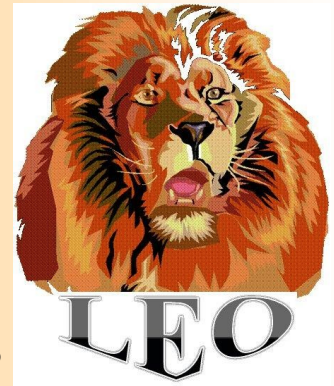


What's Happening in Leo?

COMMUNICATIONS ELECTRONICS COMMAND (CECOM) SHELTER PROTECTION INITIATIVE WHILE IN LEFT BEHIND EQUIPMENT (LBE) POOL

Submitted by Steven Signoretti

The National Maintenance Branch, Logistics and Engineering Operations (LEO) Directorate, clearly recognized that communications shelters and containerized systems are being exposed to adverse environmental conditions during long periods of time while improperly stored in LBE, resulting in significant and costly repairs. Through the guidance of the LRC Director, the National Maintenance Branch undertook an in depth course of discovery to analyze several potential and viable solutions that may resolve this critical issue. One of the



Water intrusion within CECOM shelters stored in LBE resulted in shelter deterioration and component damage

initiatives under study for potential implementation is the use of Envelop Protective Covers, manufactured by Shield Technologies Corporation in Chicago, Illinois. Envelop Protective Covers are the next generation of operational covers, replacing vinyl tarps and corrosion inhibiting chemicals. Developed to protect military weapons and assets from water, ultraviolet rays, humidity, sand, thermal temperature spikes and other environmental hazards, covers are now available for consumer and industrial applications such as firearms, oil and gas machinery, airplanes, helicopters, ships, and more. The US Navy adoption of Envelop covers for applications aboard their ships has paid major dividends according to Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) and the Surface Ship Life Cycle

Management (SSLCM) Activity. Their use has resulted in a 90 percent reduction in surface equipment corrosion during the initial testing phase. To date, more than 33,000 covers are in use by all branches of the US military.

In August 2009, the CECOM LBE Regional Support Teams (RST) located at Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM); Fort Hood, TX; and Fort Bragg, NC were directed to go to all LBE locations and put "eyes on" all C4ISR shelters in LBE and report all status and condition of the shelters to HQ CECOM. The RSTs inspected over 250 LBE inducted shelters. Approximately 20-25% showed signs of water damage, mold or mildew and were workordered to the appropriate source of repair, ensuring the shelters that suffered damage from environmental impacts were returned to technical manual 10/20 condition. This was the start of what is now a routine shelter inspection process for the RSTs on a quarterly basis.

In July 2010, CECOM and Shield Technologies Corporation agreed to utilize JBLM as a test location for the Envelop protective cover on an S-250/G shelter. The prototype was developed to ensure a proper fit before fabricating the actual protective cover (See prototype below). The JBLM location selection was based on the area's significant average rain fall and humidity levels, which provide an ideal test location. During the 60-90 day test pilot, which is scheduled to start by the beginning of Nov 2010, the CECOM Pacific RST will ensure Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) equipment is loaded within the shelter to ensure that the maximum test results can be obtained. It is with great optimism that the CECOM National Maintenance Branch expects high performance test results from this product. Based on current utilization of Envelop Protective Covers and previous testing of the product, we feel that the potential to protect CECOM assets from environmental impacts is very near!



S-250/G shelter prototype Envelop cover

the potential to protect CECOM assets from environmental

Congratulations to Mark Koppenhofer

Recipient of the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service

Mr. Mark Koppenhofer provided vital support to Charlie Company, 9th Psychological Operations Battalion (Airborne) during its mission in support of Haiti's Operation Unified Response. Mr. Koppenhofer was invaluable in determining the most effective terrain on which to establish the Tactical Product Development Detachment (TPDD). His multiple site surveys and detailed studies allowed the Special Operation Media System-Broadcast (SOMS-B) to maximize its broadcasting capabilities and reach the greatest audience when disseminating auditory messages. Mr. Koppenhofer's technical expertise and strong leadership significantly reduced the prescribed set up time of the SOMS-B systems, enabling Charlie Company to become operational in support of Joint Task Force Haiti within a few hours. Mr. Koppenhofer demonstrated a multifaceted proficiency as a subject matter expert, as he successfully resolved issues on the SOMS-B and went beyond his job description when repairing the Product Distribution System-Lite (PDS-L). His constant professionalism combined with his amenable demeanor encouraged Soldiers to approach him with questions and further their knowledge of the equipment. Mr. Koppenhofer's depth of knowledge rendered him invaluable in coordinating technical coordination with Haitian, Department of State and Joint Task Force's USS Comfort's media assets. Mr. Koppenhofer's vigilance in monitoring the system and recommending the best course of action when resolving issues resulted in SOMS-B remaining operational throughout the TPDD's participation in Operation Unified Response. His diligence resulted in the SOMS-B broadcasting daily and continuous radio programs which provided Haitians with indispensable timely and accurate information on available humanitarian aid and job opportunities. Mr. Koppenhofer's hard work and dedication ultimately led to the success of Charlie Company's humanitarian assistance and disaster relief efforts.

Joint combined effort disposes of outdated shelters

Submitted by Thomas Becker



Tobyhanna DS2 Contractors Yardley Jean-Baptiste (left) and Cody Highhouse remove outdated electronic equipment and components from shelters as part of the De-Mil process. This equipment is then palletized and shipped to the Local DRMO for destruction.

TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT (TYAD) Tobyhanna, PA (15 October 2010)

For the past three and a half years, CECOM LCMC has been working with the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service (DRMS) Defense Distribution Depot at Tobyhanna Army Depot to De-Militarized (De-Mil) and dispose of old, outdated and obsolete communication shelters stored at the depot. The shelter De-Mil project commenced in April 2007 with a goal to scrap approximately 400 shelters at a rate of 40 per week. As of 1 October 2010, the joint CECOM/TYAD team has processed and shipped over 3,900 shelters and semi-vans off the depot. The TYAD shelter team removes all loose components and electronic systems, shrink wraps the electronic scrap and transports it to the local DRMO facility at the depot.

To date, 111,688 individual electronic pieces

on 3,321 pallets have been processed at Tobyhanna and sent to a DRMO facility in Crane, Indiana for total destruction. These de-mil actions have cleared in excess of 350,000 sq ft of depot storage space. The DRMS Battle Creek office has used over 1,200 tractor trailers to transship empty shelters to various defense facilities such as the Naval Air Station Oceana, VA where shelters are being re-used as training targets for military fighters at several bombing ranges. Shelters are also being shipped to many other locations across the U.S., to include several Army Air National Guard units.



CECOM's LRC Project Lead Thomas Becker, supervises a DLA forklift operator as to which shelters are be taken for the De-Mil Process. Not all shelters are De-Mil candidates, Approximately 1/3rd will be sent for overhaul and eventually reset for future use.