




U.S. ARMY ENGINEERING AND SUPPORT CENTER, HUNTSVILLE



The Bulletin

March 2023



Huntsville Center answers charge
to electrify Army's vehicle fleet

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The U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, engineers adaptive, specialized solutions across a broad spectrum of global enterprise covering five main lines of effort: Energy, Operational Technology, Environmental, Medical, and Base Operations and Facilities



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AND SUPPORT CENTER,
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Commander's Thoughts

“ Although it's several months before we empty out 475 Quality Circle and begin teleworking, the time will be here before you know it. ”



Col. Sebastien Joly

Spring might not officially begin until March 20 with the vernal equinox, but I consider March 1 the beginning of spring. Spring is a time of renewal, growth, and expansion; we feel it in the air. This “feeling” is part of why we practice the spring-cleaning ritual, and I encourage you to exercise that ritual here at the Center just as you do at home.

Now is a great time to begin packing up personal items and taking them home. Although it's several months until we empty out of 475 Quality Circle and begin teleworking, the time will be here before you know it.

As with every spring comes the chance for severe weather. From now through July, roughly 1,200 tornadoes hit the U.S. each year, and they are more prevalent during these months because weather conditions are ideal for tornado formation. The Center's Safety Office conducted a Tornado drill the first week of March. This is a very important step in reminding people where to go and what to do when notified of the possibility of a tornado. I ask all supervisors to review emergency plans with staff and ensure they all know the locations of our severe weather shelters. More information about our severe weather shelter locations can be found on Safety Office's SharePoint Site by clicking on “HNC EMERGENCY PLANS.”

Spring is also a great time to get active. On Valentine's Day dozens of you joined me for a brisk Healthy Heart walk around the Center's main campus to celebrate American Heart Month, a month dedicated to raising

awareness about heart health and encouraging people to take steps to improve their cardiovascular health.

However, taking the time to take care of your physical self should be a year-long process. If you are currently following an exercise program, keep it up. If you have been thinking about getting into an exercise routine, spring is also a great time to begin as the weather is warmer (but not too hot) and the days get longer.

As wonderful as spring is for getting outside, summer is coming soon and many of you will be getting away and enjoying time at the beach and taking summer vacations. Before we get to the summer travel season, ensure your individual work requirements and ongoing projects are squared away and that stakeholders have continuity and reach-back if they need it. Before the summer travel season arrives, I encourage supervisors to bring your teams together and get a good idea of leave schedules and review expectations to ensure the work is covered to ensure a seamless End of Fiscal Year as the crunch usually begins in August.

To observe the difference engineers make in our world, Huntsville Center and the entire U.S. Army Corps of Engineers joined to celebrate 2023 National Engineers Week Feb. 19 - 25.

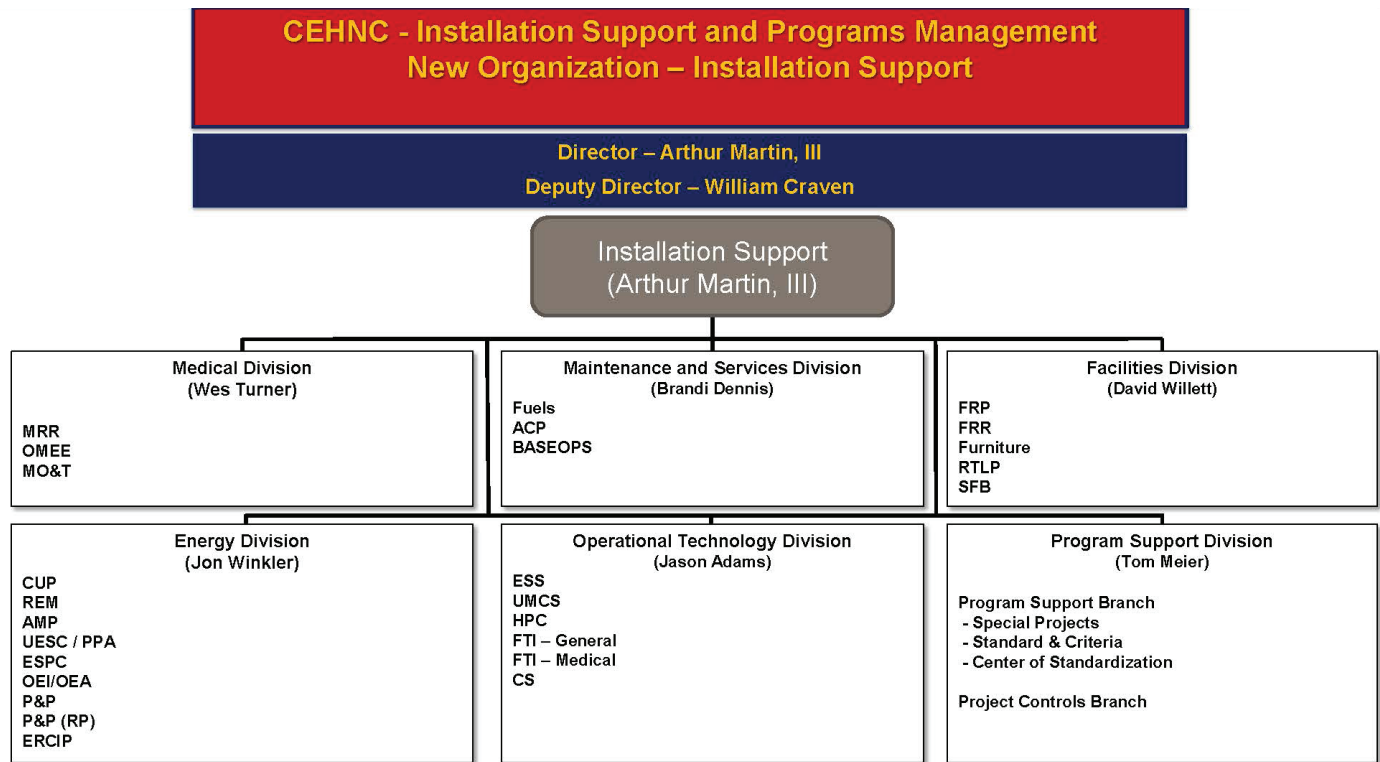
We highlighted the achievements of engineers on social media throughout the week and welcomed guest speaker Jeff Ogden, Society of American Military Engineers Huntsville Post president, who spoke to Center employees about the value of engineers, the key traits of successful engineers

and the ongoing need for these “skilled problem solvers.”

