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For Immediate Release

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## **Tools to Support Disaster Relief, Reconstruction and Nation Building: STAR-TIDES Demonstration at Fort McNair**

October 6: Washington DC -The STAR-TIDES research effort will hold its 2nd annual demonstration at Fort McNair in southwest Washington, DC from noon on Monday, October 6 to noon on Friday, October 10.

STAR-TIDES seeks to do three things:

Enable civilian coalitions from business, government and civil society to operate more effectively in stressed environments—post-disaster, post-war or impoverished.

Enhance the military's ability to work with civilians in these situations.

Economize by identifying low-cost logistic solutions and supply chain efficiencies.

STAR-TIDES supports the June 2008 National Defense Strategy and aims to encourage unity of effort in situations where there is no unity of command. All information from STAR-TIDES is publically available at [www.star-tides.net](http://www.star-tides.net).

This event will be a live, interactive experience. Visitors can observe and discuss systems, technologies, practices and policies that can provide sustainable, affordable support to stressed populations—domestic or foreign, short term (disaster victims) or long term (refugee support, reconstruction or nation-building). Activities will be conducted "off the power grid" to simulate real-world situations. The event will include daily forums with speakers in brown-bag lunch formats from 12:30-1:00pm.

The demonstration will focus on four broad scenarios:

- Long-term refugee support and national capacity-building in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Humanitarian assistance and disaster relief in tropical regions, such as Central America or the Western Pacific
- Stabilization and reconstruction in Afghanistan
- Response to a man-made or natural disaster in the National Capital Region around Washington, DC.

Information sharing will be a particularly important part of the activities.

For more information and to register for the event please visit <http://startidesdemofall08.eventbrite.com/>