



# COMBINED ARMS CENTER

INTELLECTUAL CENTER OF THE ARMY

## Industry needs to supply Army with affordable, seamless training systems

By Mike Casey

FORT LAUDERDALE, FLA. – Industry can help the Army of 2020 by providing affordable and seamless training systems, said panelists at the Association of the U.S. Army winter symposium.

The panel on Thursday focused on industry's role in 21st century training that is incorporating live, virtual, constructive and gaming technologies to create a realistic environment.

Col. Robert "Pat" White, deputy commander of the Combined Arms Center - Training (CAC-T), led the discussion about how industry should fill Army training requirements.

"The common theme that we are trying to convey to our industry partners is that filling training requirements has to be affordable," White said.

Panelists remarked that declining military budgets create the need for more efficient systems. They also noted problems with incompatible systems that do not communicate with each other. These stovepipe systems create inefficiencies and difficulties for soldiers.

"The other underlying theme," White said, "is that filling those training requirements should apply in all of our domains whether it is institutional or operational and whether it is live, virtual, constructive or gaming."

White said the Army cannot afford single, stovepipe training systems.

"Show us how we can train at multi-echelons simultaneously," he said. "If we could do that, we can provide soldiers with what they need, and we're going to continue to fight and win our nation's wars."

Another panelist was Nate Godwin, assistant deputy chief of staff, G-3/5/7 at Army Forces Command. He talked about the Army's goal of becoming a seamless organization.

"By 2020, we want to be fully integrated and fully coordinated across the joint, inter-governmental and international realms," he said. "We're not there yet."

Michael Formica, assistant chief of staff of the Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) 3/5/7, said industry could help prepare soldiers by providing training that teaches group problem solving.

"It isn't about a topic," he said. "It's about the problem."