



OPERATIONAL FORCES INTERFACE GROUP (OFIG) | OMD

The **Operational Forces Interface Group (OFIG)** is a unique organization utilized by the US Army Natick Soldier RD&E Center (NSRDEC) to accomplish a multitude of duties utilizing a combination of equipment specialists, research psychologists and Non-Commissioned Officers.

USER ASSESSMENTS:

OFIG personnel are the primary liaison between the project officers and military units in order to conduct user assessments in either the down-select or final evaluation of a new or prototype items. These assessments are conducted with users in a field environment. OFIG initiates all action with various headquarters in order to locate units willing to assist in conducting the assessments. Data is gathered from service members, compiled, and reports are developed to document the findings. OFIG does not implement any changes to items or products.

Being a non-partisan group allows the team to gather feedback from field units, and lends assurance that the input is a true representation of feedback received from Soldiers. Implementation of changes begins with ideas and suggestions from the Soldiers in the field which are then brought back to the NSRDEC by OFIG, and acted upon by the project officers and the Command.

INSTALLATION VISITS:

OFIG, as the NSRDEC representative, manages the installation visit program, designed to survey Soldiers on currently fielded items to gather user feedback. Information received is used by product teams and project officers in determining the functional adequacy of currently fielded equipment and defining the needs of the user.

EXHIBITS/BRIEFINGS:

OFIG is responsible for the coordination, planning, layout, design and execution of all NSRDEC and other customers' technical exhibits and displays. Based on requested support, OFIG personnel coordinate with key agencies and personnel to ensure that the proper equipment is exhibited. In cooperation with the Strategic Communications team OFIG ensures that proper graphics and display materials are prepared for each event. OFIG, when requested, also provides overview briefings to military and civilian leaders informing them of the NSRDEC and its mission.



USER ASSESSMENTS



USER ASSESSMENTS



EXHIBITS

UNCLASSIFIED

REV 09-12-05 | OPSEC 04-034



GREENING AND SEFEWS:

The Greening and Scientists and Engineers Field Experience With Soldiers (SEFEWS) programs provide the project officers and scientists the opportunity to see firsthand how the items they develop are used in battle-field conditions.

- **Greening:** Managed by the Senior Combat Arms NCO, is an in-house informal program which allows 5-6 participants to observe and participate in a field training exercise with an Active Duty unit. The Senior Combat Arms NCO accompanies each group as a mentor to explain and guide the participants.
- **SEFEWS:** Managed by the Senior Combat Arms NCO, is a formal program and requires the participant to pass an Army Physical Fitness Test and to under go a physical exam prior to participation. The individual participates as a squad member with an Active Duty unit undergoing field training.

Both programs allow project officers, scientists and engineers the ability to collect direct feedback from Soldiers about clothing and equipment they design, and helps ensure Soldiers that their needs are foremost in the minds of those who design and develop the equipment they use.

QUICK REACTION:

As a Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM) Field Assistance in Science and Technology (FAST) Quick Reaction Coordination (QRC) for the NSRDEC OFIG works with RDECOM Science Advisors assigned to major Army installations and units. The NSRDEC QRC assists in providing technical responses to any questions that those individuals may have. OFIG is also responsible to field or lead a quick reaction team to investigate problems with equipment, conduct new equipment training or to support equipment issues to deployed units at the request of NSRDEC project officers.

USER HOTLINE (TELEPHONE):

OFIG manages and maintains the User Telephone Hotline. All incoming technical and administrative calls are monitored. OFIG Team members ensure that each request is answered in a timely manner.

CONTACT THE USER HOTLINE:

COMM: (508) 233-5341, DSN: 256-5341
OFIG WEBSITE: ofig.natick.army.mil



EXHIBITS



GREENING & SEFEWS



AMC FAST QRC