

## **JOINT EXPEDITIONARY TEAM CIED Advisory Mission Summary (May 2013)**

### **DISMOUNTED CIED TACTICS MASTER TRAINER (DCT-MT)**

The DCT-MT is a two week long course divided into two phases. The course trains service members to not only support the patrol leaders in how to employ CIED tools to mitigate the IED threat in their operational environment, but also assists and informs the leadership in understanding the capabilities, limitations, and interoperability of CIED tools.

The DCT-MT course needs to be planned for and executed far enough in advance of the units deployment date to afford the master trainers produced from the course the time to be integrated into the unit's training before deployment. Furthermore, units need to ensure an adequate amount of equipment is available at the unit's home station for continued training.

JET has seen positive effects from the DCT-MT course in regards to units coming in better prepared and understanding the capabilities of the CIED tools that help mitigate the threat while operating in an IED environment. However, JET has also observed units that are to-tally reliant on the master trainers as the operators of the equipment, as few other persons understand how to operate the equipment effectively. In the past the master trainer's were not able to share the knowledge due to a lack of time and equipment at their home station. With better planning the master trainers will be able to effectively train and prepare their service members to employ these tools in a "layered approach" to effectively mitigate the IED threat.

The additional process of retrograding from FOBs and COPs has also further hampered master trainers ability to con-duct the training while in theater. JET advisors have also identified that some of the master trainers choose not to em-ploy certain hand-held devices like the Minehound because they are not comfortable with their knowledge of the equip-ment. The units already in Afghanistan need to afford the master trainers the time to train the force to increase the number of hand held operators as well as develop the knowledge among leadership on how to best employ the hand held devices into their movement formations. Sustainment training is critical throughout the deployment, like any other tool that we employ. A service member is only effective if he/she is proficient at the task at hand.

The units can also request the CJTF Paladin mobile training teams to assist with the training of hand-held detectors, specifically the Minehound, if they lack the knowledge and proficiency to operate it effectively (<http://paladin.coic-afghan.coic.smil.mil/j7/default.aspx>; SVOIP: 308 431-6752).

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### **Center for Army Lessons Learned (CALL) - CIED BULLETIN XII**

#### **Dismounted CIED Tactics – Master Trainer (DCT-MT)**

With the variety of HHD in service and other CIED enablers, equipment compatibility became an issue. At times, vehicles and counter radio-controlled IED electronic warfare (CREW)

systems affected HHDs, and HHDs could affect other HHDs. Tests and trials were developed through ARL to assess HHD capabilities in various environments and when in close proximity to other HHDs. This data was provided to the JIEDDO J-7 and the Joint Center of Excellence (JCOE) and its subordinate Army proponent, ACOE, to develop a training course that would integrate all HHD and CIED enablers into a training product that would take all the data and present it as a coherent, single course. In conjunction with this training product was the need to train dismounted CIED operations to senior noncommissioned officers (NCOs) so that units would have an organic subject matter expert (SME) who could not only train the unit but advise commanders on the planning and tactical employment of HHDs and CIED enablers.

### **What is DCT-MT?**

DCT-MT is a two-phase course that trains the skills that support a patrol leader to make threat assessments and how to best employ enablers to counter IED-related threats. DCT-MT trains:

- Patrol leaders – to understand threat TTP and the methodology used to target dismounted patrols.
- Patrol leaders – to plan the incorporation of dismounted maneuver tactics in an IED environment and use enablers with TTP gathered from theater.
- SMEs at the company and battalion levels – to advise commanders on the tactical employment of CIED enablers to support dismounted operations.

### **What does DCT-MT consist of?**

The course is conducted in two phases at no cost to the unit:

- Phase I (conducted by a DCT-MT team) – Classroom instruction on tactical theory regarding enabler employment during dismounted patrols.
- Phase II (conducted by a DCT-MT team) – Patrol planning and practical evaluations focused on the tactical application of dismounted enablers.

DCT-MT students must meet certain prerequisites before starting the course. Battalion commanders can request an exception to policy by memorandum for any student not meeting the prerequisites.

### **Who should get the training?**

This course is targeted to combat arms squad leaders and platoon sergeants who will be actively conducting dismounted combat patrols in an IED environment or to NCOs identified by their chain of command as dismounted CIED trainers. Class size is limited to 15 to 27 students.