

## Glitter Boy

Written by Andrew Binning

Monday, 14 September 2009 18:04 - Last Updated Monday, 14 September 2009 18:40

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The Glitter Boy environmental suit was the first fully field operational power armor to be deployed by the US military. The unit is an amazingly small and mobile, one person, armored robot vehicle. The robot suit stands approximately 10 feet tall (three meters) and offers fully articulated hands and the mobility of the human body. As such, it is considered an all terrain vehicle. The super-dense chrome armor is constructed on a molecular level and can withstand more mega-damage than any other robot created since.

The robot frame is nearly indestructible, resilient, and virtually maintenance free. The armor shielded joints and padded pilot's compartment enables the machine to absorb impacts and cushion its pilot. It is also one of the few robots or power armor designed to comfortably accommodate a pilot for days or even weeks if necessary. A refrigeration unit holds 10 gallons of drinking water, while another contains a high protein, multi-vitamin nutrient paste (about a four weeks supply), as well as a few other storage compartments where additional food or personal items can be contained. However, it is not recommended that the pilot remain inside the cushioned and air-conditioned unit for more than 24 hours at a time. The operator must exercise or muscles will begin to cramp and stiffen, especially the legs, which are the most restricted. Prolonged inactivity enclosed in the Glitter Boy or any armor (3 or more weeks) will also reduce muscle strength. Periodic walks, exercise, and activity outside the body armor will prevent loss of muscle tone and strength. The Coalition State of Free Quebec is the only kingdom within the Coalition that manufactures and deploys Glitter Boys, a policy that will be discontinued if Emperor Prosek has anything to say about it (he seeks a consistent and unified force and GBs are not part of his plan). However, for the time being, Free Quebec deploys and maintains several troops of Coalition Glitter Boys and has no plans to eliminate them from their armed forces (and a potential source of conflict between it and the other Coalition States). Free Quebec also maintains a tiny factory that can create as many as a dozen new Glitter Boy suits a month. Other than the factory at Free Quebec and armor that has survived the centuries into the Time of Rifts, there are no known manufacturers of Glitter Boy power armor. However, there has been a sudden proliferation of new looking suits over the last year. Rumor has it that a pre-Rifts cache of Glitter Boy armor was excavated from an old American military installation in the western wilderness and sold by high-tech bandits. However, the Coalition suspects that there is a manufacturing facility in production in the West and intends to find it and destroy it.

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