

SUBJECT: The Army Food Advisor Equipment Innovation Award Program

## **1. AWARD OVERVIEW**

The purpose of the Army Food Advisor Award is to recognize excellence in creativity and innovation to help shape the future vision for the Army's solution to forward field feeding. This award will encompass two categories: An Individual and Organizational Award. Ideas for individual kitchen appliances and components as well as ideas for complete kitchen systems can be submitted for consideration.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

Army field feeding doctrine along with Modified Table of Organization and Equipment (MTOE) are well documented for units operating in the modular/maneuver combat environment. However, despite the existence of hundreds of Combat Operating Posts (COPs) on today's battlefields, the term is not doctrinally defined in any field manual. Army COPs can support operational units and elements from 25 to 150 Soldiers and forward field feeding at the COPs presents several new challenges for both doctrine and equipment.

## **3. AWARDS CRITERIA**

a. Individual Award and Organizational Award: These awards will be presented to an exemplary individual and a commendable organization demonstrating extraordinary leadership and innovation in creating a piece of field equipment, component or complete kitchen system suitable for the demands of our ever-growing military in the year of 2020 and beyond.

b. The Army is considering a family of modular appliances to suit all the needs of field feeding. This ranges from forward feeding operations (at small camps of 50 Soldiers) to larger base camps of several hundred, to include units operating in a maneuver environment. This means that the necessary field appliances must be able to fit in a trailer or transport vehicle for mobile deployment, yet must also be useable inside building, tents, and containers at stationary sites to support base camp operations.

c. The desire is to develop transportable, standardized set of appliances and kitchen system with interchangeable features to allow cooks to operate any appliance with minimal training. Consideration should be given throughout the Army family of field feeding equipment to sharing basic components to simplify availability and cost of replacement parts. Think about joint capability when developing a system.

#### **4. BASIC REQUIREMENTS**

a. Rapid Deployment and Pack Up: The appliance(s) or kitchen system must be able to set up and pack up in 45 minutes or less using four personnel.

b. Power Supply: Because of the weight and volume of large electric generators and limited availability of separate vehicles to tow them, all appliances and kitchen systems must be extremely energy efficient. For kitchen systems, the goal would be to limit the electrical draw to a single 3 kW on-board generator. This requirement severely limits the use of all electric appliances. All appliances must run on Army standard JP-8 fuel. Ability of appliances to run on other diesel or JP fuels is desirable as well.

c. Unit Vehicle – Single vehicle transportable appliances must be able to be transported by a single vehicle with one trailer attachment. This means that all appliances must be able to fit in trailers or back of vehicles. Trailer Kitchen Systems must be towable by LMTV or MTV.

d. Man-portable Appliances: All appliances will be capable of being lifted and moved by two to three personnel (four at the absolute)

e. Stand-alone Operation: All appliances must be able to function as standalone units.

f. Standardized Appliance Sizes and interchangeability: All appliances should be designed with a standard size in mind. This allows for easy interchangeability as well as easy design of appropriate transportation/trailer sizing.

#### **5. ELIGIBILITY**

The Army Food Advisor Equipment Innovation Award 2011 will recognize achievements accomplished and projects completed for FY 2011. The Army Food Advisor reserves the right to present awards within each category only if a nomination shows merit.

a. Individual: (The individual must be a Food Service Personnel).

b. Organization: Each organization can have a max of five personnel per team; at least 50% of the members must be Food Service Personnel.

