Protective Equipment

Head Protection

Product Manager Soldier Protective Equipment within the US Army Program Executive Office (PEO) Soldier has developed the Integrated Head Protection System (IHPS), a subsystem of the soldier protection system (SPS) for head protection, with an integrated maxillofacial protection subsystem comprised of a removable mandible and visor (Figures 1 to 3). The IHPS maxillofacial protection subsystem protects mounted Service Members, such as turret gunners, from common blast fragments. The IHPS also leverages the lessons learned from research completed in conjunction with the University of Nebraska at Lincoln to effectively mitigate blast overpressure (BOP) events under operationally relevant threat scenarios. The IHPS provides head protection, to include face, from blast wave and fragmentation from blast and ballistic threats and therefore will provide superior protection from a wider variety of explosive threats than any previously issued standard combat helmet. Milestone C authority approved the IHPS for low-rate production in the fourth quarter of FY16.