



# Unitized Group Ration – Express (UGR-E) or Remote Unit Self Heating Meal (RUSHM)



The UGR-E or RUSHM is a compact, self-contained module that provides a complete, hot meal for 18 warfighters. With the simple pull of a tab, the food is heated in just 30-45 minutes, and is served in trays to warfighters like a cook prepared meal.

## Why it is Needed:

The desire of field commanders is to provide a high quality group meal as soon as possible. Often, the logistics system will not provide for food service equipment and cooks to achieve this objective. Further, in some cases, providing hot food to remote units via insulated food containers is not practical. Consequently, the UGR-E provides the capability of furnishing a hot meal without the necessity of equipment, cooks, fuel, or power. Combat units that will benefit the most include those such as remote Marine Corps units, Special Operational Forces, Signal Corps, MP, Artillery, etc. The capability afforded by the UGR-E offers an alternative to individual meals as the sole source of subsistence.

## Technology:

A safe exothermic chemical reaction similar to the Flameless Ration Heater provides the heat needed to raise the temperature of the food from 40°F to 140°F within 30-45 minutes. Heaters are sandwiched between three or four polymeric trays (and/or institutional sized pouches) containing an entrée, vegetable, starch, and/or desert. By pulling a tab, a pouch of salt water floods the heaters and initiates the reaction. An alternative activation method being explored is a one-step addition process that delivers an external source of water to the heaters. Prototypes of both versions will be evaluated by the Services for engineering and refinement. Future enhancements will explore endothermic reactions for chilling of beverages and other components.

## Benefits:

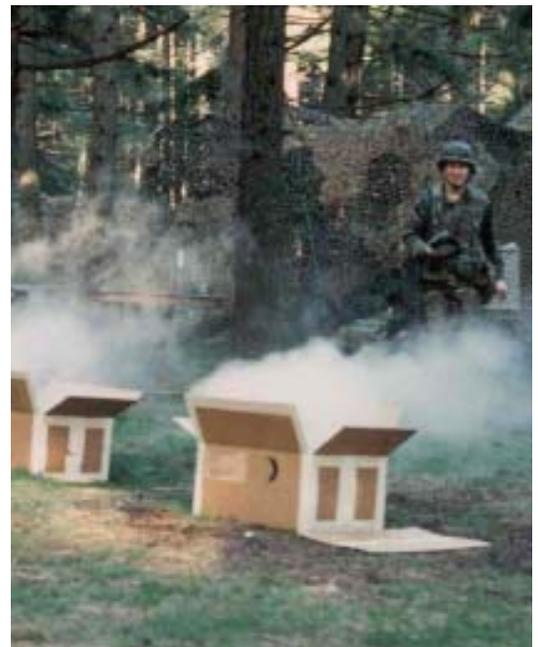
The RUSHM provides an alternative to an individual pre-packaged meal by affording warfighters a cook-prepared meal without the cost or logistic burden of a field kitchen. It allows for heat-on-the-move capability by providing a group-feeding alternative. Recent accomplishments in the RUSHM development program have resulted in a 20 percent reduction in the cube of the packaged module.

## Point of Contact:

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