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Fielded Group Ration Improvement Project (FGRIP)

R&DA Boot Camp
April 2009

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US Army Natick Soldier RD&E Center

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Group Ration Overview



Family of Unitized Group Rations (UGRs)TM:

- UGR - Heat and Serve (H&S)TM: shelf stable components; 18-month Shelf-Life @ 80°F
- UGR - ATM: commercial frozen components plus shelf-stable components; 1-year Shelf-Life
- UGR - BTM: USMC specific; shelf-stable ingredients; 18-month Shelf-Life @ 80°F
- UGR - Express (E)TM: self-heating; shelf stable components; 18-month Shelf-Life @ 80°F

Each UGRTM contains:



- 50 complete meals (3 boxes)
- Dining trays, utensils, etc.
- Up to 7 breakfast & 14 lunch / dinner menus
- Approx. 1450 calories per meal

Each UGRTM is continuously improved under the Fielded Group Ration Improvement Project





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UGR-Express (UGR-E)TM

- Complete, self-contained, self-heating group meal for 18 Warfighters – pull tab activated
- Targeted for remote units / Military Transition Teams
 - Alleviates reliance on MRETM as sole means of subsistence
 - Current remote site field feeding, when possible, exposes convoys /warfighters to IEDs and compromises unit location
- Reduced logistics (no cook, equipment, fuel, sanitation) and field waste (activate what you need, when you need it)



Lean Six Sigma
US ARMY MATERIALS COMMAND

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Unitized Group Rations (UGRs)TM



- **UGRTM Supplements**
 - Arctic Supplement
 - Medical Nutrition Supplement (MNS)
 - Currently under revision




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RDECOM FY09 Field Evaluation 

 368th Engineer Battalion
Ft. McCoy, WI
Aug 2009 

Approx 400 Soldiers
4 Groups
8 Days


UGR-H&S™ or UGR-A™ for breakfast and dinner
MRE™ for lunch

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RDECOM FY09 Field Evaluation 

- UGRs™ for Breakfast and Dinner
 - UGR-A™ – Fully Improved 09 Menus as controls
 - UGR-H&S™ – Fully Improved 08 Menus as controls
- MRE™ for lunch
- Deadline for submitting new items for field testing is 10 May 2009

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RDECOM **FY09 Field Evaluations** 

Unitized Group Ration (UGR)TM development and testing is a **Customer Driven** effort -

- ✓ Based on field feedback, potential items are reviewed and tested in-house for shelf life, packaging and acceptance
- ✓ Products meeting all of the requirements are down selected for **Warfighter testing** on an annual basis (Aug/Sep)

for **UGR-H&STM** and **UGR-ETM**:

- ✓ Results are presented to the **Joint Services Operational Rations Forum (JSORF)** for approval (Dec/Jan)

for **UGR-ATM** :

- ✓ Results are presented to the **UGR-A Integrated Product Team (IPT)** for approval (Dec/Jan)

