

# **Army Game Studio**

Serious Games Development

GameTech 29 March 2010





# **Army Game Studio**

Located at the US Army Aviation and Missile Command's Software Engineering Directorate, Redstone Arsenal, AL



#### **Army Game Studio Resources**

- 16 DA Civilians
- 150 Support Contractors
- 4 Laboratories
- Motion Capture and Sound Studio
- Hardware Design, Development and Production Team
- Marketing, Community, Database and Web Teams
- Software Team (Unreal 2.5 & 3, VBS2)
- High Bay
- Training and VTC Facilities

#### Software Engineering Directorate

- 320 DA Civilians
- 1500 Support Contractors
- 500,000 sq. ft. of Engineering Workspace
- 42 Engineering Laboratories
- 3 Large High Bays

#### Contracting

- AMCOM Express Task Order Contract
  - Over 225 Separate Subcontract
     Companies

ARMY STRONG

ITEC4 – America's Army Marketing /
Network Infrastructure



- Place Soldiering Front and Center in Young Male Popular Culture
- Provide Army a Strategic Marketing Advantage
- Prepare the Male Market for Traditional Marketing Efforts
- Create Foundation for Spin-offs to Event Marketing and other Mission Support Activities



## **Public Game History**

America's Army is an online PC video game distributed for free at <a href="https://www.americasarmy.com">www.americasarmy.com</a>. America's Army is continually updated with new content and features. New releases occur every 3 to 4 months, with 36 public versions launched since initial release in 2002



- Most Realistic Game Representation on Soldiering
- Strikes a Balance between Fun and Progression through Key Aspects of the Soldier Lifecycle Experience
- Players Begin Game Play by Completing Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training
- Online Game Play is Conducted in a Force-on-Force Manner
- Two Opposing Teams of up to Sixteen Players are Charged with Achieving Mission Objectives
- Players Always Assume the Role of American Soldiers





#### **Game Statistics**

America's Army's (AA) Places Soldiering Front and Center in Youth Popular Culture

- In Terms of Player Population Size, *America's Army* Is Consistently Ranked Among the Top-10 Online Action Games Played World-Wide.
- As A Result, 28% of Pre-Prospects & 20% of Prospects Report Playing AA.
- These Players Are 30% More Likely than Other Young Males To Include Military Service in their Goals or Interests.

Registered Users: 11 million +

Total Hours Played Since 4 July 02: 240 million +

Total Rounds Played: 4,495,728,481 (AA2) / 53,096,394 (AA3)

Downloads at No Cost to the Army: 40 million +

Press Coverage: 5,000+ Stories – 97% Positive

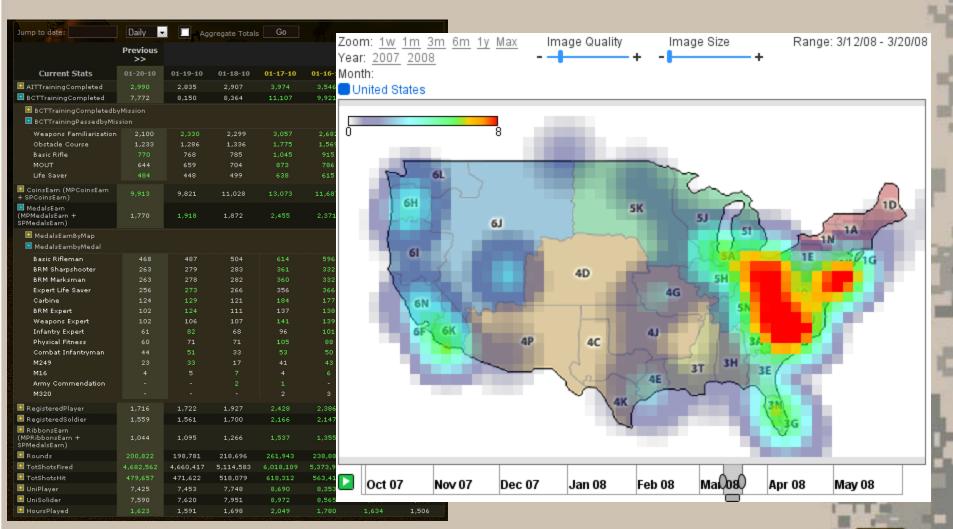
Active Fan, Team & Tournament Sites: 500+

Unique Daily Visits to the Game & Website: 100,000 plus





#### AA Database Infrastructure







# Social Networking

The America's Army Game is the Core of What has become a Social Network for Army Messaging to Young Americans and COIs



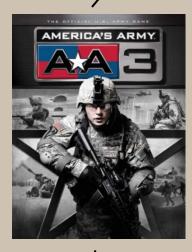
**Community Forums** 



Facebook Page



YouTube Channel





Real Heroes Program



Web Sites



Graphic Novels



#### **TRAINING**



**MIL Gaming Portal** 

**IMI Development** 

**Air Traffic Control** 

**CROWS** 

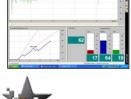
Chemical

Air and Missile Defense

Nuclear, Biological, and

**Army Aviation Planning** 

**Personnel Recovery** 





**MRAP Integrated Crew Trainer Ethics Training TOW ITAS Basic Skills Trainer CROWS Basic Skills Trainer Night Vision Goggles Ammunition Supply Point EOD Talon Every Soldier a Sensor (ES2) Adaptive Thinking & Leadership Live Fire Shoot Houses** 

