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‘Squad Overmatch’ Integrates Critical Army Skill Sets

The US Army recently conducted a training study that examined the benefits of supplementing current warrior skills training with integrated situational awareness and resilience skills training to proactively address post-traumatic stress (PTS) triggers. Called “Squad Overmatch,” the study emphasizes an integrated training approach and could play a key role in future Army training.

“The entire study that we did complemented the warrior skills with situational awareness training and resilience skills.”

“The bottom line is that we are treating PTS [post-traumatic stress] on the ‘back side’ and we were asked to look at how we could do training on the ‘front side’ to reduce the occurrence of PTS and PTSD-related suicide,” explained Rob Wolf, strategic requirements integrator for the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training

and Instrumentation (PEO STRI) Program Manager for Training Devices (PM TRADE) (Booth 1539).

“That’s how it all started.”

In an effort to implement “front side” training to reduce PTS occurrence, planners examined an array of training methodologies and technologies, with a focus on a graduated Stress Exposure Training (SET) methodology that integrates cognitive and situational awareness skills training into existing warrior skills training programs across the soldier training continuum, using adult learning strategies with facilitated and self-guided after action reviews (AARs).

“The entire study that we did complemented the warrior skills with situational awareness training and resilience skills,” Wolf said.

“Then we built a series of exercises in the gaming, in the virtual and in the live scenarios to stress them. But one of the

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Robb Welcomes “Solution Providers” to I/ITSEC 2014

In welcoming attendees to I/ITSEC 2014, RADM James Robb, USN (Ret.), President, National Training & Simulation Association, promised “another great year,” with many “new personalities on the military side” helping to foster “an exciting environment of learning and sharing between government and industry.”

“The Conference Committee has put together a fabulous program,” Robb told *Show Daily*. “It’s very deep and rich, with fantastic technical content. So I think attendees will be excited about it.”

Robb said that this year’s event will continue an emphasis on expanded international participation.

“Again this year we have some Foreign Military Sales (FMS) emphasis with a great panel coming together headed by a two star,” he noted. “And we expect over 70 countries to be here. We’ve had probably twice the

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Heartwood Sees Expanding Opportunities at I/ITSEC

Back for its fourth consecutive I/ITSEC, Heartwood is quick to highlight the successful results of its past participation.



"This conference has made all the difference in the world for us," offered Ray Rice, Account Executive for Heartwood [Booth 4911].

As an example, Rice said that last year's event featured some initial meetings with the US Navy that subsequently led to a contracted effort for Heartwood specialists in 3D interactive operations and maintenance training solutions.

"It led to the development of a prototype simulation based application that we produced for the Navy in Norfolk," he explained. "They are using that prototype to introduce 3D interactivity and related new technologies to all of the Navy.

"We're excited about it," he added. "While we were only instrumental in developing the prototype, at the same time we are

helping to influence tomorrow's training tools. And we also know and understand that there will be opportunities for other add-on contracts for us to further advance this type of technology with the Navy.

"That was huge for us last year," he continued. "And all of those relationships were initiated here at I/ITSEC."

Another outcome he identified from last year's exhibit is a new relationship between Heartwood and Raydon Corporation.

"Since last year we have delivered on one training application for Raydon and we are currently under development on contract number two to support Raydon for their Army customer," he said. "And again, that connection happened at I/ITSEC."

Rice was also quick to note expanding market opportunities at I/ITSEC outside of the defense arena.

"Both Norfolk Southern Corporation and Pratt and Whitney were companies that did not have a booth presence at I/ITSEC last

year but still sent their training leadership here," he noted. "And we forged a relationship with both companies, beginning at last year's show."

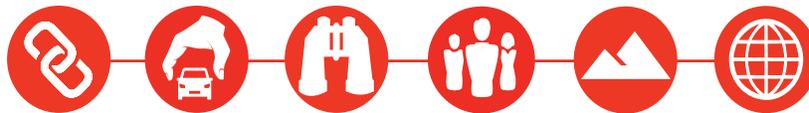
He characterized the relationship with Norfolk Southern as a project that has "been scoped" and "in discussions," adding that the two companies will be meeting again here at I/ITSEC 2014.

"We found out that Pratt and Whitney had heard about the conference and had been sending a guy for two years," he noted. "That connection for us happened here. And we are currently working under contract number one, building a project for them."

"When Heartwood got started with I/ITSEC we were thinking about the defense modeling and simulation market," he said. "But I/ITSEC has been able to expand and touch these folks outside of the defense arena as we knew it."

"I can't say enough about 'the I/ITSEC platform' giving Heartwood and others the opportunity to continue to push the envelope with next generation training tools, technologies, and approaches to learning," he concluded.

Connect the dots with VT MÄK



When Your Eyes Aren't Good Enough: Simulating Sensors with VR-Vantage and SensorFX

Tuesday, December 2, 9:00am - 9:45am; Rosen Centre, Salon 1

Simulating the Upper Echelons with VR-Forces 4.3 — Aggregate Level Simulation

Tuesday, December 2, 10:00am - 10:45am; Rosen Centre, Salon 1

Intelligent Human Behavior with DI-Guy

Tuesday, December 2, 11:00am - 11:45am; Rosen Centre, Salon 1

"Connect the Dots" Networking Event

Tuesday, December 2, 4:30-6:30; Booth #1225

Innovation Showcase: The Emergence of Web & Mobile Technologies in M&S

Wednesday, December 3, 11:30am; Booth #2287