**Objective**
- Evaluate Branson Ultrasonic Cutter to decide whether or not it is worth purchasing.

**Method**
- Compared ultrasonic cutter to foam/rubber cutter and scissors
- Cut each fabric in stock with both UC and foam/rubber cutter or scissors, and used a spreadsheet to rate ease of use, cutting rate, and edge finish

**Blade Life/ Cutting Rate Test**
- Purpose:
  - Identify blade life with respect to distance cut
  - Quantify UC and foam/rubber cutting rate, and compare
- Procedure:
  - Drew out ten 18" lines on a 2" by 2" piece of HX-23, performed 6 trials and recorded time with stopwatch
  - Measured distance cut after each trial and by 7th cut, blade was deemed past its lifetime
  - Repeated process with foam/rubber cutter

**Analysis**
- **Ease of Cut**
  - Chart showing comparison between different cutters
- **Cutting Rate**
  - Chart showing comparison between different cutters

**Analysis (Continued)**
- **Edge Finish**
  - Chart showing comparison between different cutters

**Conclusion**
- Ultrasonic Cutter created a superior edge and was less physically demanding
- However, blade life was extremely low making the use of the cutter inefficient

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**
I would like to thank Kevin Seijas from TMI for lending us the hardware, and Dan Molligan for his guidance.

This work was funded by TACOM.