



*Technology Work Session for the South African Army; Hosted by the CSIR*

# FULL SPECTRUM PROTECTION



## **Ballistic and Explosive Device Protection**

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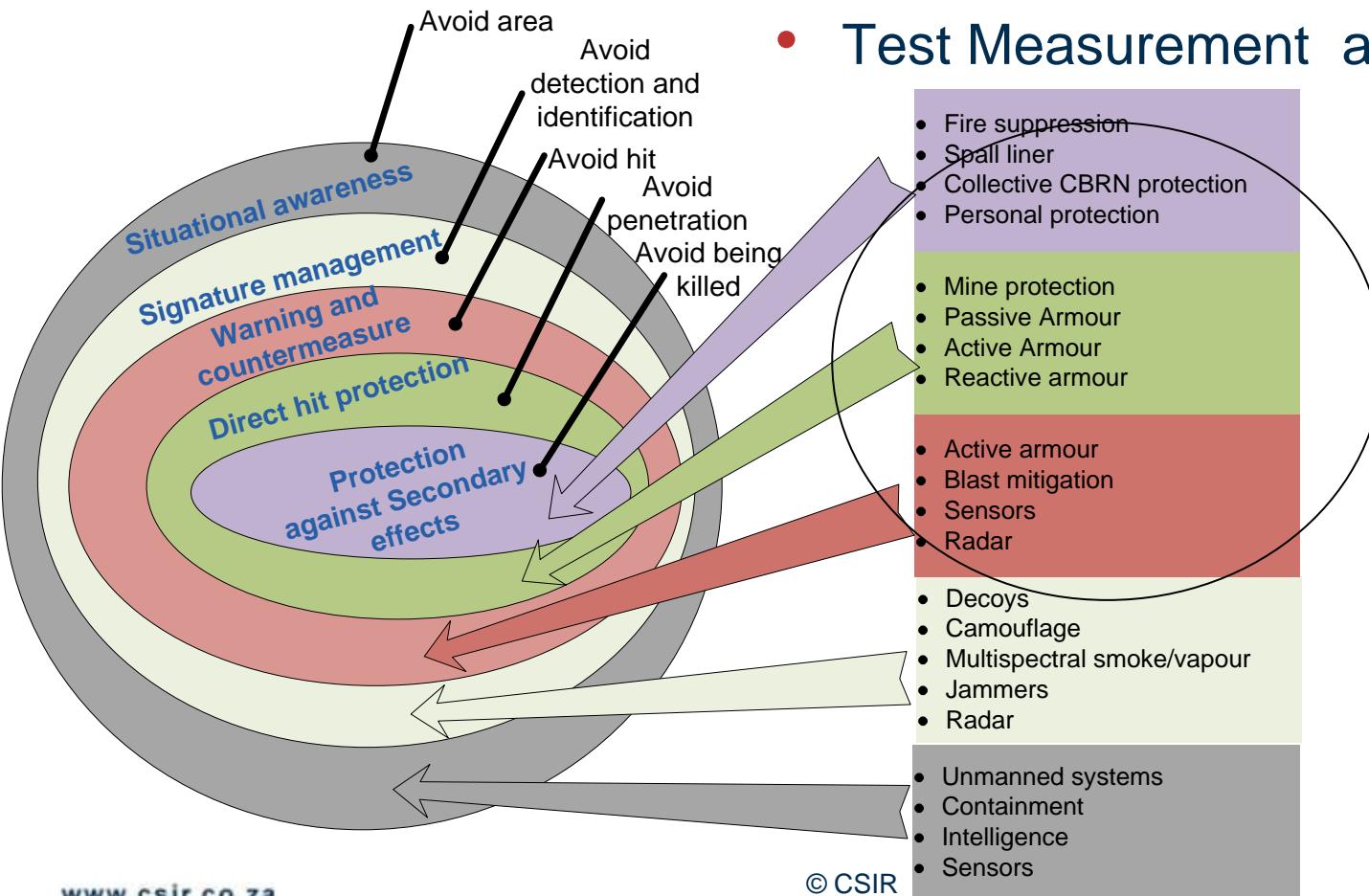
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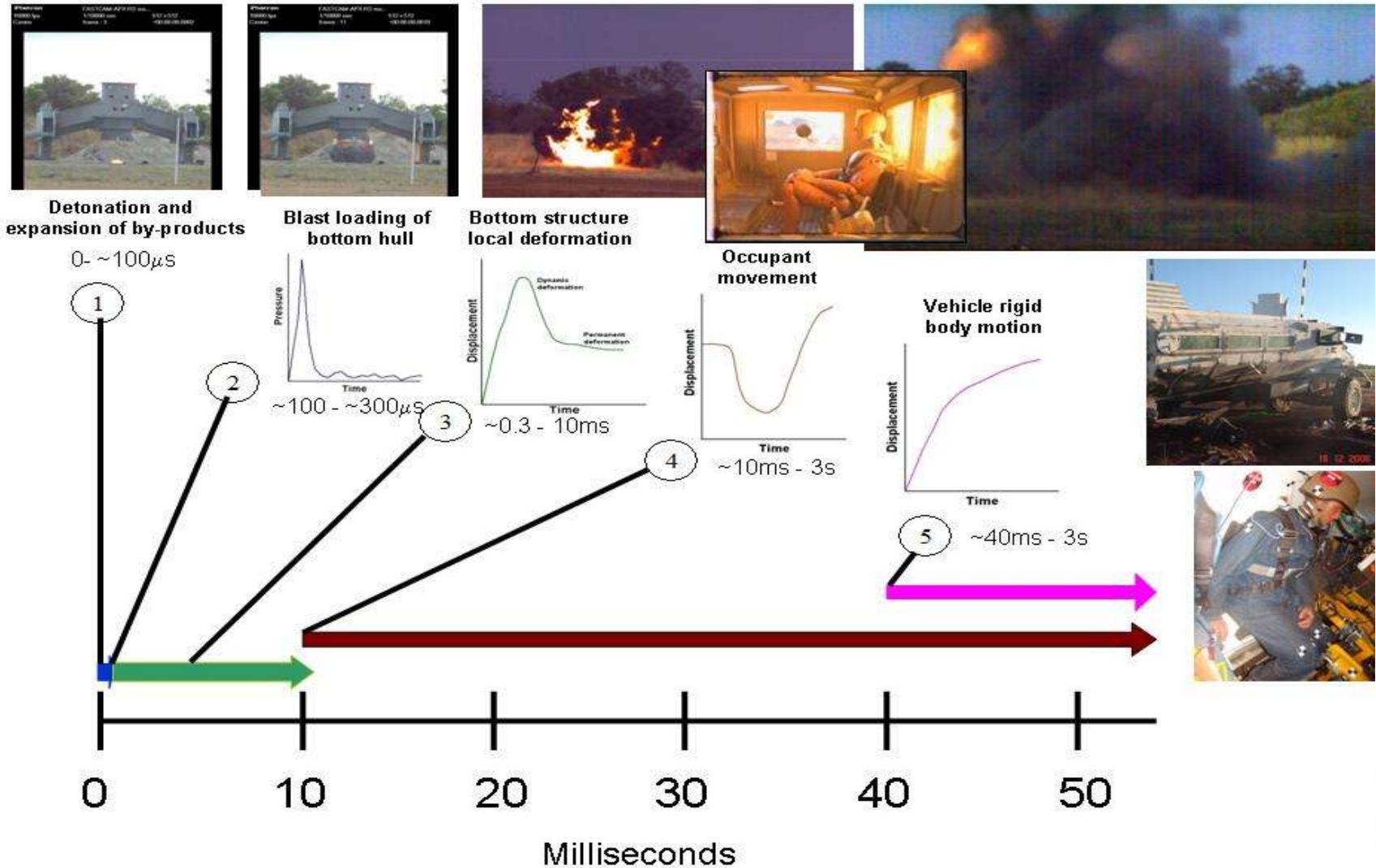
# OUTLINE

