



Preliminary Credibility Assessment Screening System (PCASS): A Status Report

Defense Academy for Credibility Assessment (DACA)

Tuesday, April 08, 2008



Background

- Highly automated
- Minimal training requirements
- Well understood sensors and testing techniques
- Ruggedized platform
- Development under contract by CIFA
 - COTS Platform: Ranger handheld computer
 - Lafayette Instrument: Operating software, peripherals
 - Applied Physics Lab: Algorithm



Capabilities

- Rapid initial personnel screening (triage)
- Laboratory studies: decisions 80% - 92% accurate, excluding inconclusives
- Weighted algorithm
- Field assessment in Iraq and Qatar
 - About 40 minutes per exam
 - Training and internship are adequate
 - Positive customer survey responses



The Way Ahead

- Briefings to Congress, media
- Acquisition of PCASS units
- Training in Iraq for initial standup
- Establish programs
- Establish oversight



Limitations

- For initial screening only
- Physiological recording
 - Testing room
 - Examinee health and physiological state
 - Close adherence to test protocol

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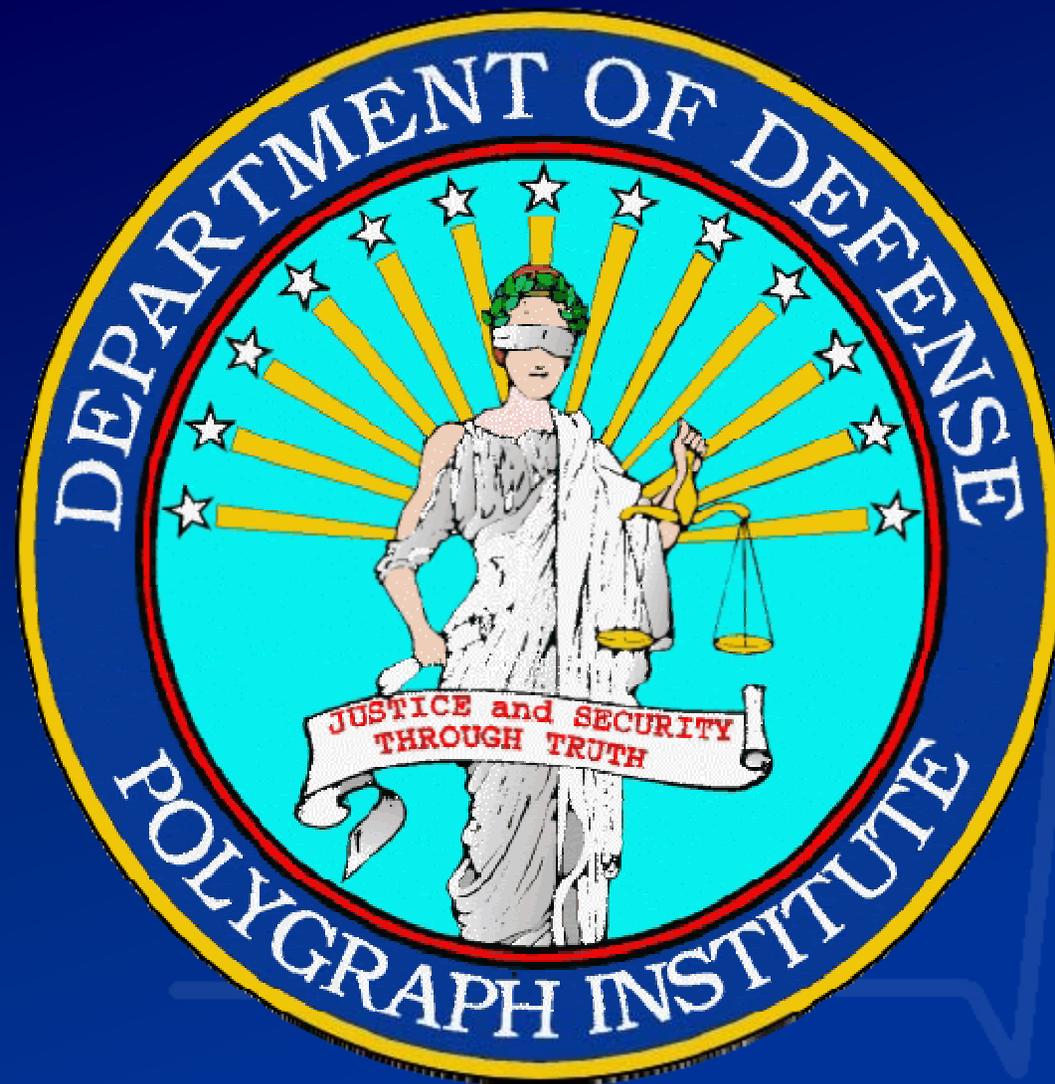


