



**2008 MODERN DAY MARINE  
MILITARY EXPOSITION  
AT MARINE CORPS BASE, QUANTICO, VA,  
TO INTRODUCE GROUND ROBOTICS OBSTACLE COURSE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Contact: *Mr. Charlie Baisley at (703) 488-2741***

Washington, DC—Continuing its tradition of defense industry innovation, the 2008 edition of the world's largest military exposition focusing on enhanced capabilities for expeditionary forces will feature a special obstacle course where ground robotics manufacturers will present real-time demonstrations of their equipment.

The 2008 Modern Day Marine Military Exposition will be held at Marine Corps Base, Quantico, VA, September 30<sup>th</sup> through October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Two years ago, the expo, which is held annually aboard the base, brought another new dimension to military expositions with an Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) Pavilion. The IED Pavilion showcased leading edge technology for detecting and destroying or mitigating IEDs. The IED Pavilion has become a permanent part of the event.

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Again this year, the exposition will be co-sponsored at Quantico by the Marine Corps Systems Command and Marine Corps Base, Quantico. In addition, the Marine Corps Expos are now officially endorsed by the Marine Corps Aviation Association. A Marine Corps veteran's organization, the Marine Corps League is overall sponsor of the expo, as it has been for the past 27 years. The event will showcase products and services of companies that provide U. S. Marines and other expeditionary forces with leading edge warfighting systems and equipment. Many of the systems and much of the equipment now being used by the Marines and other U.S. and allied forces in Iraq, Afghanistan, and around the world in the Global War on Terror was first showcased before military leaders, operations planners and acquisition managers at previous editions of the expo.

Exhibits at this year's exposition will fill three large display tents as well as outdoor exhibit areas. Visitors will be able to see the latest in equipment and technology now in service and video presentations, models or prototypes of items soon to become available for use in combat and combat support operations. Defense contractors from around the world will be on hand to discuss their products and services, and respond to questions.

The event is held at Quantico to give first-hand exposure of the latest in defense manufacturing, science and technology to the front-line users—the men and women who employ, or will soon be using, many of the products on display in both training and combat operations. The event also provides those users with opportunities to contribute personal input—including examples of their own combat experiences—directly to the people who design and produce the world's best defense-related equipment, systems and services.

Quantico is home of the Marine Corps Combat Development Command, which develops

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Marine warfighting concepts and determines the Corps' capability requirements for doctrine, equipment, organization, training, education and support. The Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory at Quantico is part of the Development Command and is responsible for improving current and future naval expeditionary warfare capabilities. Also headquartered at the base, the Marine Corps Systems Command is the Corps' principal agency for acquisition and sustainment of systems and equipment used to carry out the Marines' warfighting mission. The uniformed Marines and civilian employees, who staff the Development Command and Systems Command, as well as Marine officers and staff non-commissioned officers attending the Marine Corps University's professional development schools at Quantico, will visit the exhibit halls to discuss missions, capabilities and requirements with defense industry professionals.

The Ground Robotic Obstacle Course will allow manufacturers to send their robotic equipment through, around and over a series of obstacles which represent the types of barriers or impediments commonly found in tactical situations where ground robots are used to find, neutralize or destroy IEDs, other types of anti-personnel and anti-vehicle devices, and enemy personnel. The course will be set up in front of bleachers, where expo attendees will observe the robots. They will proceed over the course at scheduled intervals. Of three sizes of ground robot systems in production—small, medium and large—only small and medium be operated over the course.

The ground robot demonstrations will be presented all three days of the exposition; the IED Pavilion will be open to military personnel and Department of Defense civilian personnel with ID cards on the first two days of the expo—September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>.