- Landmine and blast IED protection
- Ballistic protection
- Test Measurement and Evaluation



# Landmine and IED protection - timeline

Time line of landmine detonation, structural and human response



# Landmine and IED protection



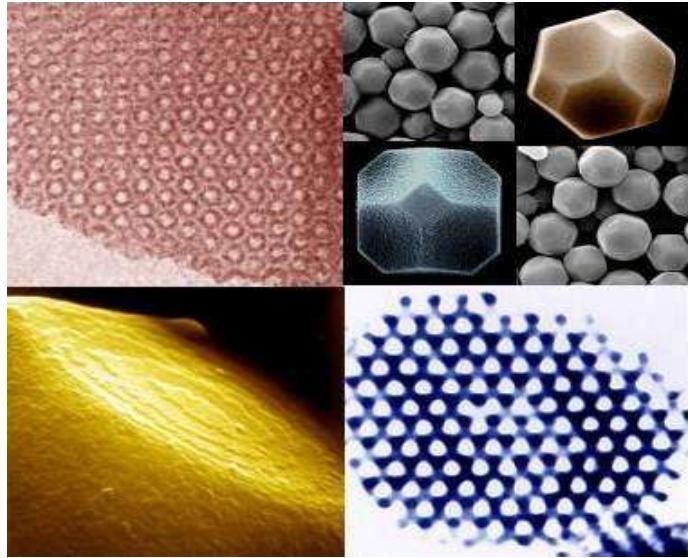
- Passive protection
  - Measures installed on the vehicle
  - Shape
  - Design guidelines of the 70's
- Active protection
  - Detect explosion
  - Optic and electromagnetic
  - Activate protection measures



