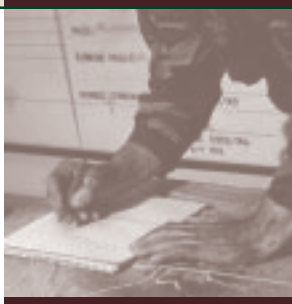
Electro-Optic Fabrics for the Future Warrior



Foster-Miller has developed and integrated network devices into wearable soldier garments, and fabricated and successfully demonstrated narrow, flexible electro-optic buses with overmolded end connectors that can be applied to existing garments to act as a personal area network. Other textile cable successes include an advanced electro-optic webbing for a body-borne antenna system. Ongoing work is providing fully functional textile networks to support the Scorpion and Objective Force Warrior soldier garments and is developing a textile network tactor suit to address pilot disorientation. Foster-Miller is focused on the materials and ergonomic issues associated with providing effective connections and networks, while also meeting the demanding durability and comfort requirements of its military and industrial customers.

One of these commercial products – the Malden Mills Polartec Heat® blanket – is a new electric blanket system which looks and feels like soft Polartec® fleece, but hidden inside are tiny fiber heating elements. Foster-Miller provided the textile network power bus and connections to the elements for this product.

PHASE III IMPACT

- Using this technology developed by Foster-Miller, Malden Mills sold 17,000 blankets generating over $3,383,000 in sales.
- Nearly $1 million in commercial and Government Research and Development funds.
- Foster-Miller is also providing textile networks for developing products at Xybernaut, Technology Enabled Clothing (TEC), several foreign militaries, and more than 10 private commercial customers.