



# ON PARADE The Contractors

Meet The Contractors, this month's featured team. In their own words they are a bunch of like-minded guys who: *"Have enjoyed war games for years. Some of us are fond of tactical gear and some of us are interested in real tactics. Put that all together and that makes us - The Contractors."*

The team formed in the summer of 2004 and see themselves as a US-themed Blackwater trained team of Contractors, hence the team name.

Blackwater USA, put simply, is a private military company that has set up a global presence offering training and tactical solutions. Its client base includes the US Departments of Defence and State, plus friendly governments throughout the world.

The 30-strong HK-based Contractors are strictly Mil Sim operators, preferring limited ammo games over the normal type of skirmishing the majority of us are used to playing here in the UK.

*"We do promote realism and real tactics in our game; i.e. we have tried the incident command system in some pre-set scenarios. We use homemade smoke grenades that we use in sniper counter-sniper tactics. Sometimes we limit the ammunition to 60 rounds per person when playing mission games. We also have a 'Medic' system; i.e. when someone is hit, he can resume and go back to the field after the designated doctor/medic has reached him and put a patch on him."*

As far as the hardware is concerned, each team member has, on average, five AEGs (M4 variants), while one team member has over 20 M16 series AEGs in his collection.

The team are self confessed gear fanatics who have forgotten how much they have collectively spent over the years but, by the looks of their tactical wardrobe, it's got to be thousands. All we can say here at AI is: *"How much?!"*

We think you would have to agree they look great and it's money well spent. We can safely say these guys are something a bit special, leaving their followers far behind in the realism race. Never before have we come across such a unified team who are as passionate about airsoft as their appearance.

The skirmish site these guys call home is situated in Yuen Long, some 40km north west of Hong Kong. It is operated by a former British soldier who has trained these hardcore players ever since the team was formed.

The team believe the tactical training has given them the edge in skirmishes. When pressed they would not tell us how many games they have won but we were informed that the team play and train at least twice a month.

Words: Paul Monaf  
Photography: Courtesy of the Contractors



that's what it's all about.

To be honest, this bunch of slick operators would comfortably be at home on the "So you Wannabe..." pages. Their impressions are quite simply stunning and by far the best the AI crew have come across to date.

We had to do it - their PJ impression is quite simply amazing, the best we have ever seen - so we'll find out how the Contractors pulled off the look in a future "So you Wannabe..." feature, but for now just kick back and admire this amazing... I've said it again... Okay, let's rewind....

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It's so good we had to say it twice  
The boys seem to have a hectic social life



The Contractors agree that their hardcore attitude to Mil Sim is rare, even by HK standards, but recently the boys have noticed a move away from the so-called 'grab a flag' type scenario games and are heading towards Mil Sim, which can only be a good thing for this bunch of lads.

The team consider themselves as professional players on the skirmish field with standards of 'fair play', behaviour and appearance.

*"We believe that if we conduct ourselves well on the field this will portray a professional image, which will enhance our appearance. When we feel good we look good."*

We at AI can't argue with that. There's no point looking the part and not being able to play. It comes as a package, ladies and gents. Looking the part and playing the game well:

off the skirmish field. We were informed that the team members enjoyed going with each other, but we're sure that meant going out together, for meals, theatre and the movies. Who cares what they do off the field as long as they keep setting new standards in impressions. It will most certainly keep the rest of us gear fanatics on our toes.

The Contractors have their own website, which is full of stunning photography. Drop by, say "hi" and tell them you were sent by AI. The guys would love to hear from you.

URL: <http://www.contractorswgt.com/>  
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