**NBC Recon Vehicle Trainer NBC Fox Vehicle Trainer FBCB2 Network Bridge NBC/CBRN Dismounted Training** 







Occupational **Therapy Driving Simulators** 



**UAV/UGV Collaboration** Environment **Packbot EOD Talon FCS Mule** Raven **RMAX** JCATS/One SAF

**SIMULATION** 

**America's Army Visualization Platform** VBS2 JIEDDO Simulation **HAXOR** XM25



Javelin Block I and **Precision Terminal Guidance** 



**Army Football Simulator** 

**EDUCATION** 

#### **OUTREACH**





**Future Soldier Training System** 



**Army Experience Center** 



America's Army



**Graphic Novels** 



Mobile, Arcade, **Xbox Games** 



Strength in **Action Tours** 



**Future Soldier Trainer** 



STUDIO

**NASA Prototype Game** 









**Technology Education Program Partners** 





Activity Based, High-Tech, Real-World Applications In: Math & Science

**Engineering Computer Science & Technology** Art, Animation, & Graphic Design **Sports & Nutrition** 



**Project Lead the Way: Parachute Drop** 



# AA Principles of Engineering

#### Goals:

- Use classroom lesson to convert concept to application
- Use America's Army activity to complement ballistics projects

#### Outcomes:

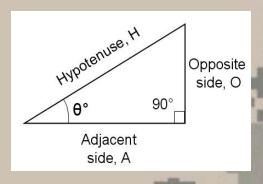
- Improved math and science skills
- Provide concrete applications

#### Application: Kinematics - Motion and Vectors

- Speed
- Direction
- Distance
- Time
- Velocity
- Displacement
- Average Velocity
- Angle of Elevation











## JROTC - Interactive Classroom Module

U.S. ARMY VROTE

- Create scenarios with America's Army gaming platform to add another learning tool to the JROTC curriculum.
- "First Aid"-The First Life Saving Steps Controlling Bleeding, CPR, Treating for fractures, Treating for Shock
- Foundations of JROTC"-Rank and Structure, The Uniform, Signs of Success (projected 2010)
- "Leadership Strategies"-Performance Indicators, Negotiating, Decision Making and Problem Solving, Leading Meetings, (projected 2010)







# ARMYGAMESTUDIO

# **JROTC**







AMERICA'S

ARMY.



# Questions?

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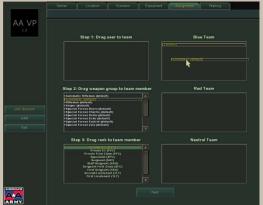




# Backup Slides









## America's Army Visualization Platform

- Instructor Workstation & up to 31 Students
- Blue Force / Red Force / Neutral Force Characters
- 3D After Action Review
- Dynamic Scenario Editing
- Customizable Weapon Load-outs
- Drivable Vehicles
- Squad Based TTP Rehearsing

#### Development Platform

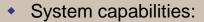
- Serves as Platform for Development Efforts.
- 60-70% solution from the start.
- Allows Rapid Prototyping
- Massive Reuse Library



# ARMYGAMESTUDIO

**NBC** Recon Trainer

Description: The NBC Recon Trainer is a low-cost, mid-fidelity deployable collective training device. The collective trainer can be configured to represent a Stryker NBCRV, or JNBCRS LAV, and can be expanded to include 6 vehicles simultaneously. Using CMLS-created or instructor-created scenarios, the system can present the crews with CBRN events that cannot be duplicated at the unit location using simulants due to various regulations.



- Stand-alone trainers allow individual sensor instruction, first used during NBCRV OPNET and JNBCRS MOTE
- Collective trainer challenges the driver, surveyor and vehicle commander as a crew
- Collective trainer can expand to accommodate 6 vehicles under the supervision of one instructor
- Instructor can inject faults or deploy agent on the fly
- FBCB2 / C2PC integrated for enhanced fidelity









# Surveyor Mockups

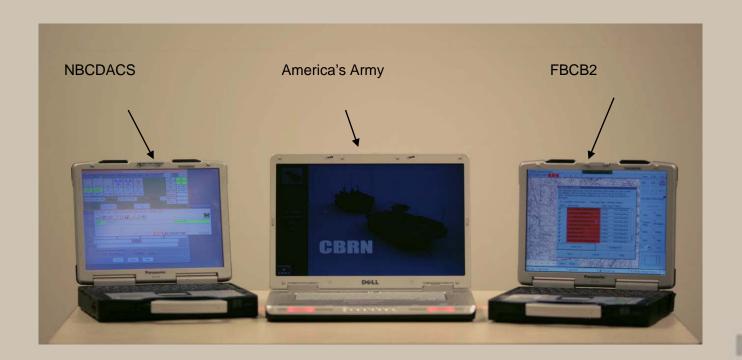


Hands-On Mockup Devices provide low-cost, realistic simulation of complex sensors. These simulated devices can be used for **stand-alone individual training**, and with the combined America's Army environment for **collective training**.





