

## **eXportable Combat Training Capability (XCTC)**

### **What is it?**

The Army National Guard's (ARNG) eXportable Combat Training Capability (XCTC) program provides an experience similar to a Combat Training Center to Guard Soldiers at home station or at a regional training center, minimizing cost and time away from home and jobs. XCTC is an instrumented battalion field training exercise designed to certify company proficiency in coordination with First Army.

This program leverages the Deployable Force-on-Force Instrumented Range System (DFIRST), developed by SRI International. DFIRST is a set of instruments the National Guard mounts on vehicles in order to monitor training outside a traditional range. DFIRST provides radar imagery for tracking vehicles across a battlefield.

Individual Soldiers carry the Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement (MILES) 2000 and an Enhanced Digital Instrumentation (EDI).

### **What has the ARNG done?**

Recent XCTC accomplishments and activities include:

- A Battalion Task Force trained at the Wendell H. Ford Regional Training Center in Kentucky.
- Other rotations trained at Camp Atterbury and the Muscatatuck Urban Training Area, Indiana.

### **What continued efforts does the ARNG have planned for the future?**

First Army has designated a Training Support Battalion (TSBn) to support XCTC. The National Guard plans to increase the number of XCTC sets and increase the capability to train more battalions. The current goal is to train 12 battalions a year with multiple XCTC sets. Work is underway to improve the visualization capabilities to provide not only location but body positioning (prone, standing, and kneeling). The visualization of weapons orientation (raised, slung, and not present) is already operational.

### **Why is this important to the Army National Guard?**

Participating units involved in a rotation focus on Contemporary Operating Environment (COE) or theater specific tasks which provide for theater immersion. The XCTC provides a cost-effective and readily available alternative to the National Training Center (NTC) in Fort Irwin, California or the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) in Fort Polk, Louisiana. The XCTC provides a culminating event for units in the Army Force Generation Model (ARFORGEN) which involves a six-year rotation cycle that prepares units for deployment.

The Army's Combat Training Centers do not have the capacity to accommodate the requirement to train six Army National Guard brigade combat teams per year. FORSCOM is developing an Exportable Training Capability (ETC) to mitigate this requirement, but the ETC will not be available until 2010 or later. The XCTC program is the Army National Guard solution for a bridging strategy until the ETC is fully operational and the requirements are met.

For additional information click here.

<http://www.military-training-technology.com/article.cfm?DocID=1238>