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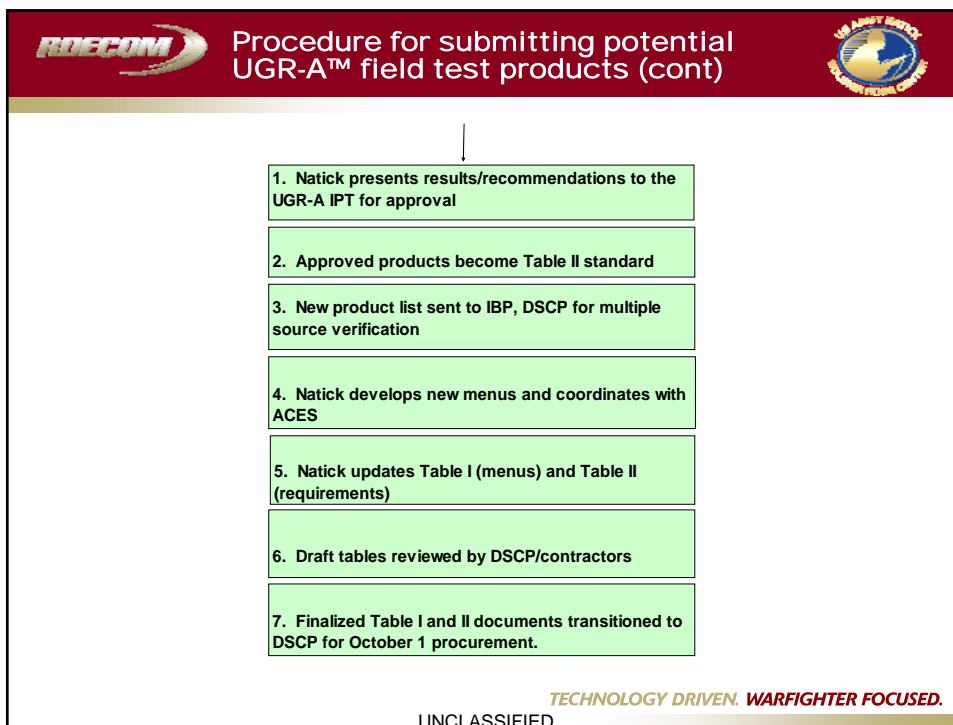
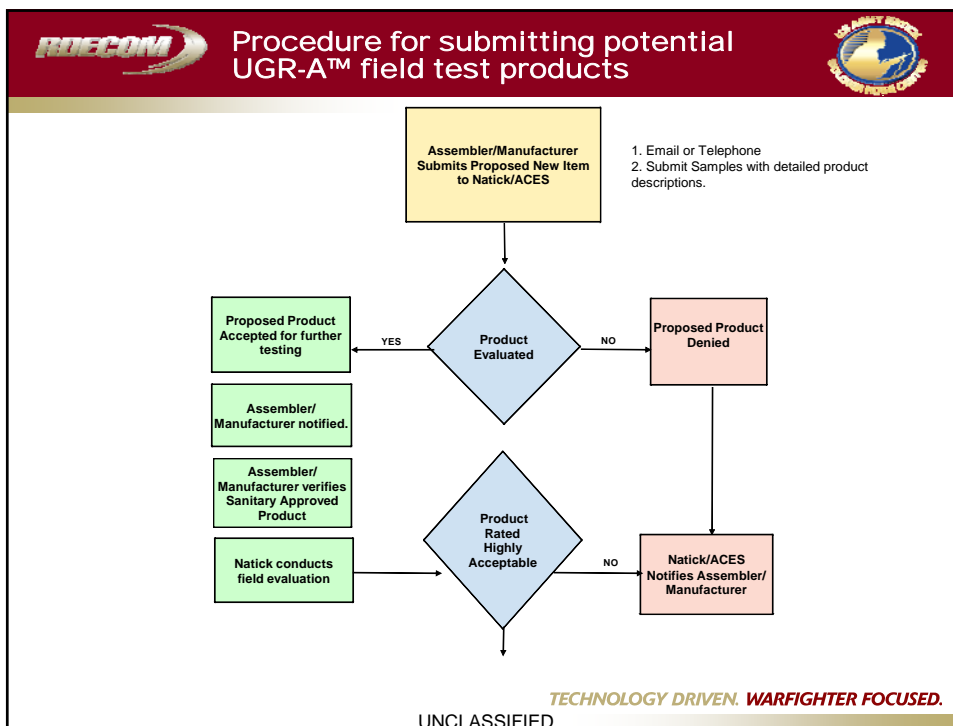
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RDECOM **UGR-ATM** 



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UGR-A™ New Source Introduction Instructions



To introduce a new source for an existing product in the UGR-A™ program, assemblers are required to take the following steps:

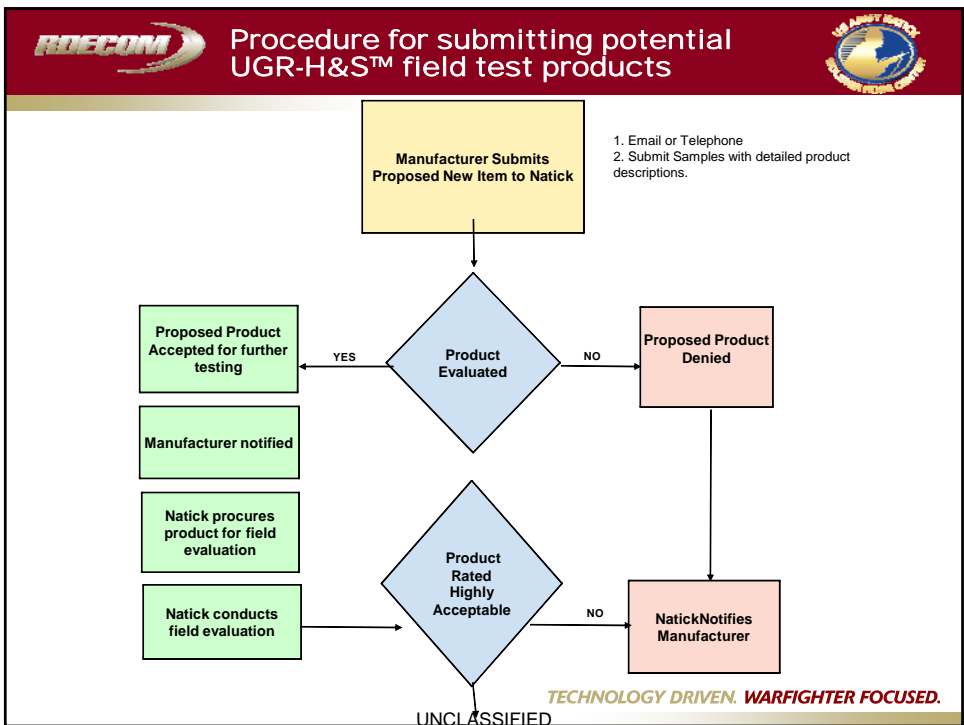
1. The UGR-A™ Contractor sends the completed UGR-A™ New Source Introduction Form to DSCP. The form is reviewed and the information is verified to determine if the new item meets the contractual requirements of the Item Description in the UGR-A™ Table II.

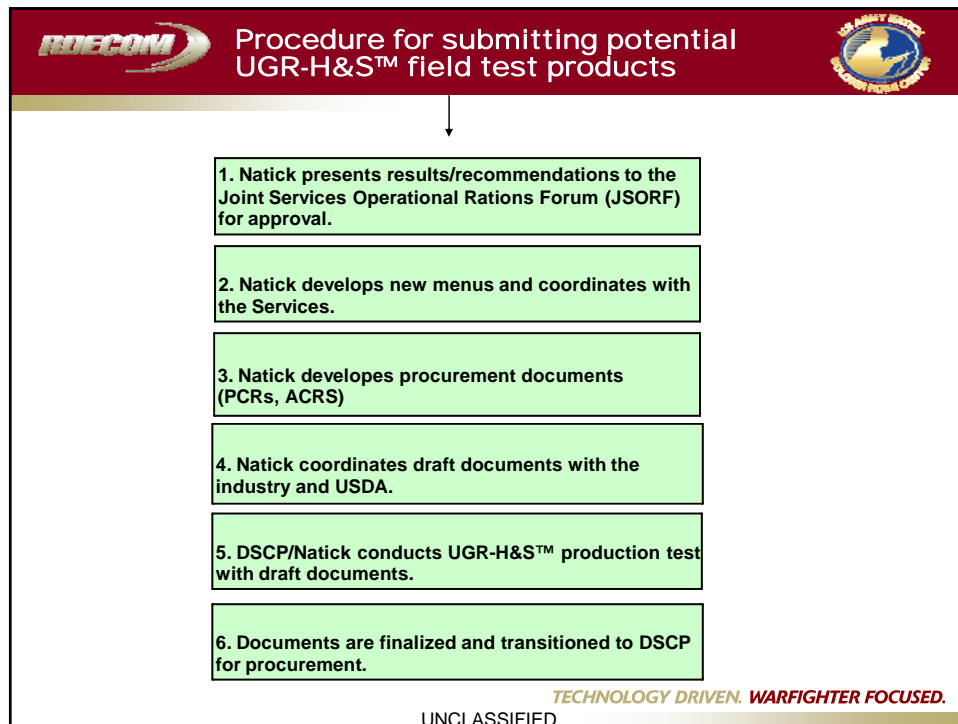
2. If approved, a DSCP Register Number is assigned, and the form with instructions for product submission is returned to the UGR-A™ Contractor who "sponsored" your item.

3. The UGR-A™ Contractor is required to submit the current brand and the New Source brand to Natick. After receipt of both sets of samples, Natick will conduct sensory panels for the New Source brand and for the brand that the UGR-A™ Contractor currently packs in the

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RDDECOM VETCOM Sanitary Approval Process for Ration Components 

<http://vets.amedd.army.mil/vetcom/directory.htm>

- APPENDIX C:
LISTING OF APPROVED ESTABLISHMENTS
 - By state, establishment, or product
- Sanitary Approval is *Product Specific*
- If product & establishment are not on this list, then:
 - Submit a sanitary inspection request on your company letterhead through DSCP to VETCOM
 - VETCOM will coordinate inspection during production of the item

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