Combine Hardlight Fields (CHD) | AEGIS Barrier Systems

Combine Hardlight Deployment (CHD) "Aegis" Barrier Systems

The **CHD "Aegis" Barrier System** is the Combine's standardized deployment of **hardlight-based containment fields** used in urban occupation environments. Leveraging **advanced photon interactivity modulation** and **carbon-fusion lattice support**, the Aegis system enables fast-deployable, semi-permeable energy barriers for urban suppression, corridor denial, and perimeter lockdown operations.

Unlike traditional ballistic barricades or pre-war mechanical gate systems, CHD barriers are **modular**, **impervious to small-arms fire**, and **capable of on-demand deployment**, making them ideal for Combine pacification protocols and transit restriction mandates.

Technology Overview

CHD barriers are composed of **photonic constructs** projected from **paired emitter pylons**, arranged opposite each other at designated field nodes. These pylons generate a stabilized hardlight lattice by:

1. **Amplifying photon binding** through a **resonance field**, increasing the interactivity between photons beyond naturally occurring limits.
2. **Drawing ambient carbon molecules** from the surrounding atmosphere, especially from degraded industrial zones and airborne particulates.
3. **Fusing the carbon** into the photon lattice via **microscale plasma bonding**, resulting in a **semi-permanent carbon fiber matrix** that gives the barrier physical resistance and form.

This hybrid **light-carbon mesh** exhibits strength comparable to pre-war military-grade composite armor plating while maintaining the **inertia-deflecting, massless properties** of light-based constructs.

Field Generator Configuration

Each CHD unit consists of:

- **Dual Phase Emitters (Model: Vx-2F):** Opposed pylons capable of synchronized lattice projection.
- **Power Core (Type-4 Xen Reactor Node):** Supplies a constant field charge; protected from tampering by proximity shielding.
- **Modulation Core:** Determines field behavior, including:
  - **Permeability** (e.g., blocking humans, allowing Combine-encoded IFF signals)
  - **Field polarity** (directional collapse on command)
  - **Decay protocol** (emergency shutdown via administrator override)

Applications in Urban Environments

- **Checkpoint Control:** Used to partition City sectors, enforce curfews, and create compliance choke points.
- **Containment & Quarantine:** Rapidly deployed in response to rebellion hotspots or biohazard contamination events.
- **Crowd Management:** When integrated with Civil Protection formations, Aegis Barriers provide active suppression zones and dispersal corridors.
- **Automated Integration:** Compatible with **Scanner and APC IFF systems**, allowing dynamic barrier behavior based on personnel access hierarchies.

Operational Notes

- Field visibility is **deliberately translucent**, often glowing in blue or yellow hues to induce **psychological compliance** in Citizens.
- Barrier duration is **indefinite** when powered but will **fail immediately** if both pylons are disabled or separated beyond the link limit (~12m).
- Touching the barrier while "red" with unprotected flesh results in:
  - **First-degree burns**
  - **Temporary nervous system disruption**
  - **Short-term amnesia or neurodesync** (in rare, prolonged exposures)

Footnotes

> “Unauthorized access to barrier pylon cores will result in detainment and corrective Re-Education.
> Pylons emit detectable radiation; prolonged exposure without Combine-issued shielding is prohibited.
> Citizens are advised: “Do not touch the barrier. Comply and proceed.”

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