

Rapid recovery field fortifications

HESCO's 2012 range of barrier units promises to tackle the latest challenge for the modern military: environmental responsibility.

HESCO's Concertainer unit is acknowledged as the most significant development in field fortification since the Second World War. More commonly known as 'HESCO', this simple but effective invention has helped save countless lives and millions of dollars worth of equipment since its first military use in 1991. It's a vital component in force protection and has been a key factor in the success of many expeditionary operations in hostile environments. Now, 20 years on, HESCO is launching its new range of completely recoverable military units.

Green defence

The units were developed in direct response to two growing military challenges: the logistical burden of redeployment, including the cost and effort required to clear bases that are no longer needed; and the increased commitment to environmental responsibility, which is essential if the human race is to build a civilised future.

Environmental responsibility is rapidly permeating every sphere of life, and military operations that are designed to bring normality to troubled lands must set an example in this regard. The desire of governments to apply federal law to a military world may sound like an oxymoron, but the Military Environmental Responsibility Act legislated by the US Government in 2011 has asserted the nation's intention to set the standard. Other countries are likely to follow suit, and do so quickly.

Of course, the knock-on effect of increased environmental responsibility is an increase in the cost of recovering material after the mission is over. The forward operating base that soldiers once called home rapidly becomes a burden once



The barriers can be filled with any material in abundance at the site of deployment, reducing logistical concerns.



HESCO's new design allows for individual cells to be opened by removing a single pin.

the fighting stops. Faced with the possibility of insurgents using the protected enclosure to their own advantage should tensions re-ignite, it is prudent for a departing force to tear down the structure. As this task demands manpower and equipment, there will be a cost attached. If the job is assigned to a private contracting company, then there is a real and calculable financial burden. It is with these challenges in mind that HESCO has developed its new range of barriers.

Deployment

The products in the company's new range are deployed in exactly the same way as current HESCO barriers. All previous sizes will be available in the 2012 range – from 0.6m to 2.21m high. Once filled, the units provide the same high degree of proven protection expected of HESCO products.

Recovery

Once the mission is over, units can be simply recovered by removing the pins that mesh the corner coils together. Once this has been done, the walls of the unit can be opened and the fill material cleared away. The unit can then be folded and flat-packed, making it easy to dispose of or – depending on the size of unit deployed and method of construction – store for reuse at a later date. This substantially reduces a force's logistical and environmental impact.

HESCO's 2012 range uses the same high-specification welded mesh and geotextile as previous military units, but now all models feature an innovative design that delivers the ultimate in engineered force protection. ■

Further information

HESCO
www.hesco.com



Pack me up and take me home

Introducing the all-new 2012 Mil® range from HESCO®. The same high specification barriers that have been protecting military personnel since 1991 are now completely recoverable for easy disposal, transportation and storage.

www.hesco.com/2012

2012
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hesco

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