



What is a Stryker Brigade Combat Team?

The Stryker Brigade Combat Team – or SBCT – is an infantry-centric unit with 3,600 soldiers that combines many of the best characteristics of the current Army forces and exploits technology to fill a current operations capability gap between the Army's heavy and light forces.

The SBCT is capable of conducting missions across the range of military operations, and it provides combatant commanders increased operational and tactical flexibility. The Army designed the SBCT to be operationally effective in low through high intensity combat operations. The SBCT's key operational capabilities include:

- 1) increased operational and tactical mobility
- 2) enhanced situational awareness and understanding
- 3) combined arms integration down to company level
- 4) lethal and non-lethal joint effects



The SBCT's capabilities differ significantly from those found in traditional divisional brigades, primarily due to an impressive array of units organic to the SBCT. In addition to its three infantry battalions, the SBCT has a cavalry squadron for reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition (RSTA), a brigade support battalion, a field artillery battalion, a military intelligence company, an engineer company, a signal company, an anti-tank company, and a headquarters company. Traditional infantry brigades are only organized with these capabilities for large training exercises or for war. In the SBCT, these units train together year-round.

The SBCT leverages advanced Command, Control, Computer, Communications, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) systems that enable the brigade personnel to "see" the entire battlefield and react before engaging the enemy. This is commonly referred to as "See First, Understand First, and Act First – and finish decisively, at a time and place of our own choosing." The SBCT's all weather intelligence and surveillance capabilities, together with its digitized systems, enable it to maintain 24-hour distributed operations on a non-contiguous battlefield against traditional and asymmetric adversaries throughout an area 50 x 50 kilometers.

To achieve decisive action in various types of terrain, including urban settings, the SBCT possesses a combined arms capability at the company level. Stryker Brigade companies are standing combined arms teams consisting of: A Mobile Gun platoon, Mortar platoon (consisting of 120mm and 60mm mortars), Forward Observers, sniper team and 3 Infantry line platoons. Designed to achieve decisive action through dismounted infantry assault, companies support themselves with enhanced organic direct fires from their vehicle-mounted primary weapons systems, as well as indirect fire support from mortars and artillery.

SBCTS also provide valuable insights for future transformation. The SBCT trains agile and adaptive junior leaders and soldiers today to be the Objective Force leaders of the future. Lessons learned in the fielding and operations of SBCTs will provide insights for the doctrine, training, organization and sustainment of the Objective Force.

Combatant Commanders' future threats require forces that can deploy worldwide, where U.S. access is limited, connect to robust command and control networks, and fight and win. The fielding of six Stryker Brigades supports the execution of the Defense Planning Guidance, and enables the Army to provide the right force to the right place at the right time.

