power Systems. “Most taskings and data calls happened the same day.” The team had four projects ready to submit. From those, the Navy selected three as part of its list of 10 to include in its submissions to Secretary of Defense Robert Gates. All three MCSC submissions made the final cut in mid-March.

“I felt very good because we can deliver,” Gallagher said. “Research and development dollars are hard to come by. We were going to look at every possible avenue. Without the stimulus money, we might have had to wait until the 2011 or 2012 budget submissions. Now we have the opportunity to move forward.”

“We’re pumping a ton of generator and environmental control units into Afghanistan,” Carpenter said. “As for ITEG, we started out two years ago with a requirement for a little over a dozen systems. Now we have hundreds of requests from customers in the fleet, other program managers and other services. This effort will transition to the next production level of capability for the ITEG.”

Set for initial delivery in fiscal year 2010 and production in 2011, the ITEG program was funded for $2.5 million. It will save 20 percent on fuel compared to present generators, provide greater heating and cooling capacity and produce three times the electrical power output. The system will incorporate collective protection for nuclear, biological and chemical contaminated environments. Fifteen to 20 prototype systems will be delivered for testing under the program.

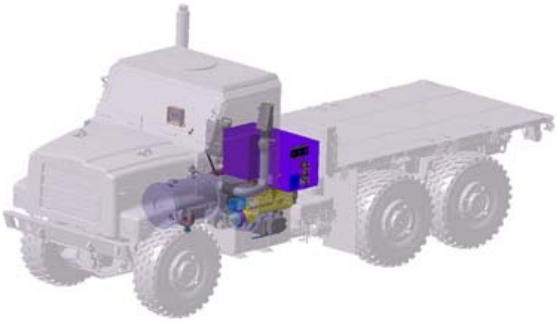
The OBVP, funded for $4 million, will increase electric power output by five to 10 times along with fuel savings. It also will be delivered in 2010. “Onboard vehicle power demands are increasing at an exponential rate,” Carpenter said. “These projects give us the chance to fulfill and get ahead of future requirements.”

ECUs are used by all communities throughout the Marine Corps. The improved efficiency systems will reduce electric power requirements by up to 20 percent across a family of eight different models. Budgeted at $3.5 million for the program, initial delivery is scheduled for late 2009 with production set to start in 2010.

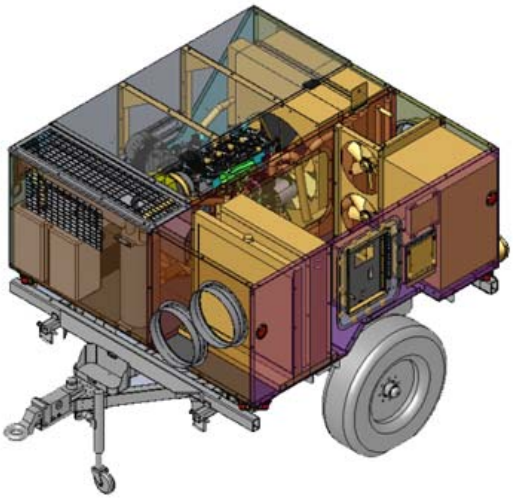
In addition to USMC-managed stimulus efforts, the Army’s Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Command was funded under the OSD portion of the economic stimulus for a $20 million initiative to develop, procure, demonstrate and field squad-level and man-portable fuel cell systems up to 250 watts.

Gallagher is a member of the Joint Services Steering Team, and the Marine Corps will receive and be a testing agent for multiple systems in 2010. The PM for EPS will coordinate with other PMs and Marine Corps organizations on potential applications, deliveries and test scenarios for a significant number of fuel cells.

Marines operate an eight-ton improved efficiency Environmental Control Unit, one of eight different models that will reduce electric power requirements by up to 20 percent. This is one of three Marine Corps Systems Command projects funded through the economic stimulus bill and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. *(MCSC photo)*



On-Board Vehicle Power systems such as this will increase electric power output by five to 10 times and save fuel. This is one of three Marine Corps Systems Command projects funded through the economic stimulus bill and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. *(MCSC illustration)*



Integrated Trailer-Environmental Control-Generators such as this will save 20 percent on fuel compared to present generators, provide greater heating and cooling capacity and produce three times the electrical power output. This is one of three Marine Corps Systems Command projects funded through the economic stimulus bill and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. *(MCSC illustration)*

The following are improved efficiency Environmental Control Units (ECU), four of the eight different models that will reduce electric power requirements by up to 20 percent. The ECU system is one of three Marine Corps Systems Command projects funded through the economic stimulus bill and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. *(MCSC photos)*

Notice: For more information and high-resolution photos/graphics, contact MCSC Corporate Communications at (703) 432-3958.

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