The Engineer Week observance, held annually during the week of George Washington's birthday, calls attention to the many contributions that engineers make to society and provides a platform to emphasize the importance of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills.

Our Human Capital staff and volunteers understand better than anyone how important STEM skills are to the future and in February they were joined by volunteers at the Center's recruiting booth to ensure eligible STEM students were aware of opportunities with Huntsville Center and USACE. Many of our work force visited career fairs at local and regional universities to talk to students about employment and working as Department of the Army Civilians. Unemployment is at historic lows, at 3.7% as of late last year. Fierce competition in the private sector is driving wages up and making the Army's benefits less attractive to prospective candidates. Just as there is a need for recruits into the uniformed services, USACE and Huntsville Center has a need to recruit STEM students to fill the ranks of the workforce, and I ask each of you to keep that in mind if you are ever able to interact with a high school or college-age person who may be looking for a career path. Let them know about the Army, USACE, and especially Huntsville Center, and

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Installation support directorate reorganizes

By William Farrow
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

Huntsville Center’s Corporate Board recently approved the Installation Support and Programs Management (ISPM) Directorate’s request for reorganization.

The reorganization will be effective June 4.

The Center’s ISPM directorate provides execution of more than 30 programs encompassing the technical, engineering, contracting and program management requirements of a variety of mission areas.

The directorate supports and partners with other government agencies to provide life-cycle, world-wide support in providing maintenance, repair, operation, and upgrade services for their facilities and infrastructure.

Col. Sebastien Joly, Huntsville Center commander, said the reorganization is in keeping with the USACE Campaign Plan Goals “Optimize Executive Direction and Management” and “Improve Command

Information.”

“It also meets the requirement to increase emphasis on program governance and project control,” Joly said.

According to Joly, the decision to reorganize ISPM was based upon several consideration factors including: leveraging similar functions to streamline performance; improve data quality and data analytics, and improve responsiveness to Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

While the reorganization mainly affects ISPM, elements of Contracting, Engineering and Resource Management directorates will be affected as part of the overall Project Delivery Team concept.

Albert “Chip” Marin III, Huntsville Center Programs and Business director, said reorganization of the ISPM Directorate is a much needed change.

“The new organization ensures that Huntsville Center establishes a ‘project controls’ branch to fill a void the Center has in being able to shape projects from a schedule, automated information

systems (AIS) and cost to execute perspective,” Marin said.

“The creation and implementation of project controls brings the Center on par with industry standards.” Marin said the reorganization also allows for the standardization of AIS data and information allowing for consistent, reliable project data for the Center, its leaders and higher headquarters.”

Additionally, Marin said the reorganization also aggregates projects and programs centered on operational technology (OT) and services oriented work under their own branches to gain efficiencies in the planning, programming, acquisition, execution and controlling of these type programs consistently.

“Our present OT and services programs are spread across multiple programs, branches and divisions making it difficult to learn and implement efficiencies in the project management, contracting, engineering, resource management and legal functional areas.”



File photo

Salvatore Corcione, resource efficiency manager at U.S. Army Garrison-Ansbach, performs a utility check at one of the facilities on the installation in 2021. The 2023 Resource Efficiency Managers Workshop set for Apr. 17-20 at the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville's main campus.

Resource Efficiency Manager conference set

By William Farrow
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

Dozens of stakeholders and Resource Efficiency Managers have signed up to attend the 2023 Resource Efficiency Managers Workshop set for Apr. 17 - 20 at Huntsville Center's main campus at 475 Quality Circle.

However, John Trudell, Huntsville Center REM program manager, said openings are still available for other government energy managers and he encourages energy managers interested in learning more about how REMs provide expertise to identify

infrastructure energy improvements on government facilities to attend.

"Getting REMs under one roof once a year for the workshop gives attendees a chance to explore each other's programs and projects and offers them the opportunity to learn from one another and focus on the best ways to reduce energy and water consumption and save the Department of Defense or other federal agencies money," Trudell said.

Huntsville Center's REM program improves installation energy programs by identifying projects and practices to reduce energy and water costs

through a contracted subject matter expert. REMs provide vital expertise to develop site energy and water plans that achieve energy efficiency, reduction, security, and resiliency through sustainable and renewable resources. They also help energy managers increase energy awareness, collect data for reporting site energy use and management, and support energy programs in the achievement of energy goals and mandates.

Energy managers interested in attending should send an email with their name and contact information to CEHNC-REM@usace.army.mil.

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encourage them to learn about the application process and the benefits associated with working for a great team.

We also celebrated Black History Month with a presentation on Feb. 28 featuring four panelists who paid tribute to Black Americans who have overcome educational, political, and economic barriers to make significant contributions to our nation's history and identity. Angela Wilson, Quintessia Fuller, Tonju Samuels and Mike Lanier

did a superb job sharing stories of African Americans who exemplified different forms of resilience.

