

# Fact Sheet

## COLD REGIONS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION ANALYSIS CENTER

Department of Defense Information Analysis Centers (IACs) are formally chartered to collect, analyze, synthesize, and disseminate scientific and technical information in clearly defined, specialized fields or subject areas. IACs leverage the productivity of scientists, engineers, and technicians in the defense community by responding to technical inquiries; publishing state-of-the-art reports, conference proceedings volumes, and data reports; performing technology assessments; and generally supporting technical information exchange.

The U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL), established in 1961 and located in Hanover, New Hampshire, is the only U.S. Government laboratory whose primary mission is cold regions science and technology. Nowhere else in the country does there exist as extensive a program of research in cold regions construction, mobility, ice engineering, environmental aspects of cold, and properties of snow, ice, and frozen ground. CRREL's assets include many of the world's foremost cold regions scientists and research engineers, as well as a compendium of worldwide scientific literature and data.

In recognition of CRREL's unique mission, the Laboratory was designated in 1974 as the site of a Cold Regions Science and Technology Information Analysis Center (CRSTIAC). The CRSTIAC's information-gathering and processing operations are centered on the Cold Regions Bibliography Project, which the Laboratory and its predecessors have sponsored for the past 47 years at the Library of Congress. Since 1951 more than 225,000 technical documents have been microfiched and indexed in this information system. Approximately 6,000 new documents are added annually. Each year, the *Bibliography on Cold Regions Science and Technology*, with computer-generated author and subject indexes, is distributed in hard copy to more than 300 addresses. A CD-ROM version is available as *Arctic & Antarctic Regions* from NISC in Baltimore, Maryland. The complete *Bibliography* is also available for searching on the Web (<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/scitech/coldregions/welcome.html>). In its several forms the *Bibliography* supports worldwide technology transfer during peacetime and provides ready access to needed information during military mobilization. Limited interlibrary loan is available from the CRREL library.

CRREL's 120 researchers are continually reviewing the scientific literature to analyze and evaluate information on cold environments, in conjunction with the reporting of their own original research results. Technical monographs, manuals, and reports on cold environments science and engineering are published and distributed worldwide. New digital electronic dissemination technologies, video, and various multimedia techniques contribute to the total modern technical communication picture. At CRREL, all of these services are performed under the umbrella of the Cold Regions Science and Technology Information Analysis Center. The Laboratory's TIAC building houses all information management professionals under one roof, thereby enhancing their ability to gather and consolidate the world's accumulated knowledge of cold regions. The CRSTIAC is available to provide information retrieval and analysis to external military, government, and private organizations.

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