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OPSEC REVIEW CERTIFICATION

(AR 530-1, Operations Security)

I am aware that there is foreign intelligence interest in open source publications. I have sufficient technical expertise in the subject matter of this paper to make a determination that the net benefit of this public release outweighs any potential damage.

Reviewer: Ralph Keith (Name) | GS-15 (Grade) | Associate Director, Development (Title)

Signature | May 9, 2003 (Date)

Description of Information Reviewed:

Title: MPH - Agile Manufacturing Cell Provides Critical Parts to Soldiers in Battle.

Author/Originator(s): Todd Richman

Publication/Presentation/Release Date: Army AL&T Magazine

Purpose of Release: Inform readers of the developments of the MPH program

An abstract, summary, or copy of the information reviewed is available for review.

Reviewer's Determination (check one)

X 1. Unclassified Unlimited.

2. Unclassified Limited, Dissemination Restrictions IAW _____

3. Classified. Cannot be released, and requires classification and control at the level of _____

Security Office (AMSTA-CM-XS):

Concur/~~Nonconcur~~ Signature | 21 MAY 2003 Date

Public Affairs Office (AMSTA-CM-PI):

Concur/Nonconcur Signature | May 21 2003 Date

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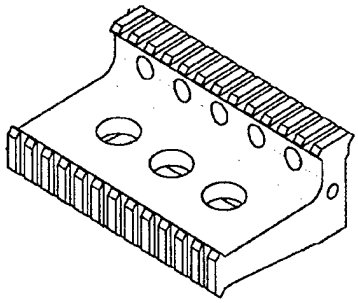
Mobile Parts Hospital- The Agile Manufacturing Cell Provides Critical Parts to Soldiers in Battle.

Introduction:

The Mobile Parts Hospital (MPH) program objective is to provide critical replacement and repair parts to vehicles or systems that have been downed in the battlefield. The MPH combines the latest manufacturing infrastructure and technologies in a mobile unit that can readily travel to any destination, along with support from Continental United States CONUS based Agile Manufacturing Cell. Both standard and unique replacement parts can be manufactured from technical data and advanced manufacturing technique and technologies.

Description:

The MPH system of today contains the latest manufacturing, design, and communication technology. This technology has developed into the MPH of today, which contains three components. The RMS (Rapid Manufacturing System) which is a C-130 transportable mobile manufacturing center consisting of two ISO (International Organization for Standardization) containers housed with the latest design and manufacturing technology which can supply critical replacement and repair parts to vehicles in the battle field. This will address the military's requirements for rapid repair of military and operational equipment to insure readiness and operational continuity, both at remote locations and in support of military actions/exercises. The second is the Communications and Control (C2) center, which are the brains of the MPH program. The C2 houses and maintains the database, which contains the technical data for part production, along with the technical expertise to support the MPH program through satellite communication. The final piece of the MPH is the Agile Manufacturing Cell capable of producing those parts that the RMS units can't. This is a virtual factory that has real time access to CONUS based military and industrial manufacturing capacity.



Agile Manufacturing Cell:

The Agile Manufacturing Cell has completed the installation of its first prototype cell April 2003, and has been called to action. The MPH team became aware that a critical part was needed for the current war effort. This part was a Rail (101-6-0000 rev A). The Rail is a sophisticated mount designed to upgrade the M119A2 gun fire control system for its operation. It is a sophisticated component with forty-seven key tight tolerance features and requires anodizing. The part was developed, designed and engineered in the C2 of the MPH and manufactured in the Agile Manufacturing Cell. After notification to produce the Rail, the MPH program took four days to produce a prototype, which was evaluated, revised and accepted by the customer. The following day 20 additional parts were ordered and required within seven days. During the production of the 20 parts, design changes were implemented and took place in the Agile Manufacturing Cell. Twenty Rails were delivered on time, within the requirements of the specifications, and at a competitive cost. This part demonstrated the capability of the MPH's Agile Manufacturing Cell and its rapid response to critical needs the government has.

Conclusion:

Through innovative use of traditional manufacturing technology combined with state-of-the-art rapid manufacturing technology, the MPH is poised to achieve a reduced logistics footprint while supporting and sustaining the legacy, interim and Objective Forces.

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