



TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN. WARFIGHTER FOCUSED.

First Strike Ration®

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US Army Natick Soldier RD&E Center

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First Strike Ration® (FSR®)



Background:

- Modular, low weight, eat on the move, calorically dense
- 2 year Shelf Life at 80°F
- OTSG Approved Restricted Calorie Assault Ration (~2900 Kcals/day)
- Transitioned to Defense Supply Center Philadelphia (DSCP) (Nov 2006)
- Awarded Assembly Contract (March 2008)
- Delivery of FSR® (June 2008)
- DSCP Invoked Option to Extend FSR® Contract w/ SOPAKCO by 1 year (March 2009)



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Field Evaluation: Sept & Oct 2008

- Ft. Benning, GA:
 - Pre-Ranger Course, 75th Ranger Regiment
- 50 Warfighters/day
- 4 FSR® Test Menus (40+ new items)
- Control – 1st Procurement FSR® (2008 DOP)
- Collected Acceptability Data



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- 5-8 September 2008: (1/day for 4 days)

Control	Test
FSR-1 (2008 DOP)	Menus #6 & #7

- 3-6 October 2008: (2/day for 4 days)

Control	Test
FSR-1 (2008 DOP)	Menus #4 & #5

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Test Entrees:

- Pork BBQ Tortilla Wrap
- Beef Taco w/ Cheese Tortilla Wrap
- Garlic and Herb Chicken Breast
- BBQ Chicken Sandwich
- Nacho Beef Stick Sandwich
- Tuna, Sweet and Spicy
- Salmon, Mango Chipotle
- Spam®, Classic



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Test Breads:

- Bagel, Plain
- Wheat Snack Bread, Twin Pack

Test Spreads:

- Potato Cheddar Bacon Soup/Spread
- Spicy Vegetable Soup/Spread



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Test Snacks:

- Hot & Spicy Snack Cracker
- Cheddar Filled Pretzels
- Meat Jerky
 - Cranberry Beef
 - Smoked Turkey
- Toasted Corn Nuggets
- Sports Gel
 - Mixed Berry
 - Lemon Lime



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Test Fruit:

- Zapplesauce®
 - Cinnamon
 - Chunky
- Raisin Nut Mix with M&M®s
- Raisins
- Dried Cranberries



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Test Beverages:

- Dairyshake, Strawberry Banana
- Carbohydrate Fortified
 - Lemonade
 - Orange
 - Tropical Punch
- Protein Drink, Chocolate
- Sugar Free
 - Raspberry
 - Lemonade

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Test Sweets:

- Cinnamon Bun
- Whole Grain Toaster Pastry
 - Brown Sugar
 - Strawberry
- Turnover
 - Cherry
 - Blueberry
- Caffeinated Pudding, Chocolate
- Fig Bar
- Foosh Mints, Caffeinated
- Arctic Mint Gum, Caffeinated

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JSORF APPROVED FSR® MENU EXPANSION



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Joint Services Approved (for FY11):

- Increase menus from 3 to 9
- Include all items that were Field Tested
 - Exceptions: (Items w/ Mean Score <6.0):
 - Spam, Classic
 - Spicy Vegetable Soup/Spread
 - Lemon-Lime Gel
- Replace current Wheat Snack Bread w/ Twin Pack
- Insert in equal quantities:
 - Cinnamon Caffeinated Gum
 - Arctic Mint Caffeinated Gum
 - Caffeinated Mints
- Reduce Towelettes from 3 to 2 per menu
 - Based on Field Test Usage Data

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- FSR® Producibility Testing:
 - Caffeinated Pudding (Sopakco)- Completed March 09
 - Turnover (Caravan)- Completed March 09
 - Energy Gels (ThermoPac)- Planned May 09
 - Choice Spread (ThermoPac)- Planned May 09
 - Tortilla Wraps (Bridgford)- Planned May 09
- Ongoing storage sensory testing
- Conduct packaging rough handling testing (3Q09)
- Conducted nutritional analysis of FSR®:
 - For Current & New Food Components
- Redesigned Front Label of FSR® Menu Bag:
 - “24 Hour Ration” & “Contains an Entire Days Food”

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For Second Procurement FSR®:

- Obtain OTSG nutritional approval (9 menus)
- Continue collaboration w/ PORT & USARIEM on optimization of FSR® nutritional profile
- Prepare/Coordinate procurement documents & assembly contract requirements
- Transition to DSCP (March 2010)
- DSCP award of contract (March 2011)

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