



## Back Home Again

After seven years with the U.S. Marine Corps and two tours of duty in Iraq, Nevin Garcia now finds himself back home again in Albuquerque, N.M., working for a Fortune 100 company. On April 16, 2007, Nevin — a third-generation Marine — became the newest addition to Northrop Grumman's Learning and Communications Solutions (LCS) group through the company's Operation IMPACT (Injured Military Pursuing Assisted Career Transition) program.

A Marine for Life, Nevin is proud of his reconnaissance field work in Iraq. The Iraqi civilians his battalion came into contact with were extremely grateful for the U.S. military's efforts in their country. Back home in the desert sands of his hometown, Nevin believes he and his comrades made a difference.



Nevin (*far right*) and his team from the 7<sup>th</sup> Platoon 1<sup>st</sup> Force Reconnaissance Battalion just before venturing out for night reconnaissance maneuvers.

It took a significant team effort to create a position for Nevin at Northrop Grumman. Nevin learned about Northrop Grumman's **Operation IMPACT** program — which provides transition support to service members severely injured in the global war on terrorism — through Captain Ben Lopez, the New Mexico representative for the **Marine for Life** program. When Captain Lopez told Nevin about Northrop Grumman's significant presence in Albuquerque, Nevin sought to learn more about the company and **Operation IMPACT**. At the same time, Captain Lopez was bringing Nevin to the attention of Debbie Ortega, Operation IMPACT's Program Administrator. In 2006, at Debbie's invitation, Nevin visited the Technical Services sector's Learning and Communications Solutions (LCS) facility in Albuquerque. After interviewing him, LCS soon decided to hire him.



Nevin R. Garcia, Jr.  
Reconnaissance Marine

As a technical document assistant, Nevin supports all aspects of the LCS organization. Nevin adds, *"I will never forget my war zone experience and the difference I and the rest of my team-company made in this world. I really appreciate the opportunity that I have been given to work here at Northrop Grumman. This is a completely different working environment, going from carrying a rifle to sitting in an air-conditioned room with a lot of creative people."*

**Ivana Starcevic**, Nevin's manager, describes him as bright, capable, curious, willing and organized. *"He has become an integral part of our team in a very short time,"* she says. *"Even though he is still adapting to his new environment, he already actively participates in our creative brainstorming sessions. We are all very excited to have him in our group."*

As part of LCS's standard new employee integration strategy, Nevin has been assigned mentors: **Andrea Gallegos**, graphics specialist/desktop publisher, has been helping familiarize him with the group's processes and procedures, and **Zac Van Note**, interactive designer, has been helping him develop an education plan. *"In the few months Nevin has been with us, he has taken on many new tasks with confidence and gusto,"* said Andrea. *"We value the military experience he brings to our team and look forward to learning from him as much as he is learning from us."*

Never one to sit back and coast, Nevin has already submitted his paperwork to participate in the company's educational reimbursement program. He sees a future in graphic arts and wants to pursue a certification program through the University of New Mexico's Continuing Education program.