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FIRST DEPLOYMENT OF INNOVATIVE HARD-SHELTER TECHNOLOGY
Cutting Edge U.S. Government Developed Concept for Disaster Relief is Revealed

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (Sept. 1, 2009) – Through public and private partnerships built in the Tennessee Valley Corridor, a new, unique and leading edge disaster-relief technology designed by Adaptive Methods, Chattanooga, Tenn. developed by the Y-12 National Security Complex, Oak Ridge, TN will be first deployed for public viewing on Tuesday, Sept. 1 at 9:30 a.m. at Adaptive Methods' new manufacturing facility in Chattanooga. Adaptive Methods, with the facilitation of The Enterprise Center (TEC), Chattanooga, Tenn., is licensed with Y-12 to manufacture this new hard-shell technology.

"This innovative technology being manufactured in Chattanooga will help save lives around the world during emergencies," said Congressman Zach Wamp who worked with Y-12, the U.S. military and the private sector for more than a decade to help this project become a reality. "The ability to set up a hard-shelter within minutes during times of crisis will allow those in need to get help in record time. This highly mobile shelter can be configured so that soldiers wounded defending our country can get the medical care of an operating room within minutes if needed. Families who lost their homes in a hurricane can get shelter even when roads are flooded. The design and development of this completely unique shelter is a good example of the government supporting the private sector to solve everyday challenges."

Developed at Y-12 at the request of the U.S. Army and transitioned by Adaptive Methods, Inc. for commercial applications, the RDSS—Rapid Deployment Shelter System—is a compact, portable disaster shelter that can be deployed around the world for aid in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. It can be easily reconfigured for a variety of applications including first responder or family shelters, barracks, offices, command/control/communications centers and medical triage facilities. The RDSS utilizes an advanced concept rigid-wall shelter technology that requires less time and manpower to deploy than any other rigid-wall shelter on the market and will fit any applications that require a mobile, configurable, rapidly deployable rigid-wall shelter. It offers resistance to radiological, biological, and chemical hazards, as well as limited protection from small gunfire. The technology was named one of the "R&D 100 Awards for 2007" by *R&D Magazine*, which recognizes the 100 most significant proven

technological advances of the year; and received the 2009 Early Innovator Award from the Chattanooga Technology Council.

Designed to military specifications and with input from emergency management and first responders, the RDSS unfolds from a 20-foot standard shipping size container into a 400-square-foot shelter at the touch of a button. Several advanced technology innovations have been designed into the shelter system including the ability of the RDSS to be deployed in the field by one person in less than two minutes. Capitalizing on the rugged ISO 1C container design, the RDSS units may be stacked 9 units high, transported by ship, truck or rail, or deployed to remote locations by plane or helicopter. Single units may be transported and directly deployed from conventional trailers towed behind medium duty pickup trucks.

In its shipping configuration, the RDSS provides over 450 cubic feet of mission payload storage space. All equipment and supplies needed for a planned deployment are securely stored inside the container, ready for operation.

“We went into this project with a great sense of urgency and commitment because we knew that our work could mean the difference in the life or death of one of our American soldiers,” said Lee Bzorgi, Y-12’s senior technical advisor who invented the RDSS. “The RDSS was designed with time and labor requirements in mind. Most rigid-walled shelters require three to 10 people and nearly 40 minutes to set up, and travel trailers and mobile homes simply are not designed for transport into disaster areas. We engineered the RDSS specifically for disaster response operations and environments; it deploys quickly and simply, ready for use within minutes.”

Also designed with refurbishment in mind, the RDSS quickly returns to its container configuration and is ready for transport back to its depot when its use is no longer needed at a location. Upon arrival at the depot, the RDSS is easily cleaned, sanitized and reequipped for the next disaster.

“The RDSS meets many military and FEMA shelter specifications,” said J. Keith Buckner, vice president of manufacturing at Adaptive Methods. “We designed it to specifically meet the needs of disaster response teams, with explicit consideration given to ease of use, ease of storage and ease of reuse. The RDSS will provide years of service at a significantly lower total cost of ownership when compared to alternative options.”

Equipped with an onboard generator, the RDSS units have heating and air conditioning systems that provide up to 72 hours of continuous operation without refueling. Seamless transition from onboard generator to off-board power and support requires only the flip of a switch once local power is restored.

The RDSS units will be produced in Chattanooga, Tenn., and Adaptive Methods expects to employ more than 100 engineers and production personnel over the next four years. Future RDSS configurations planned include decontamination units, shower stations, latrine facilities and medical triage centers for disaster relief.

TEC has been a facilitator in connecting Adaptive Methods to various technology enterprises in the Tennessee Valley Corridor. After introducing Adaptive Methods to Y-

12, TEC assisted in identifying sources of funding and potential markets for available technologies and continues to initiate contacts within those markets.

“This success was made possible by the visionary leadership of Rep. Zach Wamp, whose support for regional technology-based economic development is key to the creation of new jobs,” said J. Wayne Cropp, president and CEO of TEC. “We have also had tremendous support from the City of Chattanooga, Mayor Ron Littlefield, Hamilton County Government and Mayor Claude Ramsey, as well as from our economic development partner, the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce.”

For more information on the RDSS, contact Adaptive Methods via www.adaptivemethods.com or call 423-648-5840.

About Y-12 National Security Complex

Y-12 is a key facility in the U.S. Nuclear Weapons Complex and is responsible for ensuring the safety, reliability and security of the nuclear weapons stockpile and serves as the nation’s primary repository of highly enriched uranium. B&W Technical Services Y-12 operates the Y-12 National Security Complex for the National Nuclear Security Administration. The original Y-12 design is the winner of R&D Magazine's 2007 Top 100 Innovations Award.

About Adaptive Methods, Inc.

Adaptive Methods, Inc. is a developer of advanced sensor processing and computing architecture products for surveillance, security and military combat systems. Adaptive Methods, Inc. headquarters is in Centreville, Virginia with offices in Rockville, Md; Chattanooga, Tenn. and Clearwater, Fla. Adaptive Methods, Inc. was recipient of the 2009 Early Innovator Award.

About The Enterprise Center, Inc.

The Enterprise Center, Inc. is a nonprofit organization and has received assistance and support from Chattanooga Mayor Ron Littlefield, Hamilton County Mayor Claude Ramsey, and Rep. Zach Wamp. The Enterprise Center, Inc. is focused on technology-based economic development to create jobs and build wealth. Created in 2002 by then Mayor and now U. S. Senator Bob Corker, The Enterprise Center, Inc. promotes collaboration, accountability and communications for a variety of local technology-related growth initiatives in the Chattanooga area. Its mission is to support and capitalize on new research and technologies and work closely with local entities in the quest to develop a knowledge-based economy. Through partnerships, The Enterprise Center, Inc. connects local entrepreneurs, business and industry to national laboratories, research universities and federal research-oriented programs. For more information, contact The Enterprise Center, Inc. at (423) 425-3770.

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