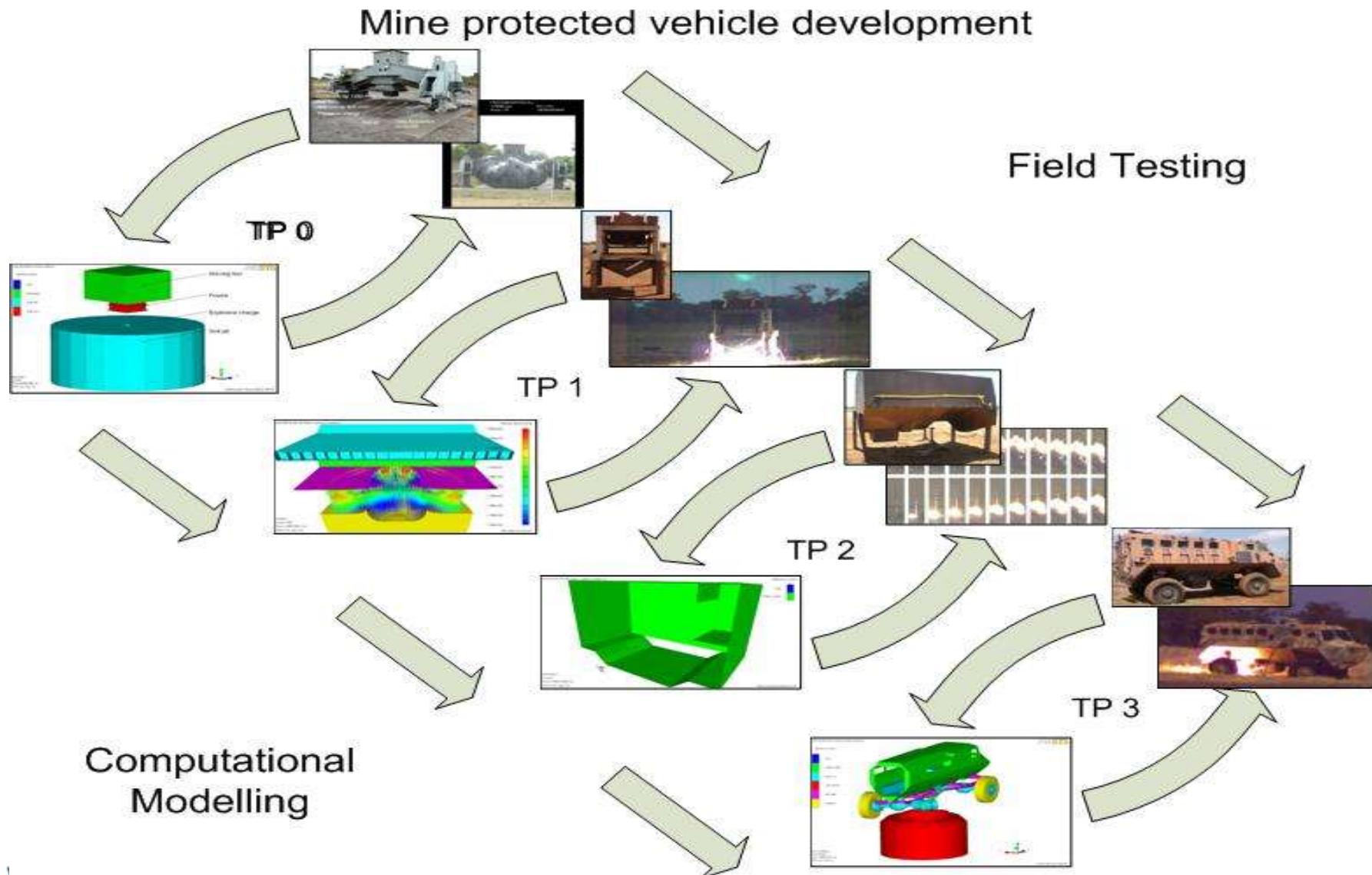
# Landmine and IED protection – Technology trends



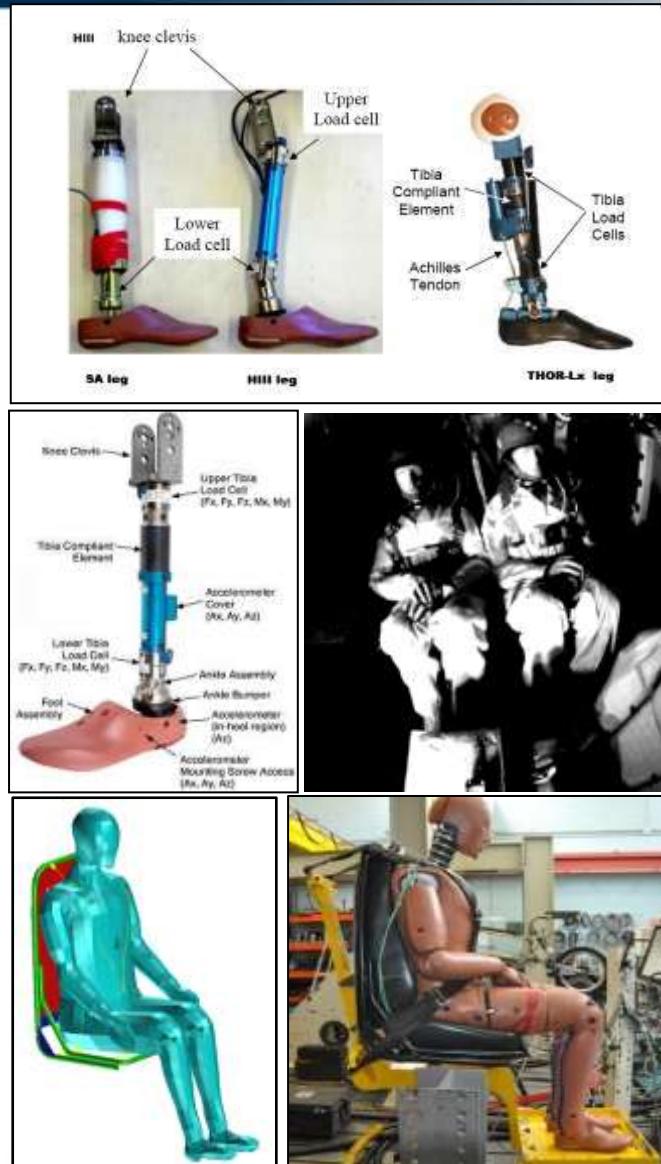
- Manufacturing techniques
  - Laser manufacturing
  - 3D printing
- Materials
  - ARMOX, WELDOX and DOMEX steel types
  - Composite materials from fibre metal laminates to nano-materials