Congratulations are in store for several members of the Huntsville Center team. Jesus Ramirez-Rodriguez was recently highlighted in the Chief's SITREP as the Hero of the Week. Nanette Hill and Lauren Ross were spotlighted as our HNC Employees of the Month.

Thanks go out to all the hard work they've done and their recognition is well deserved.
Keep up the great work!



Photo by Chris Putman

An electric vehicle charges its battery at one of the seven solar-powered charging stations recently installed at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. Huntsville Center awarded contracts and are providing technical oversight for nearly 500 of these stations at Army installations as part of the service's initiative to transition to a fully electric vehicle fleet by 2050.

Huntsville Center answers charge to electrify Army's vehicle fleet with solar

By Kristen Bergeson

Electric vehicle charging stations have begun popping up at Army installations across the Nation less than a year after the Army announced plans to reduce its climate impacts by decreasing fossil fuel use.

The Army's climate strategy, released in February 2022, outlines a plan to reduce its net greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent, in part by transitioning to a fully electric vehicle fleet by 2050. For its non-tactical, light-duty fleet, the service plans to be all-electric by 2027.

To take the first step toward meeting this goal, the Army called on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Huntsville Center to provide acquisition services, contract management and

technical expertise for installing electric vehicle charging stations at more than 70 sites, said Jason Bray, Huntsville Center program manager for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.

"Because we are a one-stop shop with program management, contracting, engineering and other resources under one roof, they know we can execute these types of projects on a tight deadline," Bray said.

"We got the charge—no pun intended—in June 2022, and we had to award the contract by the end of the fiscal year on Sept. 30."

Huntsville Center answered the call and awarded contracts for 367 solar-powered charging stations at 50 installations for the U.S. Army

Installation Management Command (IMCOM) and 112 stations at 21 sites for the Army Materiel Command.

"Because the stations are solar powered and, therefore, not connected to the utilities grid, they don't require additional construction or electrical work," Bray said.

"The solar piece was not part of the original plan for this acquisition, but we were able to get these in place much faster than other options and added the benefit of meeting energy initiatives in resiliency."

Each station uses large solar panels that move throughout the day to

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Essayons

Courtesy photo

Lt. Gen. Scott Spellmon, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, presented a command coin to Keith Southard, Huntsville Center Fuels Branch project engineer, for his work at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility in Hawaii. Southard was instrumental in developing plans of work there that would be submitted as service orders contracts to execute repairs needed prior to de-fueling.

CHARGE

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maximize the amount of power they can draw from the sun. That power is stored in batteries under the panels to allow charging at night and on cloudy days. Thirty of the contracted stations for IMCOM have already been installed at six garrisons, including seven at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama.

Don Henderson, Redstone Arsenal energy manager, noted numerous benefits to using solar power to charge the installation's electric vehicles.

"The solar charging stations are self-sustaining, which means there will be savings that come from not using fuel but also from not having to purchase power from our utility provider," Henderson said.

"It also means that they are portable and can be moved from one command to another as the mission or demand changes."

According to Henderson, solar power, in general, is a more secure means of providing power to vital military resources.

"When you have power coming from the grid, its subject to cyberattacks and natural disasters," he said. "If you're relying on the grid and that power line gets cut or the

programming gets hacked, it can delay the mission and impact a plethora of things."

Like other installations, Redstone Arsenal is just beginning its transition to an electric fleet. The Arsenal has plans for seven more charging stations to be installed this year but will need enough stations to charge a full fleet of around 500 nontactical electric vehicles by 2027, Henderson said.

The Army's climate strategy came as a response to Executive Order 14057, "Catalyzing Clean Energy Industries and Jobs Through Federal Sustainability," which was issued in December 2021.

The order sets out a range of goals for the Federal Government, including 100% carbon pollution-free electricity by 2030, 100% zero-emission vehicle acquisitions by 2035, net-zero emission buildings by 2045 and more.

"This project for electric vehicle charging stations was the first of its kind for USACE, and my team was proud to be able to support the Army, and the Nation, in this effort," Bray said.

"We pride ourselves on our ability to constantly learn and adapt in order to meet the needs of our customers."



Army photo

Soldiers conduct a dismounted patrol at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif. Huntsville Center's Energy Division awarded a third-party contract in September that will improve energy independence and resiliency, as well as provide energy savings for Fort Irwin, home to the National Training Center, a remote major training area for the U.S. military located in the Mojave Desert in northern San Bernardino County, California.

Energy project provides resilience for Fort Irwin

**By William Farrow
Huntsville Center Public Affairs**

Huntsville Center's Energy Division awarded a third-party contract in September that will improve energy independence and resiliency, as well as provide energy savings for Fort Irwin, Calif. Fort Irwin is home to the National Training Center, a remote major training area for the U.S. military located in the Mojave Desert in northern San Bernardino County, California.

Huntsville Center's Utility Energy Services Contracting developed the contract vehicle which provides for a 21-mile dedicated natural gas pipeline and a 16 MW combined heat and power plant for on-site energy generation capable of maintaining critical loads indefinitely during an electric outage.

The multi-phase project will provide a dedicated natural gas pipeline and transition Fort Irwin away from its use of propane. Cost savings for the project are estimated at more than \$6.6 million in the first year of a 15-year payback.

Chad Edwards, Huntsville Center Energy Division project manager, said

the project uses UESC as its method whereby a selected local utility company — in this project its Southwest Gas — assesses the energy savings opportunities, fronts the capital costs, and designs and installs the equipment in the project.

He said the project is a seven-year endeavor with two phases. Phase 1, he said, is for the pipeline installation, and Phase 2 is to convert all the propane equipment to natural gas.

The project also includes installation of a large Combine Heat and Power plant. Edwards said the real advantage to this contract is that within a UESC, additional subsequent projects can be included within the same timeline.

