



Evaluation of Commercial Microclimate Cooling Systems (MCS)

Program Introduction:

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP) tasked the Natick Soldier Center - National Protection Center (NSC - NPC) to assess the performance of commercially available Microclimate Cooling Systems.

Emergency Responders and public safety professionals wearing protective clothing and operating in high temperature and humidity environments are at risk of succumbing to heat stress. The use of Microclimate Cooling Systems has been shown to significantly mitigate heat stress. Microclimate Cooling Systems are currently being marketed and sold to Emergency Responders without performance data related to user needs and objective product information required to make sound purchasing decisions.

Objective:

This project will identify, obtain, and evaluate off-the-shelf microclimate cooling systems for use in emergency response applications. Resulting product and performance information will be made available to emergency responders through ODP.

Project Team:

The U.S. Army Natick Soldier Center - National Protection Center is the project lead for this effort. Other members include:

- Department of Homeland Security - Office of Domestic Preparedness
- U.S. Navy Clothing and Textile Research Facility
- Center for Technology Commercialization
- Texas A&M

Points of Contact

National Protection Center

COMM (508) 233-5571, DSN 256-5571



**NATICK
SOLDIER
CENTER**

Kansas St.
Natick, MA
01760
nsc.natick.army.mil