# Landmine Protection Development Process



# Landmine protection of occupants

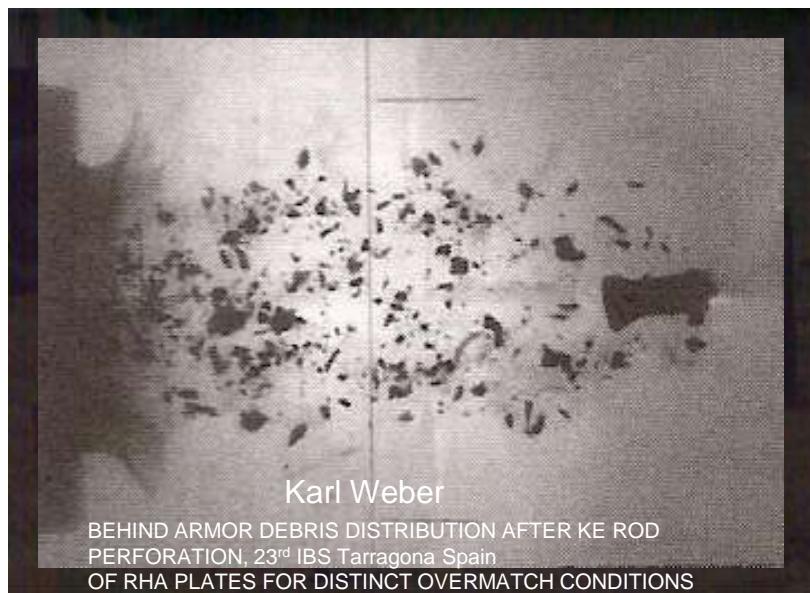


- Human Injury Criteria
  - Most current injury criteria developed through frontal motor vehicle crash accidents
  - Substantially shorter time durations
  - Vertical loading rather than frontal
  - Various legs developed for ATD
  - Extensive research still in progress
- Seat development
  - Critical component of protection
  - Limit transfer of accelerations
  - Test series on vibration and impact

# Ballistic Protection

- Threats

- Shaped Charge warheads (RPG, missiles, etc)
- EFP Warheads and IEDs
- Kinetic Energy Projectiles
  - APDSFS
  - Heavy machine gun rounds
  - Small arms
- Fragmentation warheads
  - Artillery shells
  - Mortar shells
  - Grenades



# Ballistic Protection



- Vehicle Protection
  - Shift from 30° frontal arc armour to all round protection due to asymmetric conflict scenarios
  - Three possibilities :
    - a. Passive
    - b. Reactive
    - c. Active
  - Passive currently not practical for lighter armoured vehicles protection due to mass limitations
  - Reactive armour is mass efficient but has collateral damage signature and not effective against all ballistic threats
  - Active armour is researched extensively. Effective against most threats but expensive.