Other energy resiliency and efficiency improvement opportunities in various energy conservation measure categories, all of which build upon each other and provide a strategy of perseverance rather than reaction. The fully developed ECMs include a site-wide conversion to natural gas, a solar photovoltaic array, and a battery energy storage system. The identified ECMs contribute to energy security, help meet energy reduction and overall resiliency

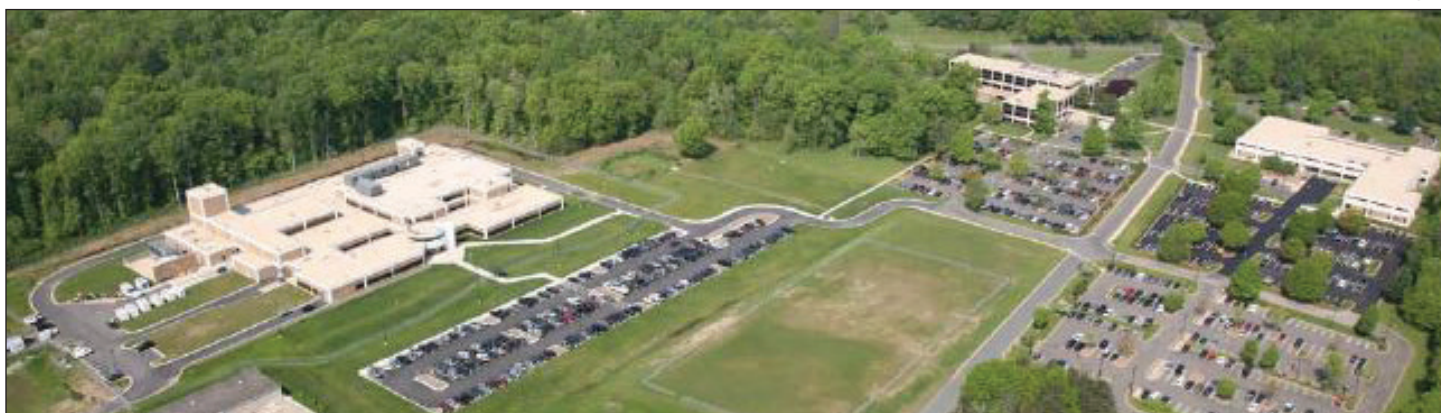
goals, and continue the Fort Irwin legacy of energy project achievement.

Fort Irwin will save more than \$6.6 million in annual energy and related costs starting in the first year of the performance period. This savings equates to \$295 million during a 20-year contract term, all while upgrading and securing Fort Irwin as the premier leader in demonstrating energy security and independence.

“By taking advantage of commercial practices, the Army can leverage advances in the technology and the corresponding cost reductions, and by procuring energy security as a service, the Army can take advantage of more integrated solutions and utilize third-party financing and risk sharing,” Edwards said.

Paul Schonenberger, Fort Irwin Department of Public Works installation energy manager, said the project is a “huge win” for Fort Irwin's electrical resiliency.

“This puts into place all the infrastructure required for a drop-in replacement with a green energy source once the technology becomes available,” he said.



File photo

An aerial photo of the Humphreys Engineer Center Support Activity campus in Alexandria, Va. HECSA is taking over management of the ACE-IT program from Huntsville Center.

ACE-IT management program sunsets, transitions to Humphreys Engineer Center Support Activity

By William Farrow
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

For nearly a decade, Huntsville Center maintained acquisition and contract management of ACE-IT, the enterprise information technology services delivery team providing enterprise-wide information management and information technology for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

However, the USACE Corporate Information Office is delivering changes to the program and is scheduled to turn over all work to Humphreys Engineer Center Support Activity (HECSA).

HECSA is a USACE Field Operating Activity providing administrative and operational support to Headquarters and other USACE activities in the National Capital Region.

Ron Brook, Huntsville Center Facility Technology Integration branch chief, said Huntsville Center's ACE-IT program provided solutions for ACE-IT requirements included the use of the Army Computer Hardware Enterprise Software and Solutions (CHES) contract vehicle, Government-wide Acquisition Contracts (GWAC), Multiple Award Contracts, U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) Schedules or single award or agency-specific contracts.

Brook said over the course of the ACE-IT program's lifetime under Huntsville Center from 2014 to 2023, the ACE-IT program obligated more than \$1 billion dollars in contracts and utilized over 20 project managers, contracting personnel and others to support more than 1,500 locations.

Huntsville Center's ACE-IT Program provided program and project management, acquisition management, administration, and execution to the ACE-IT customer-which is virtually all USACE data centers, end user devices, software

licensing and enterprise-wide IT services in three general areas: ACE-IT Information Technology Enterprise Services – Next Generation (AIES-NG); ACE-IT Radio and Support Services (ARSS) and the USACE Enterprise.

AIES-NG provides enterprise-wide Information Management/Information Technology (IM/IT) services in support of the USACE locations in nine USACE divisions, 44 districts, several centers, and other ACE-IT organizations to include two IT data centers.

ARSS provides enterprise-wide radio communication support to include hand-held radios, emergency equipment and microwave satellite equipment.

Enterprise requirements provide services in support of USACE including automation (to include hardware/software), communication, information assurance, records management, printing & publications, and visual information. For the remainder of the Fiscal Year, Huntsville Center's ACE-IT program manager will complete final contract close-outs and remaining contract actions, Brook said.

"The program manager performed a considerable amount of coordination with HECSA to ensure the program undergoes a smooth transition."

Doug Pohlman, HECSA contract specialist, said the ACE-IT program transition between Huntsville Center and HECSA has been fluid.

Pohlman said for the most part the transition has been seamless due to good communication efforts between the parties involved.