#### **6. HOW TO APPLY**

a. To nominate an individual, organization, or project for the Army Food Advisor Equipment Innovation Award, please complete the online application at [http://www.quartermaster.army.mil/jccoe/Special\\_Programs\\_Directorate/Special\\_Programs\\_main.html](http://www.quartermaster.army.mil/jccoe/Special_Programs_Directorate/Special_Programs_main.html)

b. Submit your proposal addressing your ideas for either individual kitchen appliances/components and/or ideas for complete kitchen systems. For individual appliance/components entries, the idea should focus on the design of appliances or small system of two or three appliances, such as a particular oven, cook top, refrigeration, and/or sanitation equipment, etc. In addition, ideas for components of appliances can be submitted, such as burners or fuel systems, or non-appliance components such as serving tables and cabinetry or storage.

c. For complete kitchen systems, the idea should focus on the modular approach as a whole and contain the design for a complete field feeding system or designs of a field feeding system, such as a kitchen trailer or based camp setup. Complete kitchen system designs may also contain novel refrigeration and sanitation system ideas.

d. Entries may be submitted in any form that conveys your ideas for the above topic. Particularly, this could be in the form of a narrative, drawings, sketches, or a combination of the aforementioned. Submit anything that you feel helps explain your ideas for the award.

## 7. EVALUATION

a. All inquiries will be forwarded to the JCCoE Food Service Equipment Division (FED) to ensure minimum requirements are met. All validated packets will be reviewed and judged by a panel that consists of the Army Food Advisor, Food Service Equipment Division (FED) and SCOE, Material Systems Directorate (MSD).

b. The top three selected packets will be forwarded to Natick for final judging. All scores will be calculated and the winners will be chosen and notified. All entries will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. **Modularity** (30 points). As an integral part of the Modular Field Feeding mission, the modularity of a system or component is a necessity. The two most important aspects of the modularity are the scalability and standard sizing of the system or components. The following questions should be considered when implementing modularity initiatives:

- a. Can a system that is used for 50 men be scaled up for 500?
- b. Can an appliance be swapped out with another to suit the needs of the mission?
- c. Can the equipment be used with all field-feeding systems? Is it interchangeable?

2. **Transportability** (30 points). The second mission of the Modular Field Feeding is to bridge the boundary between tactical field feeding and base camp-managed field feeding. The following questions should be considered when implementing transportability initiatives:

- a. Can the system be used to feed Soldiers at a base camp or at a remote feeding location?
- b. Can the same equipment be taken off a kitchen trailer and set up in a stationary kitchen?
- c. Can the equipment itself be easily moved out to remote 50 man outposts?

3. **Feasibility** (20 points). The following questions should be considered when implementing feasibility initiatives:

- a. How feasible is the proposed system? Is it realistic does it require a large amount of funding and research?
- b. Does it build on pre-existing technology?
- c. How easily can the system be implemented?

4. **Reliability/Maintainability/Ease of Use** (20 Points). It is necessary to consider how reliable or maintainable a system is, as it facilitates use in the field, and makes the system more viable. The following questions should be considered when implementing reliability/maintainability initiatives:

- a. Would the system or component be easy to maintain?
- b. Would it be reliable? Does the system need extensive training to operate?
- c. How difficult would it be to repair (both in terms of manual labor and in terms of parts acquisition) can it be repaired at the operator level?

5. **Bonus Points:** Creativity (10 points). How unique is the solution? Innovative solutions are often good ideas.

c. The individual and group entry with the most points will be the winner of within each category. Applications are due NLT DEC 30, of the current year. Announcement of winning innovations will be made in summer 2011.

## 8. AWARDS

a. Individual – The Army Food Advisor Trophy and the Department of the Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM).

b. Group (the group will consist of Soldiers from the same ACOM)-The Installation or ACOM will receive a Plaque from the Quartermaster General, an engraved model of the winning system will be presented to the Organization by Natick. Each member on the team will receive the Army Food Advisor Trophy and the Department of the Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM).

c. Both the individual and Group Award winner will have the opportunity to correspond with the engineering team (Food Service Equipment Team, Product

Manager – Force Sustainment Systems and the Combat Feeding Directorate) at Natick throughout the development of their initiative.

d. Awards will be presented at the 2011 Quartermaster Symposium Annual Conference at Fort Lee, VA. Funding for participants to support travel to and from award presentation will be provided by JCCoE.

Note\* Anyone who designs a system that extensively improves performance; reduces cost; labor, and time savings will have their product submitted into the Army Suggestion Program for determination of acceptability into the Army program.