

BLEEDING SYSTEM FOR WOUND TRAINING



Retrofitting a mannequin with FEBSS System (above)

A body-worn FEBSS System (below).



“FirstLink approached us with this novel training device. It is an excellent addition to our existing line of rescue, emergency medical systems and components.

*Bud Calkin
Vice President and General
Manager, SKEDCO, Inc.*

SKEDCO, Inc. of Tualatin, OR is commercializing a technology to provide enhanced realism for medical responders learning how to treat bleeding wounds in the field. The device, initially titled the Field Expedient Bleeding Simulation System (FEBSS), was the invention of Army Medic Trainer Sgt. Lynn Randall King, whom felt the existing training tools didn't recreate the stress and difficulty of real life hemorrhage control in the field. These prototypes can simulate several concurrent wounds, either mild or severe, from a venal nick to a pulsing arterial hemorrhage. Units are suited for retrofitting of typical mannequins already in use, or the systems can be worn by personnel in a role-playing exercise.

Commercial devices resulting from the license of this Army technology, which is the subject of several U.S. provisional patent applications, were enhanced under a Cooperative Research & Development Agreement between SKEDCO and the Army. Both agreements were negotiated by the US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command's Office of Research and Technology Applications. The intended products are of great interest to military medic trainers. FEBSS may also benefit civilian first aid responders. Colonel Patricia Hastings, Director of the Department of Combat Medic Training at Fort Sam Houston, demonstrated the use of the FEBSS in hemorrhage control classes due to the realism it offers.

FEBSS is easy to operate, inexpensive, and relies on commercial, off-the-shelf components such as pumps, valves and clamps. The simulated bleeding can be manipulated on the fly in response to the effectiveness of treatment delivered by the trainees to the victim.

Live casualty simulation is the easiest and most effective way of conducting medical training in field and classroom environments. Training realism can help the medics prepare for what may be a shocking first sight for some, preparing them to take appropriate action with minimal delay in the line of duty. Effective training is especially important given that a high percentage of fatalities and disabilities result from delays in effective hemorrhage control.

The Department of Combat Medic Training (DCMT) at the US Army Medical Department and School serves as the proponent for the 68W Health Care Specialist and the Army Emergency Medical Service, providing the Army with highly motivated and disciplined Health Care Specialists (Combat Medics).

FirstLink is the Department of Defense's National Center of Excellence for First Responder Technologies, supporting first responder needs through the development of commercial pathways between Department of Defense Science & Technology, private industry and universities.

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