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In addition to the large number of displays by almost 400 exhibitors, including the IED Pavilion and the first-of-its-kind Ground Robotics Course, several other important activities will be held in conjunction with the Modern Day Marine Exposition. One of the most important is a special by-invitation-only Report to Industry presented by Marine Corps general officers closely associated with all aspects of the Corps' equipment and systems research, development, testing and acquisition programs and policies. The Report to Industry will be followed by Marine Corps Systems Command Program Group Director Exhibitor Meetings in which members of the defense industry will receive direct input from the men and women who manage the programs through which Marines acquire and field weapons and equipment for the Corps' expeditionary missions on the ground, in the air and at sea.

Another of the exposition's special activities is the Enlisted Awards Parade. That event honors distinguished enlisted Marines and sailors from units around the world with awards sponsored by the Marine Corps League, a 70,000-member veterans' organization with members in more than 1,000 detachments. Additionally, this year's Modern Day Marine Military Exposition Grand Banquet and Awards Dinner will be held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in the Pentagon City section of Arlington, VA. During the Awards Dinner, the Marine Corps League's top awards—the Iron Mike Award and the Dickey Chapelle Award—will be presented to two distinguished Americans for outstanding service to the nation and to the Marine Corps in particular. The Iron Mike Award is named for a statue at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, SC, which is famous among Marines as a symbol of service, sacrifice and valor. The Dickey Chapelle Award is

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named for a woman war correspondent who covered the Marines in several wars and was killed on a combat patrol with Marines in Vietnam.

Once again this year, the Modern Day Marine Exposition will have a “Family Day”—a day during which family members of Department of Defense military and civilian personnel can tour the exhibits and learn more about today’s military equipment, systems and technology, and also see what new items will soon be arriving in the inventories of our military forces.

The 2008 Modern Day Marine Military Exposition will draw not only U.S. Marine Corps military and civilian personnel but also members of the other U.S. Armed Forces, foreign military attaches, and corporate representatives from throughout the United States and several allied nations.

News media representatives desiring to cover any portion of the exposition will be requested to present their press credentials upon arrival at the exposition site in order to register for the event. Many exhibiting companies will make press kits available to the media in their display areas and near the registration office.

***The exposition schedule is on the following page:***

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**2008 MODERN DAY MARINE MILITARY EXPOSITION SCHEDULE**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**

8:00AM–6:00PM Exhibitor Move-In  
4:00PM Exhibitor Briefing at Expo Site

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**

9:45AM–10:00AM Opening Ceremony  
10:00AM–3:30PM Exhibit Halls Open  
3:30PM Exhibit Halls Close

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1**

9:00AM–10:00AM Enlisted Awards Parade  
10:45AM–11:30AM Reception in Exhibit Halls  
10:00AM–3:30PM Exhibit Halls Open  
3:30PM Exhibit Halls Close  
6:30PM–9:30PM Reception & Grand Banquet (*Black Tie; By Invitation Only; Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Pentagon City area of Arlington, VA*)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2**

8:30AM–9:45AM 2008 Marine Corps Report to Industry (*By Invitation Only*)  
10:00AM–2:30PM Marine Corps Systems Command Program Group Director Exhibitor Meetings  
10:00AM–3:00PM Exhibit Halls Open (**FAMILY DAY**)  
3:00PM Exhibit Halls Closed

**PLEASE NOTE:** Due to heightened security, all attendees will be required to have picture identification available when entering the base at Quantico, and vehicles may be subjected to inspection. All uniformed Marines may enter exhibit halls without a special registration badge. Other military personnel, civilians and industry representatives must register on site and obtain a registration badge during registration hours. There is no cost to attend the exposition.

**For Additional Information:** Please contact Mr. Charlie Baisley at Modern Day Marine Military Exposition, 14685 Avion Parkway, Suite 400, Chantilly, VA 20151. Phone: (703) 488-2741; e-mail: [charles.baisley@nielsen.com](mailto:charles.baisley@nielsen.com). Further information is also available at the expo website: [www.marinemilitaryexpos.com](http://www.marinemilitaryexpos.com)

**Press Liaison:** Carl White (540) 351-1691; [carlwhite@expomediaservices.com](mailto:carlwhite@expomediaservices.com)

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