



Eastern National Robot Rodeo (ENRR)

August 8-12, 2022; Crawfordsville, Arkansas



Description

The use of advanced robotics in public safety and military bomb squad communities has grown significantly over the past few decades. As technology increases, bomb technicians need to better understand capabilities and limitations of these systems in order to align industry research and development (R&D) with needs of responders based on real world applications. The ENRR brings together experienced operators from military and public safety bomb squads to evaluate new and emerging robotic capabilities in real world operating environments. In partnership, the Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC); the Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Office for Bombing Prevention (DHS CISA OBP); the Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head Division (NSWC IHD), Sandia National Laboratory (SNL), and the United Kingdom Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (UK-Dstl) is sponsoring the 6th annual ENRR. The event is hosted at the Tier 1 Group (T1G), near West Memphis, Arkansas with support of the United States Bomb Technicians Association (USBTA).

The ENRR exposes active members of military and public safety bomb squads to new products and technology, while providing real-time feedback (i.e., as part of an Operational Evaluation) to event facilitators sponsors and supporting vendors. Captain Eric Correll, NSWC IHD Commanding Officer, *“While all EOD operators and bomb technicians who attended this event took part in some well-deserved competition and camaraderie, the experience and lessons learned from all involved primes EOD and bomb technician training*

and technology for the future. Events such as the ENRR combine the operator with the latest in EOD technology, creating user feedback and data collection that readies all partners for real-world and future EOD scenarios.” This multi-agency event provides opportunities for participants to network with other bomb technicians and exchange information on tactics, techniques, and procedures.

Scenarios

Participants will have an opportunity to utilize various robotics technology in a myriad of complex urban scenarios designed to replicate commonly encountered threats across the nation. This includes the following:

- IED and VBIED Disablement
- CONOPS – Joint (DoD – Public Safety) Event
- TTPs – Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures
- Transportation – Planes, Trains, and Automobiles

Eastern National Robot Rodeo

Colonel John Tryon, AFCEC Det 1 Commander, *“All of our Air Force civil engineer missions are important and critical, but EOD in particular is perhaps the most dangerous, so having these technologies that the operators are able to do more stand-off investigation/interrogation/mitigation of these explosive hazards, it keeps our Warfighters out of harm’s way”*

Brigadier General Bill Kale, Air Force Director of Civil Engineers, stated *“It’s very important as civil engineers that we stay on the cutting edge of technology. We need to make sure that whatever we decide to procure or what we’re looking at, that we can innovate it and/or improve our readiness.”*



Eastern National Robot Rodeo (ENRR)

August 8-12, 2022; Crawfordsville, Arkansas

Events

The Eastern National Robot Rodeo is a multi-day, multi-event technical competition. Potential scenarios and demonstrations:

- Vehicle-Borne IED
- Robot Mounted X-Ray Systems
- Multi-Robot Operations
- Clandestine Lab
- Zero Visibility Operations
- Disruptor Operations
- Small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUAS)
- Heavy, Medium and Light EOD Robots
- CBRN Response
- Autonomous Navigation
- Subway/Tunnel Operations (Subterranean)
- Dual Arm Manipulation
- Virtual/Augmented Reality Training

2021 Eastern National Robot Rodeo

Winning Teams

- First Place: USMC, Camp Lejeune, NC
- Second Place: USMC, Camp Lejeune, NC
- Third Place: USAF, Andrews AFB, MD



Benefits

- Exposure to new and emerging robotics technologies
- Challenging operational environments
- Vendor engagement – direct feedback from teams and sponsors
- Identification of new technology requirements/needs
- Modeled after real-world events and scenarios
- Allows teams to push capability boundaries
- Provides networking opportunities
- Identification of robotic capability shortfalls
- Enables early development of training techniques when using new technologies

Additional Information

<https://www.usbta.us/events> or
<https://www.usbta.co/events>

Eastern National Robot Rodeo

Start Date: August 8, 2022 End Date: August 12, 2022
Hotel information will be posted on the USBTA website.