


**U.S. ARMY**

# MEDLOG MONTHLY

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY

**U.S. ARMY MEDICAL LOGISTICS COMMAND**

## Army Surgeon General's visit underscores critical role of medical maintenance

TRACY, Calif. – Emphasizing the life-or-death importance of medical logistics, the Army's top doctor visited a critical maintenance hub operated by the U.S. Army Medical Logistics Command.

Lt. Gen. Mary K. Izaguirre, the Army surgeon general and commander, Army Medical Command, toured the Medical Maintenance Operations Division in Tracy, or MMOD-CA, to see firsthand how the facility sustains and services complex medical devices from around the globe.

Drawing from her experience as a young officer in Afghanistan, Izaguirre shared a powerful memory of when properly functioning equipment was all that stood between life and death for wounded Soldiers.

"I was very young ... and we had to have CT scans in order to treat the Soldiers that were coming in," she said, recounting a rocket attack during a deployment. "It was the equipment that was so critical in being able to provide those Soldiers with the proper care."

During the April 10 engagement, Izaguirre and her senior advisers, Command Sgt. Maj. John Dobbins and Command Chief Warrant Officer



*Army Surgeon General Lt. Gen. Mary Izaguirre participates in a demonstration of a diagnostic medical imaging system at the Army Medical Logistics Command's Medical Maintenance Operations Division in San Joaquin, California, April 10. Izaguirre visited to gain a comprehensive understanding of the medical device sustainment and maintenance mission. (U.S. Army photos by Katie Ellis-Warfield)*

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Visit our website: [www.amlc.army.mil](http://www.amlc.army.mil) Follow us on Facebook: @ArmyMedlogCommand



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*Lt. Gen. Mary Izaguirre, the U.S. Army surgeon general, listens as Jorge Magana, right, and Fernando Gonzales-Rodriguez explain how the Army's center of excellence for medical imaging system maintenance operates. Magana is the director of medical maintenance management for Army Medical Logistics Command, and Gonzales-Rodriguez is a member of the Medical Maintenance Operations Division-California "fly-away" team. Izaguirre visited the facility in San Joaquin, California, April 10.*

5 Deanna Hughes, received a briefing on the readiness of medical devices. The surgeon general emphasized their work directly influences patient outcomes.

MMOD-CA is one of three specialized medical maintenance sites operated by AMLC. Along with facilities in Utah and Pennsylvania, the three divisions support sustainment-level maintenance for the operational Army.

Specifically, MMOD-CA is the Army's center of excellence for the maintenance and calibration of medical imaging systems and specialized "Special Purpose" Test, Measurement, and Diagnostic Equipment. The division's work is critical for ensuring that highly complex medical devices are accurately calibrated, safe for patient use and ready for operational deployment.

"What you do ensures our Soldiers

come back home," Izaguirre said. "I can't tell you what this means to me personally – to be able to look every one of you in the eye and say thank you."

For Site Director Isaac Newman, the visit was a powerful affirmation, especially for the depot's large veteran workforce whose experiences resonated with the general's battlefield accounts.

"This shared understanding validated our vision for modernizing MMOD-CA on the [Defense Logistics Agency] San Joaquin force projection platform, confirming it as the bedrock of medical readiness for the Pacific," Newman said. "Her message was clear: Our unique, depot-level skillset is a critical link in the chain of survival, and our work as a strategic asset directly ensures that our Soldiers make it home."

Jorge Magana, director of AMLC's

Medical Maintenance Management Directorate, added that the visit reinforced the direct connection between the depot's work and the Soldier in the field.

"Her personal stories bring a real-world gravity to our mission," Magana said. "It connects our daily technical work to the life-saving outcomes on the battlefield, and it reinforces to our entire team that we're not just servicing equipment – we're ensuring Soldiers make it home."

In recognition of outstanding performance, Izaguirre presented command coins to eight AMLC employees, including Anthony Zapanta, Fernando Gonzales-Rodriguez, Maleke Devoux, Nicholas Brower, Ian McNesby, Newman and Magana.

AMLC, a major subordinate command of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics

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Command, serves as the Army's primary command for Class VIII medical materiel, delivering integrated logistics that enable Army and joint force readiness from the strategic support area to the tactical edge.

