Ground Robotics and the Joint Warfighter

MG Bill Troy

Vice Director
Force Structure, Resources, and Assessment
Joint Staff, J-8
What we’re hearing…

From Secretary of Defense Robert Gates:

“…the theme of the National Defense Strategy is balance…between …capabilities such as counterinsurgency and stability operations… and maintaining … above all, the technological edge – against the military forces of other nation states.”

“…we must not be so preoccupied with preparing for future conventional and strategic conflicts that we neglect to provide … all the capabilities necessary to fight and win conflicts such as we are in today.”

“Our conventional modernization programs seek a 99 percent solution in years. Stability and counterinsurgency missions – the wars we are in – require 75 percent solutions in months.”
Where Is DoD Headed?

Where we were

Where we are operating today

Where do we want to be tomorrow?
Joint Staff J-8 Mission

- Requirements Determination - Planning, studies, analysis, assessments
- Resource Allocation - Programming/Budgeting
- Acquisition Execution - Deliver the required capabilities

Objective: Deliver the Right Mix of Capabilities for the Joint Force Commanders
• The “Voice of the Warfighter”
  – Consolidate needs of the COCOMs (via Integrated Priority Lists) into JROC validated Capability Gaps (annually)
  – Process and pursue/coordinate solutions for Joint Urgent Operational Needs Statements (continuous input from the warfighter)

**BOTTOM LINE:**

*Ensure the Joint Warfighter has the required capabilities to execute the assigned mission in a resource constrained environment…*

*For the Joint Warfighter, standardization and interoperability are paramount!*
Joint Staff Contributions to Ground Robotics

• Continue to provide warfighter need analysis for Joint Ground Robotics Enterprise (JGRE) investments
  – Align JGRE proposals with applicable Joint Capability Area(s)
  – Analyze each proposal against validated Joint Gaps and current Joint Urgent Operational Needs Statements (JUONS)

• Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC) review and endorsement of 2009-2034 Unmanned Systems Integrated Roadmap
  – Highlighting standardization and interoperability
Joint Warfighter Influences on Ground Robotics

What has 6+ years of Joint/Coalition warfare told us to help shape the direction of Ground Robotics?

• To be successful, unmanned systems need to provide the same or improved capabilities as the manned systems they replace while keeping Soldiers and Marines out of harm’s way
  – Autonomous operations

• Managing the dense battlespace with Joint/Coalition Forces requires:
  – Interoperability (operational and logistical)
  – E-M spectrum bandwidth, agility, and adaptability
QUESTIONS/COMMENTS