

MITIGATION - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ADVANCES FOR CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL HAZARD MITIGATION

Next Generation Expeditionary Infrastructure: ATHENA

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Access to rapid, reliable, and accurate laboratory analysis of local conditions is critically important to decision makers in every type of environment. Rapid-on-site analyses and infrastructure enable rapid threat specific mitigation decisions. From commanders evaluating CBRNE threats in theater to doctors triaging patients in remote villages, prompt situational knowledge is mission critical to both preventing the spread of pathogens and minimizing the contamination zone. In many scenarios, the existing laboratory which could provide such analysis is located too far away to provide results in an acceptable response time. Building a closer traditional laboratory is often impractical due to high cost, construction duration, or mission duration. One solution is to deploy a mobile laboratory system with trained professionals who can rapidly setup and process the samples locally. The labs also support the ability to rapidly stand up mobile decontamination lines, bringing best-in-class safety and containment to the field.

In order to better support two of MRIGlobal's largest priority markets, Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction and Infectious Disease/Biological Threat Detection, MRIGlobal completed a ground-up redesign and build of the mobile lab and infrastructure system concept. Codenamed Athena, after the Greek goddess of wisdom, strength, and strategic warfare, this new container provides a greatly enhanced mobile laboratory workspace capable of rapid worldwide deployment. The redesigned platform is custom built from the ground up to eliminate the limitations involved with modifying a shipping container into a lab. This allows for an enhanced structural design and better insulation to provide a more ergonomic workspace better protected from harsh environmental conditions. Athena brings the gold standard lab to the field.