Discussion

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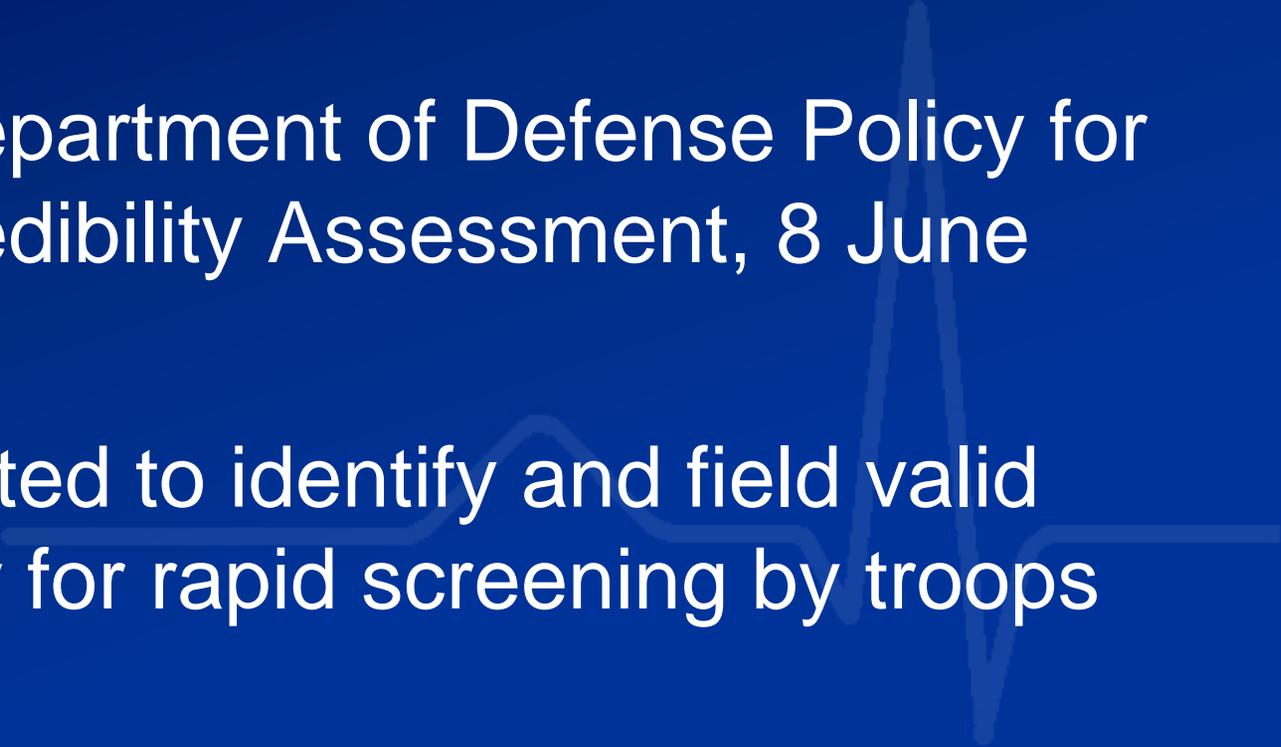
Department of Defense

Polygraph Institute

PRELIMINARY CREDIBILITY ASSESSMENT SCREENING SYSTEM (PCASS)

