

## Executive Summary

Minnesota National Guard - 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division – “Red Bulls”  
and the Defense Alliance of Minnesota  
“Delta-Red Initiative” \*



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## Background

Notwithstanding basic security requirements, victory in Iraq will ultimately be measured by the Iraqi peoples' organic ability to sustain basic infrastructure needs, including water supply and purification, a stable agricultural base and power generation. Localized success in those areas has generally been short-lived due to lack of comprehensive planning and execution that helps guarantee sustainability. There is a critical need to reverse this trend.

## Initiative Overview

To address this need, members of the 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division of the Minnesota National Guard (the “Red Bulls”) are spearheading an effort with the cooperation of the Iraq Coalition’s Provisional Reconstruction Team in the 34<sup>th</sup> I.D.’s area of responsibility (AOR). The “Delta-Red” Initiative aims to achieve the following:

- Identify critical, basic infrastructure needs in localized areas of Iraq, such as agricultural needs, water purification and medical equipment
- Determine equipment and training requirements for those needs
- Identify corporate donors to provide equipment and training
- Provide installation and robust training for long-term success of infrastructure projects
- Spark sustainable infrastructure that will lead to supporting business development
- Replicate the process throughout Iraq by building on initial successes

## Requirements & Timeline

Once the basic needs of the pilot project are determined by the end of summer 2008, the *Defense Alliance of Minnesota* and select units of the “Red Bulls” will seek out willing corporate donors that can provide equipment, and lengthy on-site installation and training. One or more pilot projects will be identified before the next deployment cycle of the 34<sup>th</sup> I.D. in early 2009.

## Summary

The Defense Alliance of Minnesota believes that the Delta-Red Initiative represents an example of “**nation building**” in its finest form. Identifying critical needs, providing the right equipment and ensuring a comprehensive training strategy that will lead to sustainable business development will be a key to the long term freedom and security of Iraq and its people.

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\* The term **Delta-Red** was selected for its connotations of change (Delta) that can be foreseen for Iraq through infrastructure development and training; and as a tribute to the “Red Bulls” and the unit’s leadership in bringing peace and security to the region (Red).

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## Points of Contact

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