



MARINE CORPS SYSTEMS COMMAND

Combat Equipment & Support Systems (CESS)
Program Manager, Infantry Combat Equipment



Military Cross Country Skis



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Military Cross Country Skis Background

- **Requirement Document**

- Mountain Cold Weather Clothing and Equipment Operational Requirements Document (ORD) No. Log 42.4. with change 3

- **Improve and Replace Current NATO (ASNES) Ski**

- Current skis have been around since WW II
 - No longer manufactured
 - Difficult to transport
 - Binding incompatibility with most boots
 - Maneuverability difficult in wooded areas
 - Requires “meticulous” application of ski wax

- **Procurement Obstacles**

- Lack of domestic manufacturers (no RFI responses)
 - Lack of interest by suppliers to “ramp-up” for small order (2,250 pair)
 - Cost prohibitive leading to COTS
 - Procurement waiver



Military Cross Country Skis Item Characteristics

- **Support various missions**
 - Approach, cross-country, down-hill
 - Wooded terrain
- **Lightweight, flexible and durable**
- **Overall length 150cm to 165cm**
 - Ease of individual transport
- **Medium to progressive side cut (21-22cm)**
- **Use with universal binding assemblies**
 - Binding accommodate any boot
- **Adjustable ski poles**
- **Minimum training for novice user**
- **Support 250 lb combat loaded Marine**



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Military Cross Country Ski Future

- **Obtain test articles from available sources to include other than domestic sources**
- **Article testing during Dec 2008 and Jan 2009**
 - Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, CA
- **Refine Commercial Item Description (CID) – Feb 2009**
- **Request for Proposals (RFP) – Mar 2009**
- **Contract – Jun 2009**
- **Deliveries start July – August 2009**
- **Estimated Unit Cost - \$450/\$700**
- **Sustainment – DLA**



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Questions?