"The Huntsville Center personnel have been very helpful and have always been willing to assist when needed. There truly have been no issues in transitioning this large of a program and I feel that this is because of the pre-planning."



Photo by Kristen Bergeson

Following Huntsville Center's National Engineers Week presentation, Col. Sebastien Joly, Huntsville Center commander, recognizes the Center engineers who have continued to grow in their field by earning a license or certification. Newly licensed or certified employees include Kelly Turner, civil engineer (structural); Joshua Mason, civil engineer; Lauren Howerton, civil engineer; Elena Sabatini, mechanical engineer; Paul Rhoades, contractor officer review board; and Lauren Houpt, healthcare interior designer.

Huntsville Center celebrates Engineers Week

By Kristen Bergeson
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

Huntsville Center joined other U.S. Army Corps of Engineers agencies Feb. 19 – 25 to celebrate 2023 National Engineers Week.

The observance, held annually during the week of George Washington's birthday, calls attention to the many contributions that engineers make to society and provides a platform to emphasize the importance of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills.

"National Engineers Week is a time to celebrate how engineers make a difference in our world," said Lt. Gen. Scott A. Spellmon, USACE commanding general.

"USACE delivers billions of dollars in construction and other related services building facilities like training

ranges, barracks, hospitals and much more to enhance the readiness of our servicemembers and civilian workforce to provide for the nation's defense. Our efforts also contribute to their quality of life and that of service members' families and our military retirees."

The Center celebrated by highlighting the achievements of engineers on social media throughout the week, welcoming a guest speaker, and honoring newly certified and licensed employees.

Guest speaker Jeff Ogden, president of the Society of American Military Engineers Huntsville post, spoke to Center employees about the value of engineers, the key traits of successful engineers and the ongoing need for these "skilled problem solvers."

Ogden, who retired in 2014 after 30 years of service as a USACE officer, said he knows firsthand the achievements and challenges of

engineers within the DOD.

"If you look at the Department of Defense realm today, there isn't anything that engineers aren't touching," he said.

"It's all about getting the soldiers what they need so they can perform their mission and protect the nation."

Following Ogden's presentation, Col. Sebastien P. Joly, Huntsville Center commander, praised the Center's engineers for their ability to solve the nation's toughest challenges and reiterated the impact of engineering throughout U.S. history.

"At the birth of the nation, after beating the British back, the very first thing the founding fathers did was establish the Corps of Engineers," he said.

"There has been a role for engineers from the very beginning, and you continue to solve problems today. We thank you for all you do."



Value Engineering program ensures Center's functionality

By William Farrow
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

The basic thrusts of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Value Engineering (VE) programs are to increase project value by proactively searching for and resolving issues through very open, short-term workshops.

Over the last year, Carlos Reis, Huntsville Center's Value Engineering program manager, has overseen VE workshops at Huntsville Center aiming to stretch precious taxpayer resources.

Reis managed seven VE workshops for Huntsville Center in 2022, six for the Installation Support and Programs Management Directorate's Facilities Division and one for the Ordnance and Explosives Directorate. Each workshop focused on the program's required functions through SAVE International's Value Methodology, a systematic and structured approach for improving projects, products, processes, services and organizations.

SAVE International is the premier international society devoted to advancing and promoting the Value Methodology. The Society provides its members education and training, publications, certification, promotional tools, networking and recognition.

As Huntsville Center's lone Value Engineer Program manager, he performs his duties according to the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 1121, 1711), which requires each executive agency to establish and maintain cost-effective Value Engineering procedures and processes. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-131 requires Federal agencies to apply VE procedures to all new projects and programs identified in the agency's VE guidelines.

The USACE VE Program has been applying the Value Engineering methodology to programs and projects since 1964, demonstrating USACE cost effectiveness.

The workshops Reis oversaw last year last an average of three to five days, and Reis said planning is key preparing for a workshop.

"Initially a Value Management Plan is completed to gather program information and workshop goals," Reis said.

After a pre-workshop meeting is held to iron out final details, Reis said a certified facilitator is hired to run the workshop. Once the workshop is completed, a final report is issued by the contracted facilitator so program managers can keep track of improvement proposals and ideas.

"The program managers are responsible for proposal implementation," Reis said.

Steve Light, OE Directorate's Chemical Warfare Materiel Design Center chief, oversaw bringing together the OE team

for the workshop they conducted in October.

"I brought in a diverse team of project managers, contracting and field coordinators to share in the week of brainstorming with contractor facilitating and helping the team ideas develop ideas about where improvements can be made," Light said.

According to Light, the week was a prime example of the stages of group psychological development as the team went through the forming, norming, storming and performing.

"A lot of the team was quiet at the beginning of the week, but by the end of the week everyone was involved," Light said.

"Literally it was just taking the time together in a room without other commitments to think, talk, explore, and discuss ideas and approaches," Light said.

"Free thinking allows for new ideas to emerge and sets a vision for the future, and our team worked to rethink approaches to issues."

From a business perspective, Albert "Chip" Marin III, Huntsville Center Programs and Business Director, said the VE program simply ensures Huntsville Center meets mission requirements and every dollar saved via the application of VE is a dollar that can be used elsewhere in our Army or Department of Defense to better enable mission readiness for our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines.

"The Value Engineering (VE) Program ensures either programmatically or by project that we are planning, designing and constructing efficient and effective facility, utility and infrastructure that meets mission required-characteristics at a fair and reasonable cost," Marin said.

"There is a quote by Benjamin Franklin that describes just how important the little things such as a single dollar can be, it reads 'For want of a shoe, the horse was lost. For want of a horse, the rider was lost. For want of a rider, the battle was lost. For want of a battle, the kingdom was lost, And all for the want of a horseshoe nail.' Every dollar counts."