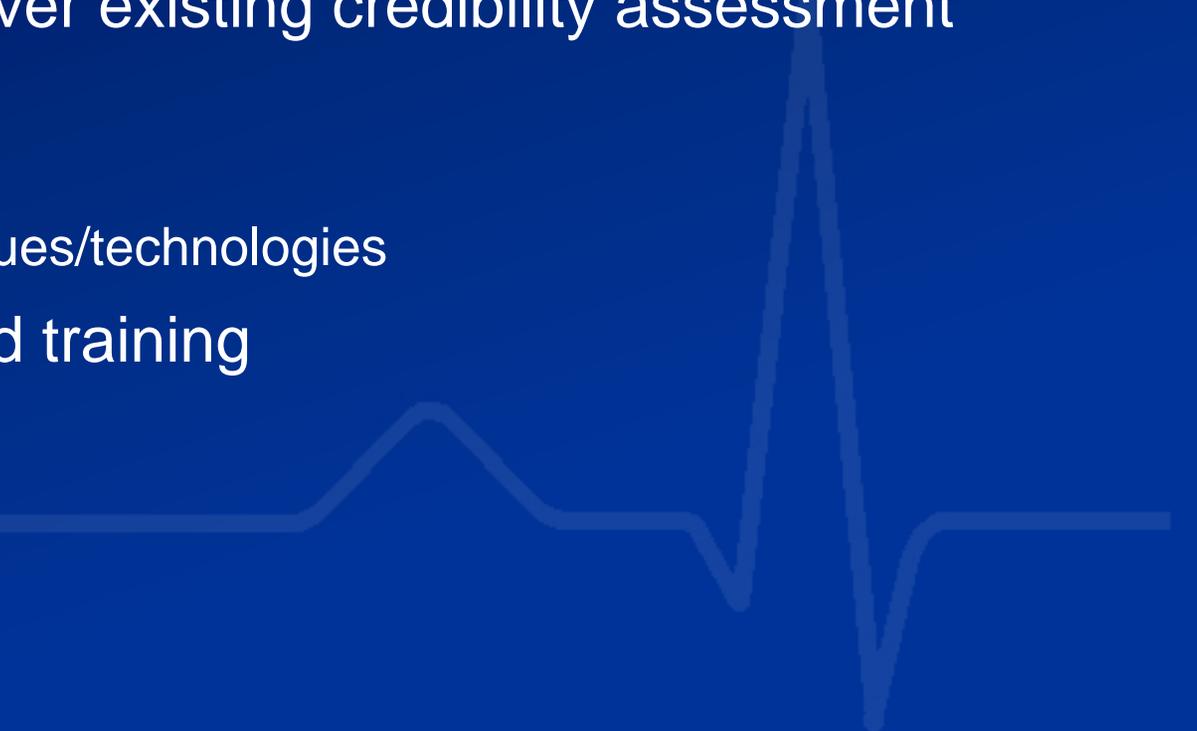
Background



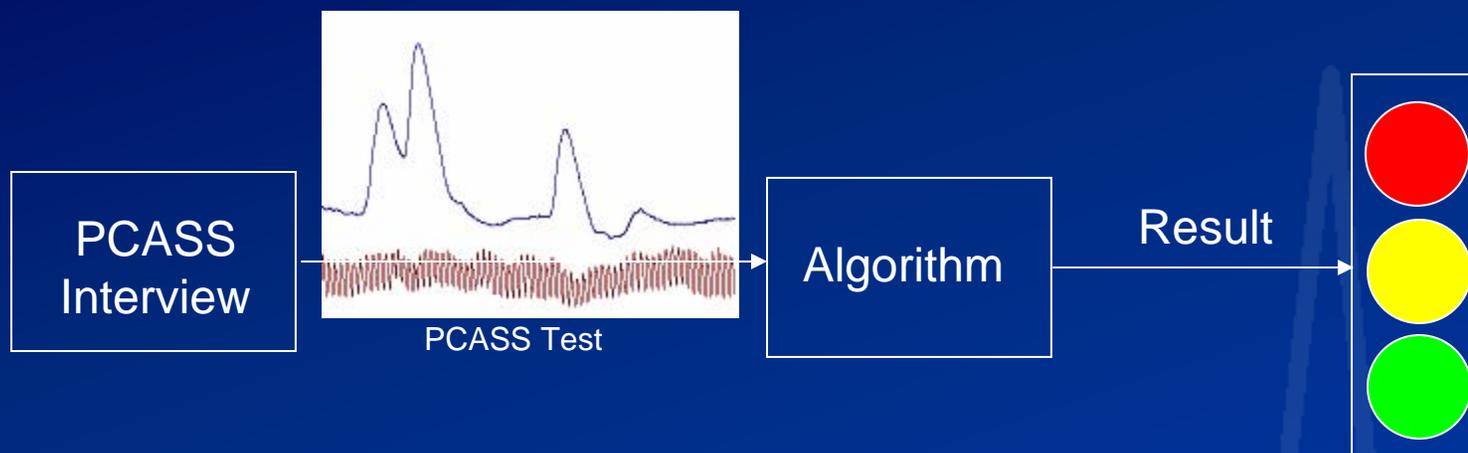
- Need for aids in determining credibility
 - Use of unvalidated technologies by the DoD
 - Interim Department of Defense Policy for “Truth” Credibility Assessment, 8 June 2004
 - CIFA directed to identify and field valid technology for rapid screening by troops
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Concept of Operations

