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Army's latest high-tech equipment to be featured at exhibitions in communities in Germany, Italy

HEIDELBERG, Germany -- The next generation of Army gear and technology, including advanced weapons systems, communications equipment, clothing and other gear will be on display at several locations in Germany and in Vicenza, Italy in the coming weeks.



The exhibition is presented by the Army's Program Executive Office Soldier, the organization responsible for all equipment Soldiers wear or carry.

The equipment that will be on display includes:

- Interceptor Body Armor with Improved Outer Tactical Vest and associated plates
- The Advanced Combat Helmet with ballistic protective nape pad and helmet sensors
- The Electronic Data Manager, a light, portable, touch-screen "kneeboard" computer
- The Generation III Extended Cold Weather Clothing System
- Thermal Weapon Sights, Generation II
- Enhanced Night Vision Goggles and the Sniper Night Sight
- The XM25 25mm Counter Defilade Target Engagement System
- The Lightweight .50 Caliber Machine Gun
- The M26 12-Gauge Modular Accessory Shotgun System

The display will also feature a preview of the new Army Service Uniform, scheduled to arrive in military clothing sales stores by next summer.

PEO Soldier's objective is two-fold, according to information on the organization's Web site -- to develop the best gear and field it as quickly as possible. In the past

Soldiers were outfitted one piece of equipment at a time, with little or no regard to how individual pieces worked together. PEO Soldier's mission is to look at Soldiers as

systems and evaluate how each piece of equipment works together as part of an integrated system.

PEO Soldier officials use the Interceptor Body Armor to illustrate this concept. Initially designed to be worn over the Army Combat Uniform, Soldier feedback indicated that wearing it over ACUs created bulk and produced heat stress. As a result, PEO Soldier engineers helped create the long-sleeve Army Combat Shirt designed to reduce heat stress and increase comfort.

The exhibit is scheduled for the following locations:

Jan. 26-27: Kaiserslautern, Germany
Rhine Ordnance Barracks special events building (Bldg. 237)
Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Jan. 31 to Feb. 1: Bamberg, Germany
Warner Barracks Freedom Fitness Facility
Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Feb. 3 to 4: Vilseck, Germany
Rose Barracks PXtra Food Court (Bldg. V 2203)
Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Feb. 9 to 10:
Vicenza, Italy
Caserma Ederle, The Arena (Recreation Center), Second Floor

For more information on the Army PEO Soldier program, visit the organization's Web site at peosoldier.army.mil. For information on the exhibits in Europe, contact Sgt. Maj. Lisa Hunter at lisa.hunter@eur.army.mil.

(Angelika Lantz of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs Office contributed to this release.)



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