# Integrated Tactical Systems NBCDACS, FBCB2



Some devices are actually fully function computer applications. These devices, such as the NBC analysis system and the FBCB2 navigation system, are interfaced to America's Army rather than simulated.





### Instructor Workstation



The Instructor can monitor the training environment and alter the scenario as it progresses.





#### **NBC** Dismount Trainer Prototypes

# PC-based NBC Dismount Detection Training using *America's Army* ®

- Various Sensors
  - Chemical Agent Monitor (CAM)
  - Radiac (AN-VDR2)
  - MultiRAE
  - TruDefender
- Training Scenarios
  - Varying Environments
  - Real World Conditions
  - Simulated Contaminants
- Prototypes in UE2 and UE3



**Chemical Agent Monitor** 

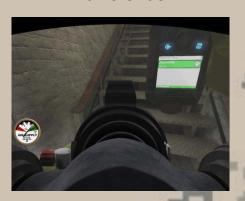
Radiac



MultiRAE



TruDefender







America's Army Based Basic Skills Trainers

- CROWS BST
  - America's Army software
  - Tactical or mock-up Control Grip,
     Switch Panel Unit & Display
- TOW Anti-Armor Leader Training
  - Multiple Vehicles and Commander
  - Existing TOW ITAS BSTs
- Software replicates complete CROWS and TOW ITAS tactical systems









#### America's Army Weapon System Simulations

- Javelin Weapon System Prototyping
  - Tactical Javelin Block I symbology and menus
  - Javelin Precision Terminal Guidance on Javelin BST
- Rapid Response Missile Simulation
  - Rapid Response Missile Fire Control System
  - Simulates route planning, sensor selection (fixed camera, UAV), missile guidance

**Javelin BST** 





# ARMYGAMESTUDIO

# VIRTUAL ARMY EXPERIENCE

# **ALPHA**



- 150' x 130' Footprint
- 3 Consumer Activation Trailers
- 4 GMV HMMWVs
- 2 CROWS HMMWVS
- 2 UH-60 Black Hawks
- AA Game LAN & Xbox 360<sup>®</sup>
- Electronic Measurement System
- Three Scenarios
  - Extraction
  - Humanitarian Rescue
    - Combat Mission
    - MILES

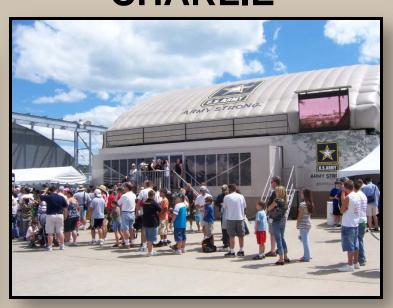


# ARMYGAMESTUDIO

# VIRTUAL ARMY EXPERIENCE **BRAVO CHARLIE**



- 130' x 95'
- 2 Consumer Activation Trailers
- AA Game LAN & Xbox 360<sup>®</sup>
- Electronic Measurement System



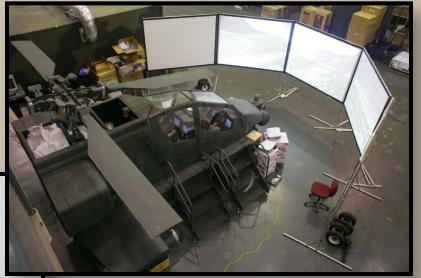
- 130' x 95'
- 1 Consumer Activation Trailer
- 2 HMMWVs, 1 UH-60 Black Hawk
   2 HMMWVs, 1 UH-60 Black Hawk
  - AA Game LAN & Xbox 360<sup>®</sup>
  - Electronic Measurement System



# ARMYGAMESTUDIO VAE APACHE



- 30' x 45' Footprint
- AH-64D Apache Longbow
  - 1 Gunner Position
  - 1 Pilot Position
- Measurement System









## UAV / UGV

- Collaborative Environment
  - Geo-specific environments
  - UE2 based
  - Vehicles :
    - MULE
    - Packbot
    - SWORDS
    - Gladiator
    - Raven
    - RMAX
- Standalone Trainers
  - EOD Talon
  - Gladiator
  - MULE
  - Packbot







# Virtual Ammunition Supply Point

- Train MOS 89A/B (Ammunition Specialist)
- Identification of Ammunition
  - Types
  - Quantity











# **Moral Combat**

- Ethical / Moral Dilemmas
- AAR gives player feedback on their decisions
- Built for Army Center of Excellence for the Professional Military Ethic, West Point









# America's Army: Live Fire Virtual Targetry



- AA scenarios projected onto walls of live fire shoothouses
- Special cameras detect bullet hit friction on wall and send data to AA game engine
- AI, Instructor, and live soldiers are OPFOR characters