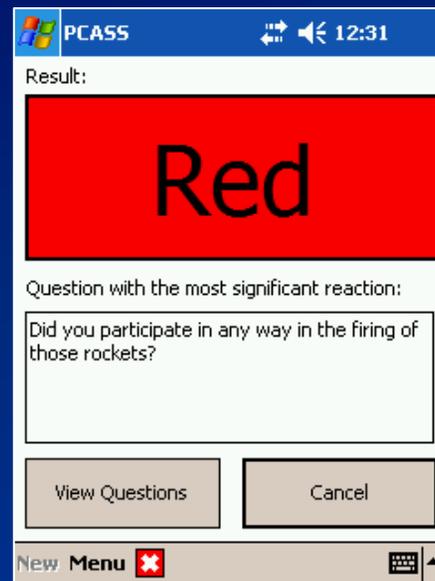
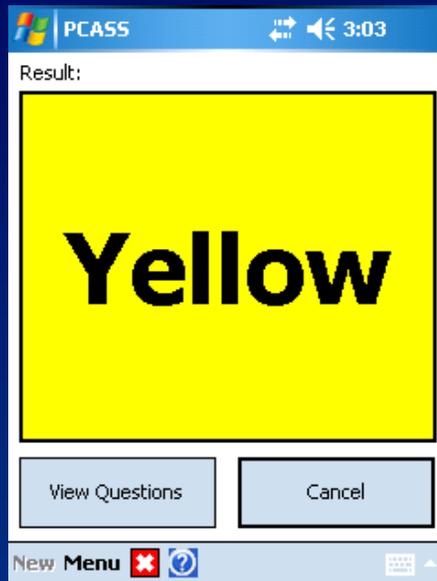


- Provide an initial screening system:
 - Decision assistance to triage detainees, prisoners or persons of interest for further processing
 - Improvement over existing credibility assessment systems
 - Intuition
 - Invalid techniques/technologies
 - Requires limited training
 - Field operable
 - Highly portable