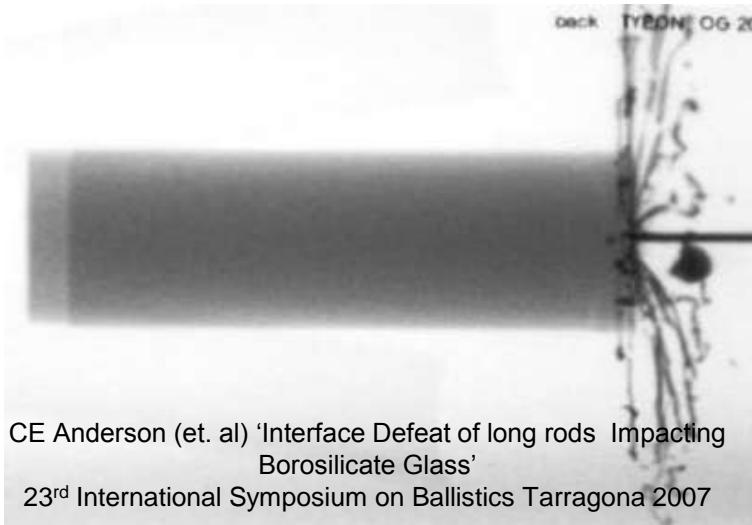
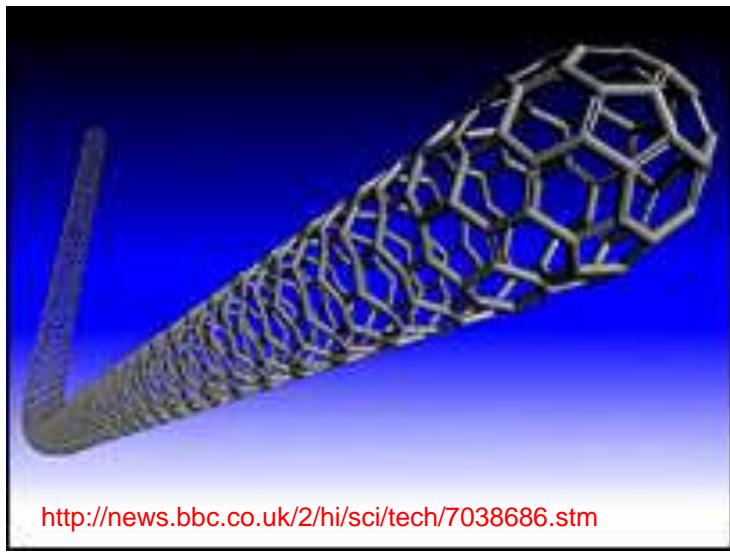
# Ballistic Protection - Other



- Structures and positions
  - Bases and buildings
  - Control and check points
  - Ammunition depots
  - Deployed positions
- Personal Protection
  - Helmets
  - Light weight body armour
  - Bomb disposal gear
  - Equipment for crowd control
  - Anti-personnel mine boot



# Ballistic Protection - Technology trends



## Materials

- Drive to lighter and stronger for all round protection
- Very hard steels
- Ceramics, titanium, polymers and glass
- Nano-materials, Metal-matrix composites
- Fibres with thickening shear fluids
- Rheological liquid armour, amorphous metals
- Fibre-reinforced concrete for structures

## New Concepts

- Electric and magnetic armour (active)
- Active intervention methodologies
- Interface defeat ceramic armour
- Transparent armours

# Test, Measurement and Evaluation



- Equipment
  - Harsh environment (only one opportunity to measure)
  - Short time duration (in microseconds)
  - High sampling rates
  - Highly qualified and experienced personnel
  - SIIMA, Emily, Cordin, Flash X-Ray
- Landmine validation testing
  - Limited support capability to local industry
  - Test standards
    - RSA-MIL-STD-37 Issue 3
    - AEP-55 Volume 2 Edition 1
  - Evaluate engineering designs against blast loading effects

# Thank You

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