By Katie Ellis-Warfield



*Jorge Magana, director of medical maintenance management for Army Medical Logistics Command, greets Army Surgeon General Lt. Gen. Mary Izaguirre and Col. Marc Welde, director of logistics for the Office of the Surgeon General, upon their arrival to the facility in San Joaquin, California, April 10. Izaguirre visited to gain a comprehensive understanding of the medical device sustainment and maintenance mission.*



## AMLC partners with National Guard to keep medical devices full-time ready



*Frank Cali, a biomedical equipment technician with U.S. Army Medical Logistics Command, performs maintenance checks on a patient monitor April 1 during a support visit to the 224th Medical Company (Area Support), Maryland National Guard, near Gaithersburg, Maryland. (U.S. Army photos by C.J. Lovelace)*

GAITHERSBURG, Md. – For the nation's citizen-Soldiers, readiness can be a constant challenge.

Unlike their active-duty counterparts, Army National Guard units operate on a part-time basis, making it difficult to keep pace with the intensive maintenance requirements of complex, life-saving medical equipment.

It's a critical gap that experienced technicians from U.S. Army Medical Logistics Command are uniquely positioned to fill.

Over two days in early April, a maintenance team from AMLC's Medical Maintenance Operations Division at Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pennsylvania, or MMOD-PA, performed calibration and maintenance checks on over 130 devices in support of the Guard's 224th Medical Company (Area Support) near Gaithersburg.

"The Maryland National Guard plays a vital role in our nation's readiness and we're proud to reinforce that mission through dependable medical maintenance support,"

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MMOD-PA Director William Wall said. “When their equipment is ready, their Soldiers are ready; and that’s what matters most.”

The 224th MCAS holds the largest medical inventory of Maryland Guard units, but relies on just two Soldiers who manage its vast and varied equipment, including vehicles and tools in addition to their primary responsibilities.

“Medical is complex and a lot different from other types of commodities,” said 1st Lt. Jaleh Ames, an evacuation platoon leader with the unit. “It’s a lot for them to do it just themselves, so we need as much support as we can.”

The support can be a game-changer, especially in the case of

the 224th MCAS, a Role 2 medical unit that is preparing for an upcoming overseas deployment as part of its annual training requirement.

Compared to a Role 1, or initial battlefield care for Soldiers, Role 2 units act as a bridge between battlefield care and field hospitals, providing enhanced medical capabilities, including triage, trauma management and holding capabilities for patients.

MMOD-PA technician Frank Cali performed calibrations, function checks and other services on the unit’s inventory of devices, including patient monitors, defibrillators, imaging devices, steam sterilizers, dental sets and more.

For Staff Sgt. Amber Charles, the unit’s supply sergeant, the visit

provided immediate and tangible relief as the unit prepares to deploy.

“Having this team here, it helps me clear a lot off my plate, making sure our equipment is good to go,” Charles said.

While the on-site work provides a crucial boost to maintenance metrics, Charles said it’s about more than just scores, especially as the 224th prepares to support a medical training exercise in Estonia alongside NATO partners.

“They’ve knocked out a lot of maintenance on our equipment ... and all of this is going with us on our mission,” she said.

Cali understands the dynamic well. He sees the team’s role as more than just technical. They also serve



*Frank Cali, a biomedical equipment technician with U.S. Army Medical Logistics Command, inspects a suction machine with Maryland National Guard Staff Sgt. Amber Charles, supply sergeant for the 224th Medical Company (Area Support), during a maintenance site visit in support of the unit April 1 near Gaithersburg, Maryland.*

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as ambassadors for AMLC and its capabilities, building relationships and ensuring Guard units know how to request additional support when needed.

“I know this is a part-time job for a lot of people,” he said. “We’re just trying to verify the equipment is good and reliable, and when you put your name on that, you have a level of trust there that it will be used and perform adequately.”

AMLC, a major subordinate command of U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, operates three stateside MMODs. Pending resourcing from the National Guard, MMOD-PA is postured to support Guard units throughout the northeastern U.S., while other sites in Utah and California aim to serve their respective geographical regions.

