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The use of a portable decontamination system reduces the logistical burden for CBRN operations and environments

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February 20, 2026 - Addressing a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear event is a highly complex situation. In some cases, even a small exposure to CBRN agents can quickly spread and contaminate the environment, equipment and warfighters.

In CBRN environments, warfighters contend with additional stress and burden because they must wear personal protective equipment. Capabilities that reduce their risk of CBRN agent exposure and allow them to quickly and safely remove their PPE are key to achieving mission success.

The Capability Program Executive for Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense's Joint Project Manager for CBRN Special Operations Forces is delivering a "system of systems" decontamination capability to warfighters whose missions place them in austere, hostile, operational environments.

The Forward Area Mobility Spray System enables service members to decontaminate equipment as close to the spot of exposure, or far forward, into mission space and return it to service quickly, ensuring it is clean enough to reuse and elimi-



nating the need for warfighters to wear PPE during the decontamination process.

The system has three variants: man portable, small variant and large variant. The man portable is a battery-powered backpack that holds 5 gallons of decontamination solution. The small variant is designed to be mounted onto

the rear bed of a Joint Light Tactical Vehicle and contains one 50-gallon tank. It is powered by either integrating the host vehicle's battery source, a generator or shore power. The large variant is also designed to be mounted onto the rear bed of a Joint Light Tactical Vehicle and powered the same way, but it contains two 50-gallon tanks.

All three variants provide special operations forces with an air-droppable or mobile capability that allows them to go far forward into mission territory to perform a host of decontamination operations. The man portable system achieved full operational capability in May 2025, nearly three years ahead of schedule; the small variant and large variant

are also expected to reach it early as well.

The Forward Area Mobility Spray System team attributes the delivery speed to direct and frequent interactions with the user community.

Matthew McGinley, an assistant program manager assigned to the JPM CBRN SOF, said that open communication allows his team to understand the user's needs, listen to their feedback and rapidly apply changes. McGinley said engaging with the user community enabled incremental delivery, which contributed to the accelerated timeline, and his team worked with users to prioritize and deliver an enhanced, agile decontamination capability quickly and incrementally.

lessly into the bed of their host vehicle, operating off battery power, containing their own storage tanks, incorporating siphon features to replenish water from any source and built-in recirculation features that keep the decontamination solution thoroughly mixed.

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All variants of the system are "decon agnostic," meaning they can use any decontaminant solution chosen by the warfighter. They each come with two spray nozzles: a stream nozzle to blast off contamination and a fan nozzle to apply the solution.

"Although they are currently being fielded only to special operations forces, the word is quickly spreading throughout the CBRN community about this new capability, and I've received a lot of feedback from some of my military counterparts and in the Chemical Corps expressing great interest in the system," Walters said.

The system's reduced physical and logistical burden supports the War Department's priority of promoting warfighter lethality by decreasing disruptive factors. Carrying less equipment allows warfighters to focus on remediating threats that could negatively impact their mission in real time. The accelerated delivery also aligns with DOW's priority to reform acquisition by using incremental delivery to accelerate fielding and ensure that warfighters have the latest equipment when they need it. The Forward Area Mobility Spray System allows warfighters to decontaminate faster and closer to the site of exposure, containing and eliminating the threat of agent contamination.

The team will begin developing a new aircraft variant in the upcoming fiscal year to decontaminate the sensitive instruments on board.

12th Annual Tennessee Tree Day focuses on statewide effort to restore native tree canopy

Deadline Extended for Public to Reserve Trees: March 8th

NASHVILLE, Tennessee—Recent natural disasters have wiped out massive amounts of Tennessee's tree canopy, and residents are being encouraged to participate in efforts to replant some of that lost tree canopy. A statewide community tree-planting event known as Tennessee Tree Day is coming up on March 21st. The public may reserve native trees to plant using an online tree reservation website now through March 8th, 2026 on a first-come, first served basis, for a small donation per tree. Supplies are limited so residents are encouraged to reserve their trees as soon as possible. Visit tectn.org/tennesseetreeday to reserve trees. TN Tree Day is organized by Tennessee Environmental Council, a statewide non-profit organ-



ization. Organizers have set up 174 local tree-pick-up sites in all 95 counties with a goal of planting 85,000 native trees across Tennessee on March 21st (but trees must be reserved online no later than March 8th). "This year we are placing an emphasis on communities hit hardest by Hurricane Helene in 2024 and Winter Storm Fern earlier this year," says Jeffrey Barrie, CEO of Tennessee Environmental Council. "We are making it as convenient as possible for res-

idents to participate and plant a variety of native trees at their homes and farms, especially in areas hit hardest by these devastating weather events," says Barrie. Tree Day offers 11 native tree species for the public to choose from. Species include redbud, elderberry, river birch, pecan, oak and more. Many pick-up locations are hosted by UT Extension offices, State Parks and rural electric cooperatives. "In the past two years, Tennessee

has experienced devastating losses to its urban and rural tree canopies," says Heather Slayton, Tennessee State Forester. "Events like Tree Day give everyone a chance to help restore some of that tree canopy, supporting the significant ecological, social, economic and health benefits that trees provide," says Slayton. In order to secure trees to plant in this year's event, interested residents must visit www.tectn.org/tennesseetreeday no later than March 8, 2026. Once reserved online, trees for registered participants will be available for picking up at local pick-up sites on March 20th and

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The 'E' in DEI is for Equity, a Marxist Term. Research before you believe.

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