
Fwd: SPRING 2016 Newsletter

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NEWSLETTER

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Upcoming Events!

10th Annual TIDES Technology Demonstration

IMPORTANT: We have begun planning for the 10th Annual TIDES Technology Demonstration. One question concerns dates. We always have held the Fort McNair demo during the 1st week of October. However, several have asked if it could be done in mid-September to avoid the disruptions across the Fiscal Year transition. Others are concerned that there may be conflicts in the end of Sept. Accordingly, two sets of dates are proposed:

- **Sept 14-16 Pentagon**, followed by **Sep 19-22 at Fort McNair** (**Note: this reverses the Pentagon/NDU sequence to avoid conflicts at NDU but, as before, exhibitors have to do Ft McNair to qualify for the Pentagon)
- **Oct 11-14 Fort McNair**, followed by **Oct 17-19 Pentagon** (**Note: this is one week later than usual to avoid conflict with AUSA)

Comments welcome. We want to nail down these dates by early April to give time for

Dear James,
STAR-TIDES has a couple of really exciting opportunities coming up and it would be helpful to have a couple small (5-6 person) task forces to engage with two projects. Please read below for details!

Update on Joint Interagency Field Experimentation

The Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) will be hosting quarterly field experiments throughout the 2016 fiscal year. These events will focus on exploring the potential of new capabilities to address challenges faced by the United States' Combatant Commanders and the federal entities that support (or are supported by) the COCOMs. The Department of Defense is the sponsoring entity for this event. Companies, educational institutions, laboratories and other organizations are invited to submit Experiment Proposals. For those who responded to the request for inputs to the February Joint Interagency Field Experiments (JIFX 16-2), the event was cancelled due to external factors. However, JIFX 16-3 still is scheduled for 9-13 May and JIFX 16-4 is set for 8-12 August. Interested parties are encouraged to visit the JIFX website <http://my.nps.edu/web/fx> to review the event Request for Information (RFI) document, submit an Experiment Proposal, and review important due dates. The RFI document outlines the parameters for participation and lists the areas of interest for the event. Applications will be considered that relate to any of the RFI areas of interest <http://my.nps.edu/web/fx/rfi>

Project 1: Looking for Members to Support "Starfish Network" Project with Japan

planning.

For details, please email:
star.tides.net@gmail.com

NEWS

Action on Disaster Conference Highlights

In February, TIDES' David Becker attended The Action on Disaster conference in Panama. The conference had a series of panels on aspects of disaster management. David spoke on STAR TIDES as a global knowledge sharing organization, and the upcoming PACOM sponsored UNIFIED CAUSE 2017 series of demonstrations that will include strengthening community resilience as well as cyber and smart grid lines of inquiry. While most presentations were along the lines of building community resilience and better preparation, World Vision's representative in Panama made a strong plea for the disaster community to stop talking about hurricanes as a threat in Central America, and start talking about what to do about the rising levels of violence, which are demonstrably more destructive of human life and property in Central America than natural disasters.

The questions of community resilience apply just as much to communities destroyed by man-made violence as by natural causes. He pointed out that we had few measures of progress that applied to violence, and World Vision and other NGOs were still learning how to work in these communities successfully.

Summary on New Technologies:

One interesting off-the shelf technology was self-inflating sandbags filled with an expandable gel. QUICKDAM seems to be an interesting

We are looking for members of the STAR-TIDES network to work with a task force that Japan has established to build the first "Starfish Network" in a partner nation. The Starfish



Network concept encourages partners to set up STAR-TIDES-like organizations to address their issues, in their cultures, with their processes. STAR-TIDES would be aware of, coordinate, and share information with the STAR-TIDES Japan network, but the latter would be independent.

Last year, a partnership agreement was formed in Japan called the National Academy of Science for Public, Environmental Health and Disaster Medicine (NAS-PEDHM). Many of the goals of NAS-PEDHM align with STAR-TIDES' objectives. These include (1) promoting regional revitalization by building disaster-resilient life support infrastructures, (2) creating social networks and building trust so that disabled persons can live securely and independently, and (3) providing data that can be analyzed for research. NAS-PEDHM will lead a public-private partnership to help improve community health and wellness.

Components of NAS-PEDHM have received significant base funding from the Japanese government and NAS-PEDHM has been approved to use these funds. One of the first initiatives will be to create pilot projects for research on the topics above in Japanese cities at the level of \$100,000-\$300,000 per project. One of these pilots will be located in Hiroshima. Members of NAS-PEDHM attended the TIDES Technology Demo at NDU in 2015 and plan to come again in 2016. They have been researching the establishment of a STAR-TIDES "Starfish network" in Japan.

In October 2015 members of the Japanese Cabinet Office expressed support for a closer relationship with STAR-TIDES by personnel working on emergency preparations for the Tokyo Olympics. Other organizations associated with NAS-PEDHM include: the UN, Price Waterhouse Cooper's RISE (Disaster Risk-Sensitive Investments) initiative, and several American companies. In 2015 the Japanese Government also committed more than \$3 billion to implement the UN's Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and part of this effort includes Japanese members of the Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies, known for short as ARISE, which also have ties to NAS-PEDHM.

In sum, NAS-PEDHM represents a serious effort that could contribute to a Starfish Network in Japan, and enhance the STAR-TIDES initiative. Members of NAS-PEDHM have reached out to discuss ways ahead.

application of a new material to an old problem - how to fill and carry enough sandbags to stop water from getting in or getting through. According to the sales rep, the sandbags last for years, if replenished with water on occasion.

Another possible application could be sandbags for quick ballistic protection or explosive ordnance disposal, if water is available. Further testing of the ballistic damping properties would have to be done.

Another concept was mass deployment of micro packages from the air, without needing to control the landing area, and without worrying about heavy things hitting survivors on the ground. SKYLIFE had some interesting lightweight packages on display, designed to flutter down to earth. This would seem to be an ideal application in places like Syria or ISIS controlled Iraq.

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It is in this context that we would like to set up a 5-6 member STAR-TIDES team to work with the task force set up by Japan's NAS PEDHM to explore links to STAR-TIDES. Please email star.tides.net@gmail.com with "Japanese Starfish."

Project 2: Engagement with PACOM's UNIFIED CAUSE Initiative

Beginning later this year, perhaps in Aug-Sept, US Pacific Command (PACOM), expects to begin a four-part initiative known as UNIFIED CAUSE (UC). The details still are being refined, but basically UC is expected to consist of four parallel, but interacting tracks: (1) Energy, involving more secure and resilient power grids, beginning in Hawaii; (2) Cybersecurity, involving the testing of various tools to make operators more effective, (3) Civil-military prototyping and integration, involving TIDES/STAR-TIDES, JIFX, and others; and (4) Education and training, linking to the Global Knowledge Networking concept <http://ndupress.ndu.edu/Portals/68/Documents/defensehorizon/DH-80.pdf>.



This will involve tailored exercises linked to experimentation, with a major event being UNIFIED CAUSE 17 (UC17), notionally late in FY17. Partnering programs to bring players to the table will be important. The goal is to work with partner nation participants in key locations, improve readiness, and promote more interoperable partners.

UC planning is still in a very early stage, but a small (5-6) person group from the STAR-TIDES network might be useful. If interested, please contact star.tides.net@gmail.com with **UNIFIED CAUSE** in the title.



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