



US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

# BLAST INJURY RESEARCH PROGRAM COORDINATING OFFICE

## Protective Equipment Pelvic Protection System (PPS)

The PPS is a two-tiered system designed to provide protection against ground-based IED blast events, and is provided to every Service Member deploying to Afghanistan. The PUG is worn next to the skin, and provides protection of the pelvis, femoral arteries, and lower abdominal organs in a blast or fragmentation event. The PUG also reduces the penetration of dirt and fine debris into a wound area to help prevent infections. The groin area of the PUG has enhanced ballistic protection that offers greater protection to reproductive organs, and the PUG has femoral ballistic inserts that are designed to protect against larger fragments. The POG is worn over the Army Combat Uniform trousers and provides fragmentation protection for the pelvis and lower abdominal organs. The POG provides the same level of overall fragmentation protection as the Improved Outer Tactical Vest. Previous field data clearly shows that the PPSs prevent serious injuries to the pelvic region and is saving lives. PM SPE continues to leverage all Service Member input, feedback, and ongoing PPS assessments, along with working with industry to ensure the constant evolution and incremental improvements of pelvic protection and to improve the overall user acceptability and rate of wear by reducing the aerial density and weight, while striving to improve ballistic performance. These improvements have already influenced requirements for the next generation of pelvic protection, which is a component of the SPS.