

Atlantic Targets & Marine Operations

SOLOMONS DETACHMENT



The Atlantic Targets and Marine Operations (ATMO) Division, Solomons Detachment, teams with the fleet, Joint National Training Center, Army, Air Force and Marine Corps in a multi-force effort to provide threat representative, low-cost target acquisition, prosecution and visual recognition training for the warfighter. The ATMO Solomons Detachment has created a process for the fabrication of plastic targets that are low-cost, durable, threat-realistic and mobile. Targets can be outfitted with various options to include radio frequency (RF) and infrared (IR) systems and camouflage paint schemes. These surrogate targets support a wide range of RDT&E and training requirements, representing the visual recognition, IR and radar signatures to adequately assess weapon systems sensors and the warfighter.

PLASTIC ARMORED VEHICLE TARGETS

Many different types of full-scale, three-dimensional targets are currently produced: SA-10 TEL, Mock SCUD Missile, BRDM II Amphibious Scout Vehicle, SA-9 Gaskin, AT-5 Spandrel, T-72 Main Battle Tank, ZSU-23-4 Shilka, SA-6 Straight Flush, SA-6 Gainful, SA-20 Tombstone, 2S6 Tunguska, BTR-70, M2A2 Bradley and HUMVEE.

Options for creating the skin of the plastic targets include standard grade ABS plastic or Kydex, which is a polymer with UV resistance. Both plastics are available in an assortment of colors or can be painted in camouflage colors. ABS and Kydex can be copper coated for radar reflectivity and augmented with heat panels to meet IR signature requirements (engines running or barrel heated to simulate recent gunfire). Wood or aluminum (for longevity) is currently used for framing. Sections are formed and then assembled to create a 3-D simulated target.

The vehicles are typically skid-mounted and can be easily towed over a land range or roadway by a pickup truck. The vehicles can also be mounted on low-cost, low-profile wheeled trailers to further enhance mobility.

Targets can be crated, shipped and assembled on site. Assembly instructions can be supplied or a team can be provided to assemble targets at the user's location.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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T-72 tank used in RIMPAC Exercises



M2A2 Bradley



SA-20 Tombstone

Realistic Operational Threat Environments

Atlantic Targets & Marine Operations



SA-6 Gainful



T-72 Main Battle Tank

The vacuum thermal forming process is not limited to the production of target vehicles. A number of other complex forms and shapes have been produced, such as an EA-6B pod hardback, radar corner reflectors, missile nose cones, mechanical pulley guards and maintenance oil drip pans. Top-downs represent threats in trenches or top-view only requirements.

Lower cost two-and-a-half dimensional (2.5-D) targets are also available. These 2.5-D targets are designed to be indistinguishable from a 3-D unit at a distance of 100 meters and at angles deviating up to 10 degrees from a direct line of site with the target.



BTR-70



2S6



BMP-2



Straight Flush



ZSU-23-4



BTR 2.5-D Frontal



BRDM II Amphibious Scout Vehicle



SA-9 Gaskin



Stryker



BMD 2.5-D

Plastic armored vehicle targets are used for T&E and live-fire exercises at the following locations:

- NAS Patuxent River, Maryland
- Webster Field, Maryland
- Delamere Air Weapons Range, Australia
- Farallon De MeDinilla (FDM), Guam
- Okino Daito Jima (ODJ), Okinawa, Japan
- NBVC Point Mugu, California (NAWCWD)
- NAWS China Lake, California (NAWCWD)
- Redstone Arsenal, Alabama
- Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA), Hawaii
- Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), Hawaii
- Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland
- Camp Lejeune, North Carolina
- Yuma Test Center, Arizona
- White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico
- Atlantic Field, North Carolina
- Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia
- Fort Pickett, Virginia