

CHOCTAW DEFENSE

McAlester-based Choctaw Defense employs 250 people with branch locations in Antlers, Hugo, Moore and Tulsa. Supporting U.S. Soldiers around the world is a daily mission for Choctaw Defense which operates under the theme “Built for the Battlefield.”

Their products include all-terrain trailers, Battle Damage Assessment and Repair (BDAR) kits which are used on the battlefield to make repairs on damaged Army vehicles, ground support equipment such as space heaters, pollution control equipment and most recently, Medium Tactical Vehicle Replacements, or MTRVs, all-terrain vehicles used by the U.S. Marine Corp and U.S. Navy for off-road conditions.

Choctaw Defense’s ability to manufacture their products to military specifications and their membership in the Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance are waypoints on the road to success for the 25-year-old firm which began as a supplier of military shipping and storage containers for Texas Instruments.

Today, the company has 15 major customers and manufactures a wide range of defense and aerospace support equipment. Customers include the U.S. Army, Marine Corp, Navy and Air Force, as well as key defense suppliers such as Raytheon, Lockheed-Martin and Boeing.

Products including the “Improved Army Space Heater,” the MTRV’s for the Marine Corp and the “Camel II” potable water trailer system have established Choctaw Defense in the world of “performance contracting.”

CEO Steve Benefield says his firm’s tenacity is what sets Choctaw Defense apart. He cites a talented driven team and a vision of success ingrained into the company’s culture.

Choctaw’s transition from sub-contract work to prime contractors allows them to set their own destiny. Creating revenue for the Choctaw Nation and providing job opportunities for their tribal members is a high-level mission.

In 2015, Choctaw anticipates adding a new product line, Choctaw Defense Munitions, which will begin production of ammunition projectiles for the Italian firm Fiocchi and the commercial reloading market.

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