Photo by William Farrow

Carlos Reis, Huntsville Center's Value Engineering program manager, has overseen seven VE workshops at Huntsville Center in the last year.

Environmental and Munitions CX role in the NEPA Integrator proves invaluable

By Elizabeth Canfil
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

The Environmental and Munitions Center of Expertise (EM/CX) continues to provide quality guidance in ensuring adherence to the environmental regulations of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) required for all Federal government projects.

The Council of Environmental Quality's (CEQ) NEPA requirements consist of two analyses: Environmental Assessments (EA), which determine whether a federal project has the potential to cause significant environmental effects, and Environment Impact Statements (EIS), which determine whether a project will significantly affect the quality of the human environment. In 2016, the U.S. Army Installation Management Command (IMCOM) requested that USACE determine how it could assist in the execution of NEPA projects.

In response to IMCOM's requests, USACE established the NEPA Integrator team within the EM/CX. This partnership between EM/CX and IMCOM serves as the central point for facilitating NEPA adherence and execution.

"The NEPA partnership is a one-stop shop for IMCOM to meet compliance nationwide and foster consistency. By doing so, we are able to free up IMCOM," said Rebecca Latka, Biological Scientist at Huntsville Center.

The EM/CX implements the NEPA program by serving as a liaison between agencies and providing regulatory guidance, this entity is known as the NEPA Integrator team.

The NEPA Integrator team partners with districts to manage programs and project funding.

"The partnership provides product consistency. We advise on adherence to policy and then look to the other districts to execute," said Mary Margaret Mangenot, EM/CX Chief of Environmental Regulatory Compliance Division. With a small Integrator team of four USACE employees within the EM/CX, a key to success is teamwork, Mangenot added.

"We all have a role to play," said Mangenot. Manroop Chawla, Environmental Biologist at the Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (CERL).

"The EM/CX team is great at effective and timely communication both with USACE headquarters and the Corps districts, to facilitate NEPA projects execution. We have open communication across the board with all organizations we support to help make this a successful program. The partnership has evolved by incorporating lessons learned from the projects that are executed each year. An example would be development of templates for scope of work, EA, and EIS, thus reducing costs to the program," Chawla said.



Army photo

Soldiers fire weapons at the Pohakuloa Training Range in Hawaii. Huntsville Center's Environmental and Munitions Center of Expertise (EM/CX) provides guidance in ensuring adherence to the environmental regulations of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) required for all Federal government projects, including and Environment Impact Statement at the Pohakuloa range.

Current NEPA projects include several EISs and EAs, and Programmatic EAs, including two EISs in Hawaii.

One such project that the team is tackling is an environmental assessment of Pohakuloa, a 100,000-acre training parcel, a portion of which is leased to the Army by the state. The NEPA process could take two to three years to complete; however, Hawaii Environmental Protection Act (HEPA) requirements must also be met for the continued use of state land for military training. HEPA involves more stakeholders and adds complexity to the process.

As the EPA's environmental regulations change, as do the NEPA requirements, and the team must adapt as needed. One such change was made in September 2020 and required a shift in the completion timeline for EAs.

With the new regulations, the completion of the final report is now required within two years from the notice of intent, whereas they were previously given three to five years to complete.



HQ USACE Castle Pack



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light backgrounds.png
for use on light backgrounds

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backgrounds.png
for use on dark backgrounds

Army Brand redefined

Special to the Bulletin Army news release

For the first time since 2001, the Army has introduced a new brand that redefines what it means to “Be All You Can Be” for a new generation.

Secretary of the Army Christine Wormuth, Army Chief of Staff Gen. James McConville and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Grinston made the announcement during a much-anticipated launch event at the National Press Club March 8.

The brand and its accompanying campaign spotlight the countless opportunities the Army provides youth to explore their passions, build community and become the best versions of themselves.

The new Army Logo is an evolution of the legacy Army star, modernized for use in digital media. It reinforces the Army’s brand position of endless

“possibilities” and the Be All You Can Be tagline by depicting the Army star in an unboxed state without limits or boundaries.

The Army star logo is the main brand identifier for the Army the use of the Army star logo strictly forbids any alteration of the logo for any purposes. The guidelines reflect the directive provided by Headquarters, Department of the Army, which are found in AR 601-208, The Army Brand and Marketing Program, applicable to all components of the Army. “At a time when political, economic and social factors are changing how young Americans view the world, the new Army brand illustrates how service in the Army is grounded in passion and purpose,” Wormuth said.

“Serving our nation is a calling, and one that is fundamentally hopeful. We want a new generation of Americans to see the Army as a pathway to the lives and careers they want to achieve.”

The brand transformation was a multiyear, research-based process designed to reflect today’s Army accurately and authentically, while addressing the needs of a new generation. The brand’s new look and feel consists of a reengineered five-point star logo — (the box has been removed to reflect the limitless possibilities in the Army) coupled with the return of the popular “Be All You Can Be” tagline.

The logo and tagline are a part of a full-brand ecosystem that helps tell the Army story visually and verbally, including a new custom font, an expanded color palette, new iconography, photography, motion graphics and more.

“All good brands must evolve to reflect internal and external changes to ensure an accurate depiction of the organization that also meets audience needs,” said Maj. Gen. Alex Fink, Chief of Army Enterprise Marketing.

Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories

PANELISTS

DR. JUANITA M. CHRISTENSEN, SES

Ms. SHERENE DORAZIO, SES

DR. CHRISTINE T. ALTENDORF, SES



TEAM REDSTONE 2023 WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH OBSERVANCE

HOSTED BY THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, HUNTSVILLE CENTER
DATE AND TIME: 20 MARCH 2023, 1300 HRS
VIRTUALLY PRESENTED VIA MS TEAMS

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION, PLEASE CONTACT: DANG HOANG (256) 895-1972 DANG.HOANG@USACE.ARMY.MIL

Center hosts women's history celebration for Team Redstone

Special to the Bulletin
By KJ Wolfe

The U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville will host this year National Women's History Month celebration for Team Redstone.

The 2023 Department of Defense and the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) theme is "Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories".

An email will be sent to Team Redstone employees with a link to the virtual event, presented via MS Teams. The event is set for 1 p.m., March 20.

The observance features three female Senior Executive Service officers who will share their stories about career and work-life balance in a pre-recorded message. The panel consists of: Dr. Juanita Christensen, Army Materiel Command deputy chief of staff for logistics, facilities

and environmental; Sherene Dorazio, Veterans Affairs deputy executive director of the office of construction and facilities management; and Christine Altendorf, Headquarters U.S. Army Corps of Engineers director of military programs. As Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) focused professionals, the women will discuss leadership, mentorship, and their own unique paths.

Col. Sebastien Joly, Huntsville Center commander, will offer opening Remarks and Wade Doss, Huntsville Center Engineering Directorate chief, will lead the program. Reneda Kelly, Huntsville Center contracting officer, will sing the *National Anthem*.

Joly said the hour-long presentation is an excellent way to learn about the lives of women who are telling their own stories and are likely to inspire the stories of others.

As part of the Women's History Month celebration, the Huntsville

Center Women's History Month Committee reached out to women identified as having a special story. Eighteen Women represent each of the Huntsville Center Directorates shared their stories - many shared struggles and accomplishments, as well as their mentors. Among these stories are co-workers who have immigrated to the U.S., raised families while pursuing their education, served our country in the Armed Forces and been on the forefront to provide excellence and continuity in their service as a federal employee.

Their profiles will be viewed on the Huntsville Center's SharePoint homepage and their full stories will be sent to employees via email throughout March.

Special emphasis programs are an avenue for the federal government to celebrate diverse people and cultures who make up the fabric of the workforce.



BULLETIN FOCUS: SAFETY OFFICE



File photo

Debris awaiting removal by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers after tornado destroyed parts of Joplin, Missouri in 2011. USACE plays a major role in removal of debris after natural disasters. Tornado season in Alabama runs between March to May.

Tornado season is here

Special to the Bulletin
**Courtesy Huntsville Center
Safety Office**

Alabama has on average 56 tornadoes each year. So far in 2023, 29 tornadoes have been reported. Peak tornado season in Alabama typically runs between March and May. However, recently there has been an increase in November and December tornadic activity. While tornadoes usually occur between the hours of 3 p.m. and 9 p.m., they can happen any time of the day.

Tornadoes form from large thunderstorms and can reach wind speeds of 250 mph or more. These violent storms can destroy structurally sound homes and buildings, uproot large trees, and send objects such as cars and debris flying through the air. Therefore, it is extremely important to

always be weather-ready. Preparation is key to keeping you and your family safe during severe weather.

How to be Weather-Ready?

Identify Your Safe Space: A storm shelter, basement, or a sturdy interior room on the lowest floor with no windows are the most ideal places to be during a tornado. If you live in a mobile home, RV, or a higher floor apartment, identify a safe space nearby. Maybe a neighbor's home, gas station, or church could be an option. Whatever the plan is, make sure to practice it with your family.

Prepare your home: Buy a weather radio. Cell networks can go down during severe weather so you may not be able to hear alerts on your phone. Keep trees and branches trimmed near your house. Head injuries from flying or falling debris are common

during a tornado - have something ready to protect your head (bicycle or batting helmets work well). During the aftermath, broken glass and nails can be exposed - wear hard soled shoes to protect your feet. Also, having an airhorn with you can help first responders find you if you are trapped in debris.

Monitor the Weather: Check the forecast regularly. Download additional weather apps to your phone and have your weather radio nearby. Listen to local news to stay informed of approaching severe weather.

**** If a Tornado Warning is issued while you are at work, go to a designated "Severe Weather Shelter" immediately. These shelter locations can be found on Safety's SharePoint site by clicking on "HNC EMERGENCY PLANS."**

BULLETIN FOCUS: EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Black Resilience focus of Center's Black History Month presentation

More than 100 employees attended the virtual event featuring four panelists who paid tribute to Black Americans who have overcome educational, political and economic barriers to make significant contributions to our nation's history and identity.

"Black history will continue to be an important part of both American and world history," said Arthur Martin, director of the Center's Installation Support and Program Management directorate, as well as the current ambassador of the Center's Black Employment Program.

"However, we must continue to tell the stories and share the lived experiences of all."

The theme of this year's event was "Black Resilience," and each speaker shared stories of African Americans who exemplified different forms of resilience: political, educational, economic and mental.

Political Resilience

Angela Wilson, contracting officer and chief of the Facility Technology Integration Support Branch, spoke about political resilience, which she defined as "continually engaging in the political process regardless of the short-term outcomes and despite significant difficulties to enact positive long-term changes."

Wilson taught attendees about Frederick Douglas, a former slave who escaped to freedom and became a national leader of the abolitionist movement in the mid-19th Century.

"He endured threats and assaults along the way by those who hoped to silence his message, but Mr. Douglas continued his writing and speeches and acting as a conduit for change through various activities," Wilson said.

"A snippet of his work included traveling abroad as a fugitive slave supporting abolition efforts, helping slaves escape through the Underground Railroad, and starting his own printing press to publish articles on the abolishment of

slavery."

Wilson also spoke about the battle for voting rights and the ongoing need for political resilience.