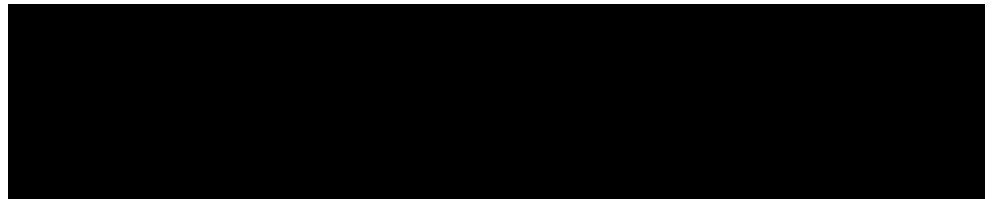
By bringing these services directly to the armories and motor pools of National Guard units across the country, AMLC can assist part-time units in maintaining full-time ready equipment.

“It makes you feel good that you can do that,” Cali reflected. “You’re supporting the agency, the Soldier and the mission as a whole. That’s really what it’s all about.”

By C.J. Lovelace



*Frank Cali, a biomedical equipment technician with U.S. Army Medical Logistics Command, performs maintenance checks on a patient monitor April 1 during a support visit to the 224th Medical Company (Area Support), Maryland National Guard, near Gaithersburg, Maryland.*



# Fixed and forward: Army boosting readiness with new medical maintenance strategy



*Biomedical equipment technicians Anson Weathers, left, and Eduardo Barraza-Cardenas perform maintenance checks on a C-arm medical device at U.S. Army Medical Logistics Command's Medical Maintenance Operations Division in Tracy, California. Weathers and Baraza-Cardenas are also members of the MMOD's "fly-away team," which is comprised of expert technicians who can deploy into the field to support units with maintenance needs. (U.S. Army photos by Katie Ellis-Warfield)*

FORT DETRICK, Md. – In a move to increase readiness, U.S. Army Medical Logistics Command has redefined its Forward Repair Activity-Medical, or FRA-M, shifting from deployable experts to physical, home-station maintenance sites.

This change, along with the formalization of “fly-away” teams, marks a significant step in enhancing medical readiness and support for the operational force. It is a key part of a wider transformational effort, Medical Logistics in Campaigning, or MiC, which aims to better integrate medical logistics into the Army’s wider sustainment enterprise.

Previously, the term FRA-M was synonymous with the mobile teams

of highly skilled medical maintenance personnel who deployed to assist units in the field. Under the new MiC initiative, AMLC rebranded its forward repair capability to better align with other Army commodities.

Today, the program establishes maintenance sites on Army installations, bringing vital field-level support to operational units. The FRA-M sites, starting with Fort Bragg in October 2024, provide regional support for units lacking their own organic biomedical equipment specialists, or 68As.

The goal is to bridge a long-standing readiness gap caused by the costly and time-consuming process of shipping devices to AMLC’s Medical

Maintenance Operations Divisions, or MMODs, which continue to provide sustainment-level support.

“This is a fundamental shift in our support posture,” said Alfred Zamora, interim deputy director for the FRA-M, a program under AMLC’s Medical Maintenance Management Directorate, or M3D. “We’re pushing maintenance support to the tactical edge, so commanders no longer have to take critical equipment offline for weeks. This gives them back time and ensures life-saving equipment stays with the Soldiers who need it.”

The Fort Bragg FRA-M site completed over 1,600 maintenance service requirements in its first year. AMLC is planning future expansion

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to additional locations, including Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington.

While the FRA-M's definition has changed, AMLC still provides skilled, mobile maintenance support through its fly-away teams.

These teams consist of expert Soldiers and Army Civilians who deploy from AMLC's MMODs to troubleshoot and repair complex medical equipment anywhere in the world.

The fly-away team does not replace unit-level maintainers, who are still responsible for providing significant capability as first-call technicians. They have the training and experience to perform scheduled services, such as preventative maintenance checks and services, calibration and safety checks on equipment.

Rather, the fly-away team assists, mentors and provides critical back-up expertise, enhancing unit-level medical readiness.

William Wall, director of AMLC's MMOD-PA at Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pennsylvania, described the teams as a "force multiplier for medical readiness."

