

U.S. Army and 3M™ Provide Hearing Protection for Soldiers

Army's PEO Soldier Orders 3M™ Personal Safety Division™ Tactical Communication and Protective Systems

The U.S. Army has accepted two 3M™ products to equip soldiers with hearing protection and auditory situational awareness. The [3M Personal Safety Division](#) has received initial orders for more than 6,500 devices that include 3M™ PELTOR™ TEP-100 Tactical Earplug Kits and 3M™ PELTOR™ COMTAC™ III ACH Communications headsets, plus spare parts and accessories totaling more than \$1.6 million. Deployment of these Tactical Communications and Protective Systems (TCAPS) is managed by PEO Soldier.

"3M supports PEO Soldier's objective to maintain hearing protection and prevent hearing loss. These products will help soldiers be more effective in combat, and will help allow them to return home with their hearing intact," said Shawn Gregg, U.S. Business Director, 3M Personal Safety Division.

"Our history with U.S. Special Forces, collaboration with the U.S. Army, and relationships with U.S. Military Audiologists all helped contribute to the hearing solutions we have been asked to supply," said Doug Moses, U.S. Product Marketer for Protective Communications at 3M Personal Safety Division.

The patented 3M PELTOR TEP-100 earplugs were introduced to the market in 2014 when demand for ruggedized, stand-alone electronic "in-the-ear" hearing protection devices surfaced. 3M's research and development team responded by designing and developing a low-cost, easy-to-use, system that could be utilized in a wide range of applications, and in remote locations. A key application was for military service members and tactical law enforcement teams requiring auditory situational awareness, as well as hearing protectors to protect against the effects of hazardous noise.

The 3M PELTOR COMTAC III ACH was originally introduced to U.S. Military forces and law enforcement tactical teams in the early 2000s. The COMTAC Headset was the first tactical communications headset to offer an environmental listening function, sometimes referred to as "Talk-Through," which enhances the ability to locate and identify opposing forces, by allowing safe audio sounds through. The headset reduces harmful noises, which promotes increased mission effectiveness, safety and survivability. The headset utilizes a proprietary digital audio circuit to sense noise levels above the desired threshold and compress them to a safe decibel level. Additionally, weak sounds can be amplified to an audible level, to better serve team members with existing hearing loss. Now in its fourth generation, over 600,000 systems have been delivered to military forces worldwide.

3M PELTOR COMTAC Headsets and Tactical Earplugs are commercially available and sold through the 3M distribution network. For more information, please visit [3m.com/tacticalppe](https://www.3m.com/tacticalppe).

3M is a global leader in hearing conservation, specializing in hearing protection devices, communication solutions in high noise environments, detection products such as noise dosimeters, fit validation systems and seen as an education authority throughout the world. To learn more about 3M hearing protection, please visit: www.3m.com/hearingprotection. To speak to a 3M specialist about a particular safety issue or training need, please call 800-243-4630.

About 3M

At 3M, we apply science in collaborative ways to improve lives daily. With \$30 billion in sales, our 90,000 employees connect with customers all around the world. Learn more about 3M's creative solutions to the

world's problems at www.3M.com or on Twitter @3M or @3MNewsroom.

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