



MINNESOTA DEFENSE
A Division of Minnesota Wire

Press Release
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Military Interconnect Solutions

Minnesota Defense Contributes to U.S. Army's "HULC" Program

St. Paul, Minnesota: 3/12/2010 – Minnesota Defense this week began providing critical interconnect assemblies for the U.S. Army's "HULC" exoskeleton prototype for Soldiers. HULC (Human Universal Load Carrier) will be used by the U.S. military to help warfighters carry heavy combat loads. The high-technology, wearable system integrates with existing body-borne equipment and Soldier apparel. Its key feature uses a unique titanium structure for the Soldier's legs that effectively absorbs weight without a loss of mobility.



Minnesota Defense is providing the signal and power coil cord interconnect for a key sensor in the leg assembly for the HULC system's prototype. The company's defense division is leveraging its robust program management and total systems solutions expertise to produce a sophisticated interconnect assembly. Much of the division's capabilities have been developed by past work on critical Department of Defense (DoD) programs, including Land Warrior, Future Force Warrior, Air Warrior and numerous ground combat vehicle systems.

It is expected that the HULC system's engineering properties will have uses beyond the defense market. Minnesota Wire continues to take unique design solutions and lessons learned on key DoD programs to the industrial and medical markets.

Minnesota Defense, a division of Minnesota Wire, is a vertically integrated, custom manufacturing and development house for ruggedized wire, cable and interconnect assemblies to the Defense and Homeland Security markets. The company is a market and R&D leader in: electrical signal integrity; mitigating triboelectric effects; radio-translucent wire; and innovative connections for wearable electronics, patient monitoring systems and leading-edge medical and defense devices.

The 30,000 square foot headquarters and development center in St. Paul, Minnesota boasts full R&D lab facilities. Another high-volume, 58,000 square foot focused-cell, lean production facility is located in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Minnesota Wire is ISO 9001: 2008 certified, ISO 13485: 2003 compliant, ROHS compliant, and is a MIL-STD and IPC-620 certified harness manufacturer.