



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICE SOLDIER
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INFORMATION PAPER

SFAE-SDR
03 February 2023

SUBJECT: Information Paper on Female Urinary Devices

Purpose: Provide a written response to the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in Service (DACOWITS) March 2023 Request for Information (RFI) 7: Women in Aviation.

1. **Background:** In December 2022, via RFI 5, the Military Services briefed DACOWITS on the updates to properly fitting personal protective equipment (PPE) and combat equipment for women.

2. **Discussion:** As a follow-up, the Committee requests a written response from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard to provide more information on female in-flight bladder relief systems (IBRS) and/or female urinary devices, to include the following:

a. **Question 7a:** Current in-flight bladder relief systems (IBRS) or female urinary devices available to servicewomen, as well as options being evaluated. Provide pictures with detailed explanations.

b. **Response 7a:** The Army does not have the In-flight Bladder Relief System (IBRS); however, it has provided the Female Urinary Diversion Devices (FUDD) through the Rapid Fielding Initiative (RFI) to deploying Female Soldiers since 2016. There are two versions of the FUDD: the Freshette and the SheWee pictured below.



NSN: 4510-01-470-2805
(FRESHETTE)



NSN: 4510-01-F05-2837
(SHEWEE)

Program Executive Office Soldier

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c. Question 7b: Provide the roadmap for implementation by FY23, broken down by quarter, annotating major milestones (e.g., initial production, final mass production, availability across the Services, and expert training).

d. Response 7b: The Army has been fielding these devices to all deploying Female Soldiers since FY16.

e. Question 7c: What is the planned funding and who is the specific Office of Primary responsibility (OPR)?

f. Response 7c: Rapid Fielding Initiative funding is planned annually based on the projected number of deploying Soldiers and further resourced by HQDA-G8. PEO Soldier is the OPR for individually fielded Soldier RFI items.

g. Question 7d: What is your Service's plan to disseminate IBRS or female urinary devices (e.g., supply chain)?

h. Response 7d: The FUDD are distributed alongside of all Rapid Fielding Initiative equipment to female Soldiers prior to their deployment.

i. Question 7e: What training is provided once IBRS or female urinary devices are sent to installations?

j. Response 7e: Training is not required.

Program Manager Soldier Survivability
Approved by: Program Executive Officer Soldier