Conceptual Overview

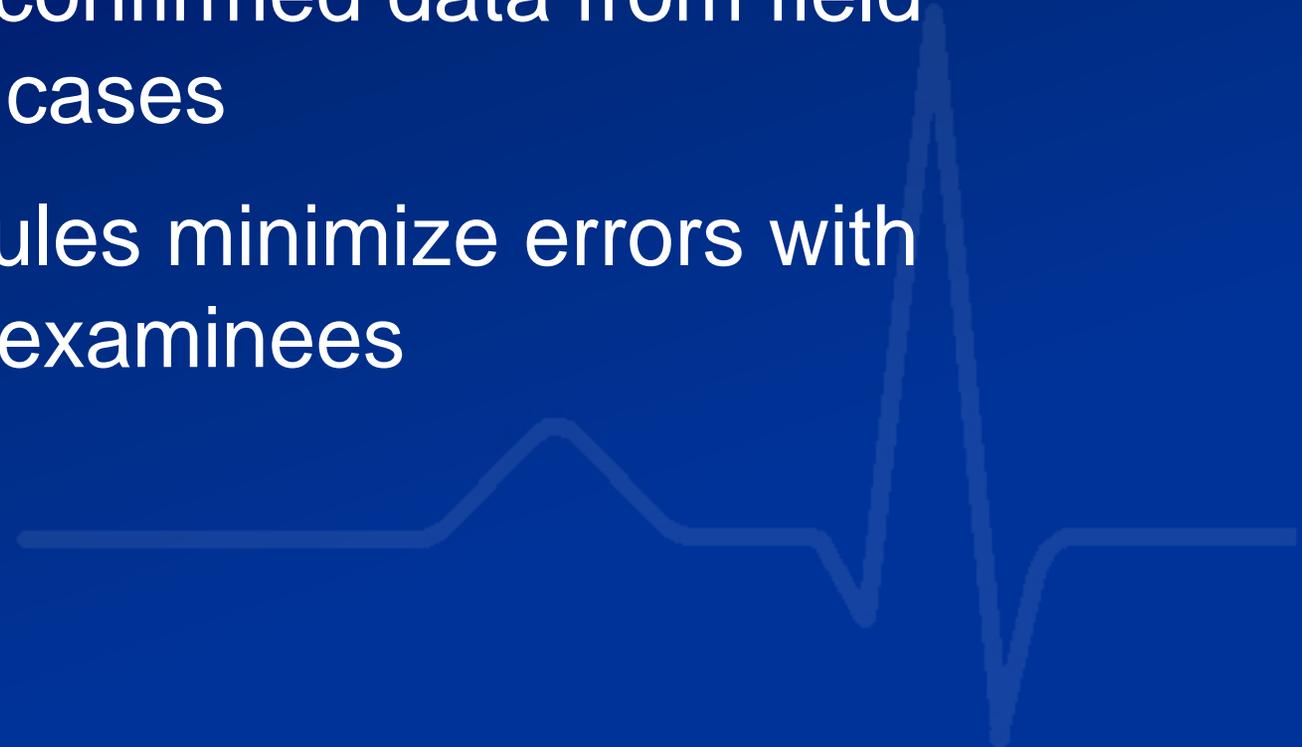


Decision Screen



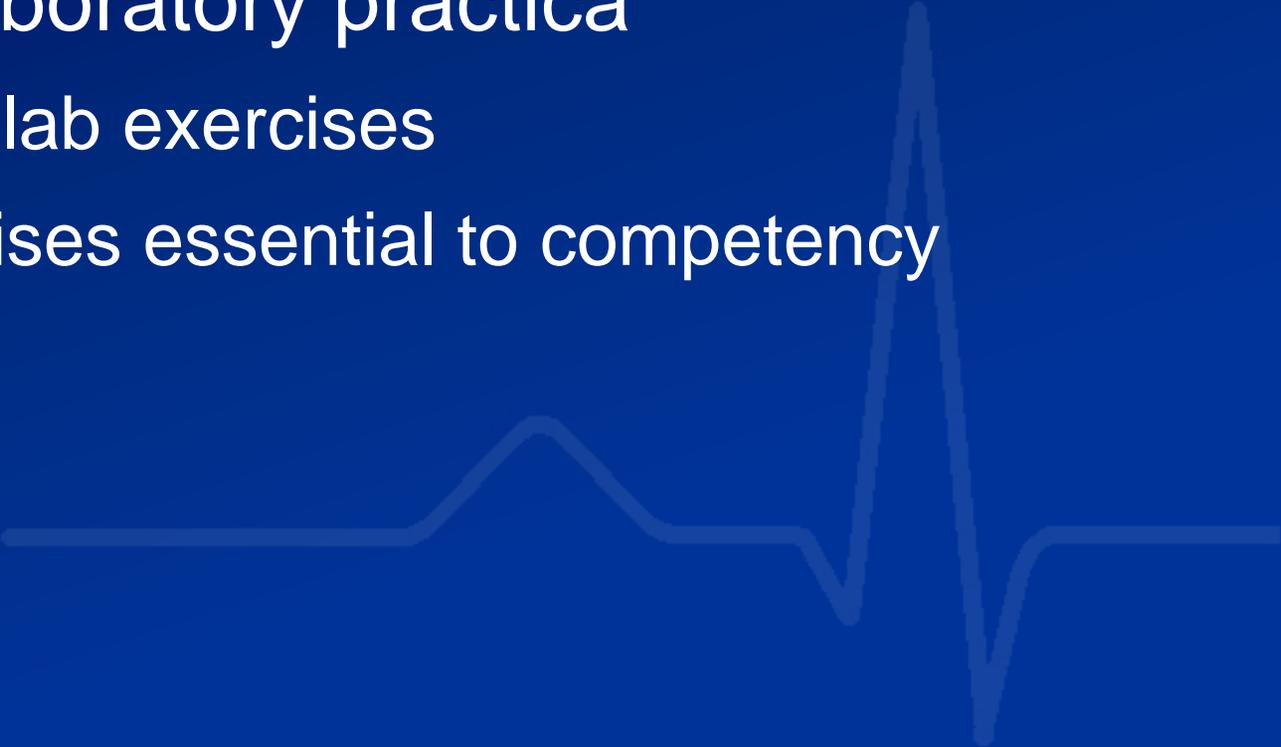
PCASS Algorithm



- Contractor: Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory
 - Based on confirmed data from field polygraph cases
 - Decision rules minimize errors with deceptive examinees
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40-Hour Training Course



- 24 hours of classroom instruction
 - 16 hrs of laboratory practica
 - 8 or more lab exercises
 - Lab exercises essential to competency
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Limitation



- PCASS is only for initial screening
 - Generally, adverse results should be followed up with other methods



A yellow ECG line is positioned horizontally across the upper portion of the slide. It starts as a flat line on the left and transitions into a single cardiac cycle on the right, featuring a P wave, a sharp QRS complex, and a T wave.

Discussion

