



# JOINT IED DEFEAT ORGANIZATION NEWS STORY



ATTACK THE NETWORK — DEFEAT THE DEVICE — TRAIN THE FORCE

## **JIEDDO Delivered 210,000 Pelvic Protection Units to Troops in Afghanistan**

By Staci George  
JIEDDO News Service

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — The Joint IED Defeat Organization met its three-month deadline to deliver 210,000 pelvic protection undergarments to troops in Afghanistan.

Between September and the Dec. 15 deadline, JIEDDO delivered 165,000 antimicrobial brief units and 45,000 ballistic protective overgarment units to the Army and Marine Corps in support of U.S. Central Command requirements.

JIEDDO funded the \$19-million-dollar initiative, which will reduce the effects of improvised explosive devices on dismounted troops. JIEDDO's two-tiered pelvic protection initiative consisted of special protective underwear that slows the penetration of sand, grit and dirt from IEDs into vital tissues, and detachable ballistic groin protection designed to protect colon arteries and the groin.

"It is a classical demonstration of what rapid acquisition can deliver," said Jon Young, JIEDDO's requirements division chief. "It fulfills a critical capability gap for dismounted troops."

The bottom line, Young said, was that U.S. war fighters were patrolling the rugged and IED-laden terrain side-by-side with British warfighters, who were already wearing these pelvic protection undergarments. As a result, JIEDDO identified the need to provide this protection to U.S. troops, secured the funding and procured the sets.

"In addition to protecting troops, protective undergarments provide psychological confidence to war fighters to do their jobs outside the wire." Young said.

Young has heard reports from the field that soldiers and Marines will not leave for patrol without first putting on their protective undergarments.

“It enables freedom of maneuvering for the patrols,” he said.

This added layer of protection to the pelvic region minimizes the injury and complications from an IED attack. They protect warfighters from trauma related to post-blast complications.

Without protective undergarments, dismounted troops in Afghanistan represent a vulnerable target. There is an increased likelihood of blunt trauma pelvic injuries caused by propelled fragments at high velocity. This leads to internal bleeding and is challenging to treat. These fragments can cause severe damage upon penetration.

As of Dec. 15, JIEDDO completed the deadline and the contract. The Army and Marines will be responsible for any future purchase of pelvic protection undergarments or identification of other alternatives, said Young.

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