



INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING



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IRT leaders and staff are closely monitoring the COVID-19 public health situation. Over the next days and weeks, we will furnish updated information on our website concerning its effect on our FY 2020 missions, once our planners have had enough time to carefully plan and construct timelines for each of our missions. Please check irt.defense.gov regularly for the latest information on the IRT program.

IRT Contributes to COVID-19 Relief Efforts

Amid a worldwide crisis, the IRT Medical Consumables Site (MCS) staff, located at Fort Dix, NJ, seized the initiative to contribute to relief efforts. The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has greatly increased the need for personal protective equipment (PPE) and hospital grade disinfectant supplies, which are housed at the MCS. In the space of just 2 weeks, Servicemembers assigned to the MCS repurposed more than 4 tons of medical supplies to help address the Nation’s critical shortfall.

On the receiving end was the United States Military Entrance Processing Command (USMEPCOM) in North Chicago, IL. A USMEPCOM locaton is the first stop for applicants into any of the Services (Army, Marine Corps, Navy, or Air Force), where they take an oath and enter military service. By mitigating demand on the supply chain, these medical supplies will help offset the nationwide shortage.



IRT MCS staff pack medical supplies destined for USMEPCOM.

USMEPCOM is not the only beneficiary of this repurposing. Through this effort, the IRT MCS staff—which manages materiel dedicated to IRT medical missions—received valuable training in contingency operations. Beginning on March 25, Servicemembers acted quickly to assess the inventory and calculated what portion to keep on hand for remaining FY 2020 missions.

| Summary of Class VIII Supplies Contributed | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Contents | |
| 330,500 | patient protective gloves |
| 17,500 | procedural masks |
| 7,770 | isolation gowns |
| 900 | latex gloves |
| 550 | bottles of hand sanitizer |
| 244 | bottles of disinfectant wipes |
| 192 | cans of hospital grade disinfectant |
| Totals | |
| 8,765 | lbs of medical supplies |
| 19 | pallets worth of delivery |

The MCS facility—operated jointly by the Army and Air Force Reserve Commands—houses items such as bandages, sanitizers, and medication. The MCS supports 8 to 10 major medical missions annually, each mission training an average of 30 providers and treating about 5,000 patients. Applying the experience of a team of medical logisticians, the MCS staff had the PPE packed, shipped, and delivered to USMEPCOM by April 14—an unprecedented turnaround. In describing the quick response, Master Sergeant Janice Johnson remarked, “MCS was able to respond to current events due to employing doctrinally sound logistics practices in Class VIII materiel management. Due to our projects being pushed to the right and/or cancelled, we were required to reconstitute and rotate materiel for future projects in order to exhaust allocated materiel prior to expiration date.”

By seizing this opportunity to leverage innovative resource management and support the nationwide response to COVID-19, our Servicemembers once again demonstrated their tireless dedication to duty and country. IRT is committed to strengthening civil-military partnerships while enhancing military readiness.

A few highlights of the entire repurposed materiel list.