Strategic Operations Inc. Hyper-Realistic® Moulage Kit Advance Training Course

Researchers from the U.S. Naval Health Research Center studied Marines training at the Infantry Immersion Trainer (IIT) on Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton in California. Naval Health researchers evaluated training participants for stress reactivity, mitigation, and inoculation. The researchers measured salivary cortisol and alpha amylase levels in Marines prior to – and after – immersion in this Hyper-Realistic® environment. Preliminary results in this on-going study found that the “acute stress response to the IIT training is substantial”. Salivary hormone levels also indicated that this type of “training provided a stress inoculation effect.  

“Nothing speaks to how effective your products are better than real life situations, we recently had a line part during a replenishment at sea resulting in six casualties. The most severe of these were partial bilateral leg amputations and a four inch scalp avulsion. The other Sailors on site were not in the medical field but had completed training utilizing the moulage from the combat wound kit (now know as the Hyper-Realistic Moulage Kit - HRMK). Bystander actions were calm, smooth, and most importantly correct. While debriefing the crew, it was mentioned repeatedly how they were not scared to perform any interventions because they had “seen it before”. If you ever had any doubt if your products save lives, you can put that thought to bed … there are four sailors alive today because of the time and effort you put into making the most realistic training aid possible.”

– a U.S. Navy Chief

Advances in medical modeling and simulation over the last few years have brought unprecedented realism to military training. It has long been known that larger numbers of casualties occur within the first several combat missions. Fear of the unknown, lack of adequate preparation, and the unexpected account for these statistics. The introduction of “Hollywood-style” special effects has enabled military training scenarios to achieve such a high degree of fidelity in replicating the “fog of war” that participants “willingly suspend disbelief” that they are not in a real situation. The goal of making the first mission no worse than the last simulation is becoming achievable. By bringing modern technology and proven techniques of the movie industry together to create training scenarios in a safe – Hyper-Realistic® – environment, where lessons can be learned without the real-world consequences. The result is a better prepared warfighter, law enforcement officer, or 1st responder.

Strategic Operations Inc. (STOPS) is pleased to provide advanced instruction in the techniques of how best to safely and effectively utilize the Hyper-Realistic® Moulage Kit (HRMK) – creating Hyper-Realistic® wound simulations that will enhance any training scenario. Many organizations are constantly dealing with reduced training budgets. This course draws on the many years of experience of the STOPS’ Professional Special Effects Make-up Team and will provide the Training Audience with the knowledge and tools required to employ the HRMK in support of day to day training scenarios reducing

1 Stress Reactions and Mitigation in Immersive Training,” 31 March 2009, Paul Miller, MD, MS.
those training costs and allowing high profile/final exercises to continue to be supported by Professional Special Effects Make-up Artists.

The two day STOPS’ HRMK Advance Training Course* conducted at the STOPS’ Facility in San Diego, CA will delve deeper into the more complex capabilities of the HRMK; as well, it will instruct the Training Audience in specialized techniques developed by the STOPS’ Special Effects Make-up Team to successfully execute everything from a single casualty with multiple injuries to a mass casualty training scenario.

This course will review all topics covered in the Basic Course and further advance the Training Audience’s knowledge and capability of creating significant wounds using additional materials and supplies that are available to them on a regular basis or those “moulage” items previously purchased by the unit. Individuals will also work towards coordinating and executing a Hyper-Realistic® scenario, which will provide them the tools to assist in the accomplishment of Unit Training Objectives.

**DAY 1**

- Introductions and Administrative Notes
- Review of the Basic Course
- Introduction to Gelatin Effects
- Gelatin Lab - Sleeves
  - Burns, Amputations, Shrapnel Addition, Lacerations
- Introduction to “Brown Bag” Effects
- “Brown Bag” Effects Lab
  - Glue
  - Oatmeal
  - Bread crumbs
  - Tripe & Brains
- “15 Minute Effects” Lab
- Mannequin Introduction
- Mannequin Effects Lab
  - Sleeves

**DAY 2**

- Scenario Brief
- STOPS Village Familiarization
  - Pyro Introduction
  - Amputee Actor Introduction
- Mannequin Effects Lab Continuation
  - Wardrobe
- Amputee Actor Lab
- Wardrobe Lab
- Scenario Execution
- Clean-up/Care & Maintenance
- Graduation/Certificate

*The two day STOPS’ HRMK Basic Course is a pre-requisite for the Advanced Course.*