"Exercising individual political rights and staying engaged in the political process will result in some successes and some disappointments along the way, but it's necessary to view the long game," she said.

"By learning political resilience, we can effectively and more quickly recover from setbacks and emerge stronger."

Educational Resilience

Quintessia Fuller, Internal Review chief, provided examples of educational resilience, which she defined as "the capacity to succeed in school despite exposure to personal and environmental adversities."

"Regardless of race, economic circumstance, or any other differences, the pursuit of education has been a goal for many groups throughout the history of the United States," Fuller said.

"Unfortunately, Black Americans, as well as other groups, have had to continuously and repeatedly recover or adjust to misfortunes brought about from situations and circumstances beyond their own control. In the area of education, Black Americans have been forced to be resilient in how they approach not just formal education but even just the basic concept of literacy time after time."

Fuller, who earned a bachelor's degree from Alabama A&M University, as a master's degree and doctorate in business administration from The University of Phoenix, spoke about the value of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), institutions of higher education established before the Civil Rights Act of 1964 with the principal mission of the education of Black Americans.

"These institutions are a standing testament to the resilience of Black Americans," she said. HBCUs provided a critical need for education during post-Civil War



Wilson



Fuller



reconstruction in the 1800s, when southern states began instituting black codes, which gave rise to the Jim Crow Laws of the 1900s, Fuller said.

“While nearly every part of Black American’s lives were being scrutinized and any action could be found criminal, we were continuing to push and build ourselves by attaining education to bring about better circumstances,” she said.

Today, Alabama has fourteen active HBCUs, more than any other state. Three of those are in the Huntsville area: Alabama A&M University, Oakwood University and J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College.

Economic Resilience

Tracing the economic resilience demonstrated by many Black Americans throughout history, Tonju Samuels, Pre-Award Division chief, provided multiple examples, including the Greenwood District in Tulsa, Oklahoma, one of the most prominent concentrations of Black-owned businesses during the early 20th Century.

The thriving commercial district, known as “Black Wall Street” at the time, was nearly destroyed during a series of race-related events, a two-day period that had controversially been called the “Tulsa Race Riot.”

“Some say it was given that name at the time for insurance purposes because designating it a riot prevented insurance companies from having to pay benefits to the people of Greenwood whose homes and businesses were destroyed,” Samuels said.

Though the district had been nearly decimated, Greenwood residents and business owners persevered and rebuilt much of the community within 10 years of the massacre, she said.

“It continued as a vital Black community until segregation was overturned by the federal government during the 1950s and 60s,” she said.

“Talk about being resilient.” Samuels also shared the stories of Charles Clinton Spaulding, whose hugely successful leadership of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company earned him the reputation as one of the most prominent entrepreneurs of the 20th Century; John H. Johnson, founder of Johnson Publishing Company in 1942 who was the first Black person to appear in the Forbes 100; and Maggie Walker, a Black entrepreneur and civic leader who became the first woman of any race to own a bank in the United States.



Samuels

“Our history has certainly been plagued with turmoil and bad experiences, but through those experiences, there have been some great accomplishments,” Samuels said.

“Black Americans learned how to be resilient despite the status quo.”

Mental Resilience

Mike Lanier, project director and team lead for the USACE Medical Facilities Center of Expertise and Standardization, spoke about mental resilience.

“Black mental resilience is the ability to maintain health, cultivate positive attitudes and overcome challenges while facing systemic racism and other forms of discrimination,” he said.

“It is the process of developing and sustaining the mental strength, courage and fortitude to withstand and overcome difficult experiences while finding ways to thrive despite them.”

To exemplify Black mental resilience in U.S. history, Lanier taught attendees about Dr. Charles Richard Drew, a Black surgeon and researcher who organized America’s first large-scale blood bank and trained a generation of Black physicians at Howard University. Though Dr. Drew’s innovations earned him the title “father of the blood bank,” he was initially ineligible to participate in the program he helped establish because the armed forces required the Red Cross exclude Blacks from donating, Lanier said.

“Dr. Drew’s mental resilience for innovation to save lives while enduring the obstacles before him and the system that would not even allow him to fully engage in what he created is an example we can all learn from,” he said.

He also pointed to the example set by Katherine Johnson, one of NASA’s first Black female scientists whose work was critical in sending astronauts into space for the Apollo missions.

“Ms. Johnson exemplified the strength of mental resilience as a Black Women to excel in a field dominated by white men at a time of segregation and the challenges of civil and human rights,” Lanier said.

“Being able to ignore or compartmentalize outside challenges to concentrate on achieving historic mathematical calculations that were mission critical is a learned skill of mental resilience that allows many to achieve under the most horrific conditions.”



Lanier

About Huntsville Center

HNC

Unique to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,

Huntsville Center provides innovative engineering solutions to complex, global missions. Our team of professionals engineer adaptive, specialized solutions across a broad spectrum of global enterprise covering five main lines of effort: Energy, Operational Technology, Environmental, Medical, and Base Operations and Facilities. Our portfolios comprise 43 program areas, as well as nine mandatory and six technical centers of expertise, and 17 centers of standardization. Through partnership with Department of Defense agencies, private industry and global stakeholders, we deliver leading edge engineering solutions in support of national interests around the globe.

FY2022 40+ Programs

8 Mandatory Centers of Expertise,
6 Technical Centers of Expertise
and 17 Centers of Standardization

\$ 2.5B

**“HNC Delivers
Innovation”**

In fiscal 2022, Huntsville Center awarded contract actions totaling more than
\$2.5 billion in obligations for its stakeholders.



The U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, engineers adaptive, specialized solutions across a broad spectrum of global enterprise covering five main lines of effort: Energy, Operational Technology, Environmental, Medical, and Base Operations and Facilities