SAFETY ALERT

5th Armored Brigade
SAFETY GRAM

Mishap Synopsis

While conducting MRAP Egress Training (MET) in the MAXXPRO MRAP CAB at Fort Bliss, Texas, an OC/T Soldier performing duties as assistant operator-controller/trainer received an electric shock when attempting to plug in the rear ramp switch box power cable resulting in brachial plexus disorder, a permanent partial disability to the left arm.

The rear ramp switch box power cable is LIVE at all times. The shutoff is up front inside the enclosed battery box and therefore not practical to access.

Recommended Corrective Actions:

• DPTMS install a power disconnect switch between the battery pack at the front of the machine and the external ramp operator switch at the back of the MET.
• Add a strain relief to the back of the power cable connector (stainless steel mesh that grips the cord securely to the backshell). This would prevent the cable from fraying due to normal wear and tear.
• Add heat shrink to the outer power cable connector to provide additional insulation to the operator.
• Operators wear dry electrical-insulating gloves when plugging in cable.
• Post a sign saying: Danger Hazardous Voltage. Contact may cause electric shock or burn. Wear hand protection before operating.

This accident is currently under investigation.