"As FRA-M increases field-level capacity, MMODs can hone-in on what we're built to do: provide sustainment-level expertise for the most complex systems and repairs," Wall said. "That balance creates a healthier flow of work across the enterprise and ensures units receive timely, appropriate support without pulling equipment out of the fight longer than necessary. When paired with our ability to project specialized teams forward, it truly becomes a force multiplier for medical readiness."

At the heart of both initiatives is the mission to support the 68A medical maintenance community. These Soldiers are crucial for ensuring that life-saving medical devices are always ready for use.

The new FRA-M sites provide 68As with local resources and a valuable training ground to work alongside



*Mark Kisel, lead biomedical equipment technician at U.S. Army Medical Logistics Command's Medical Maintenance Operations Division at Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pennsylvania, performs checks on a medical device. Kisel is one of several technicians from MMOD-PA who are part of the division's "fly-away team," a group of expert techs who can deploy into the field to provide maintenance support to operational units.*

experienced maintainers.

"The professional advancement of our 68A biomedical equipment specialists remains a critical component of our mission," said Wes Ladlee, chief of M3D's Maintenance Support Office. "The FRA-M sites serve as additional hubs for technical development, enabling junior specialists to leverage the extensive institutional knowledge of veteran technicians. This structured mentorship is fundamental to cultivating the high-level proficiency and confidence required to sustain operations and enable flexibility in our formations."

This dual-pronged approach – both fixed, regional support and rapid, deployable expertise – represents a significant enhancement of the Army's medical logistics capabilities.

"Ultimately, this is about keeping a promise – that a Soldier's medical devices will work, every time," M3D

Director Jorge Magana said. "This new approach of fixed FRA-M sites and rapid-response fly-away teams ensures we keep that promise, making our Army more resilient, lethal and ready to win on any battlefield."

By C.J. Lovelace 

# BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY



April 23 was all about the kids, and possibly some future medical logisticians! AMLC and CECOM's Integrated Logistics Support Center-Medical Systems Directorate hosted a Bring Your Child to Work Day at Fort Detrick. The action-packed event was filled with engaging activities for youngsters, designed to showcase the MEDLOG mission. This included static displays around headquarters, Army Fitness Test equipment demonstrations and a field-experience station complete with MREs and camouflage face paint. Thank you to everyone who helped make the day a great success! (U.S. Army photos by Katie Ellis-Warfield and Mina Ellis)



# BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY



# AMLC AWARDS CEREMONY



AMLC leaders recognized numerous staff members during a quarterly awards ceremony April 10 at Fort Detrick, Maryland. The awardees included:

- Meritorious Civilian Service Medal – Leigh Anne Alexander
- Army Achievement Medal – Capt. Justine Juan, Sgt. 1st Class David Troxler
- Civilian Service Achievement Medal – Geri Morrow, Kenneth Daniels, Stephanie Lindsey, Donyelle Scurry
- Length of Service Awards – 5 years: Michael McHugh, Christopher Rogers, Ann Thomas; 10 years: Richard Brown; 15 years: Jamie Cali, Ted Lewis; 20 years: Jason Provo; 25 years: William Smith; 30 years: Alan Barnett, Jorge Magana, Aaron Sears; 35 years: Scott Burgamy; and 45 years: Kevin Cullihan

(U.S. Army photos by C.J. Lovelace)

# AMLC AWARDS CEREMONY



*Congratulations!*

# AMLC CELEBRATES APRIL BIRTHDAYS



*The AMLC command team recognized several team members who celebrated birthdays in the month of April during a recent awards ceremony. They included Lt. Col. Reuben Doornink, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Garron Johnson, Jason Gatti and Jennifer Ridenour. (U.S. Army photos by C.J. Lovelace)*



**GET YOUR GEMINI  
BRANDED  
MERCHANDISE AT:**



# HAZARD VERSUS NEAR MISS



(CONDITION)

**HAZARD**

(ACT)

A condition or activity with the potential to cause injury, illness, or death of personnel; damage to or loss of equipment or property; or mission degradation.



**NEAR MISS**

An unplanned event that has the potential to cause harm but did not result in a mishap.



**MISHAP**

An unplanned event that results in death, injury, or illness of personnel; or property damage.

## WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

A hazard could lead to a mishap but hasn't resulted in a near-miss. A near-miss is something that did occur but no harm was caused.



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# LANDS' END Outfitters



**GET YOUR AMLC &  
GEMINI BRANDED  
GEAR AT:**



*This does not constitute an official endorsement by the U.S. government.*

# SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



## Paglia's promotion at MMOD-UT

Congratulations to Staff Sgt. Jason Paglia on his recent promotion! An experienced biomedical equipment specialist at AMLC's Medical Maintenance Operations Division at Hill Air Force Base, Utah (MMOD-UT), Staff Sgt. Paglia recently completed the Army's Advanced Leader Course. His dedication and expertise as a medical maintainer are a tremendous asset to the MMOD-UT team. Please join us in congratulating him on this significant career milestone!



## Smith's retirement

Join us in extending our heartfelt congratulations to Maj. Matt Smith on his retirement from the U.S. Army! After a distinguished career marked by unwavering dedication and leadership, Maj. Smith is embarking on a new and well-deserved chapter. We are incredibly grateful for his service to our nation.



# SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



## Wright visits local middle school

AMLC's very own Command Sgt. Maj. Gabriel Wright from AMLC, along Fort Detrick Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Erick Detrich and Staff Sgt. Amber Smith, 21st Signal Brigade, spent March 27 at West Frederick Middle School's Career Day. They shared valuable perspectives on military careers, inspiring students to explore service and leadership. Thank you to West Frederick Middle School for hosting such an impactful event!



## National Guard Bureau delivery to MMOD-PA

A big thank you to the crew from the 2/104th General Support Aviation Battalion out of Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, for their expert handling of a recent drop-off of medical equipment. They delivered vital medical equipment via a UH-60 Black Hawk to our Medical Maintenance Operations Division at Tobyhanna Army Depot, March 31. This partnership is crucial for ensuring medical readiness to the warfighter.



# SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



## Farewell to Crown

AMLC leaders recognized Public and Congressional Affairs Director Ellen Crown for nearly three decades of service during a retirement get-together on April 23. Past and present AMLC team members gathered in downtown Frederick for the send-off, celebrating her 29 years of combined military and federal service and offering well wishes as she calls it a career. Thank you, Ellen, for your support to the enterprise and helping us tell the MEDLOG story!



## AMC visit to MMOD-PA

It was an honor to host Lt. Gen. Chris Mohan, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, during his recent visit to Tobyhanna Army Depot on March 31. During his tour, Mohan visited the Army Medical Logistics Command's MMOD-PA facility to see firsthand the work our team is doing to support Army readiness.

# SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



## Wu's retirement

Congratulations to Sgt. 1st Class Tie Wu on an incredible career! On April 24, leaders from the Army Medical Logistics Command and the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency gathered alongside family and friends to celebrate Sgt. 1st Class Wu's retirement. During the ceremony, he was recognized for 20 years of outstanding and dedicated service to our nation.



### What life lesson would you pass on?

I think one underrated piece of advice has to do with talent versus tenacity. You don't have to be the most naturally brilliant person in your field. But you do have to be willing to put in the work. Be persistent, steadfast and disciplined. Earn trust and build skills over time. It all works out in the end.

### What did you enjoy most about your job?

What I enjoy the most about my job is getting the honor of telling people's stories and putting a human face on the MEDLOG mission. Whether it was making a video, writing an article, shaping a graphic or writing a speech, I always tried to weave the human element of people's stories into the narrative. That is how we get people to personally connect with our mission and ultimately see the value we deliver to warfighters.

### How long have you worked here?

I have been with AMLC since the start when we were first activated in 2019. Prior to the creation of AMLC, I served with USAMMA for three and a half years. Prior to USAMMA, I served at various organizations throughout the government and initially spent six years on active duty as a Navy journalist. On April 30, I retire after almost 30 years of service.



### ELLEN CROWN

Director, Public and Congressional Affairs, AMLC HQ



### What are you going to do in retirement?

Priority number one is to spend more time with my two amazing children, Brooke and Ben, and my dear husband Chris who has been an unwavering source of support throughout my career. We love to hike around the local area and we also enjoy traveling – and I am grateful to get a chance to do more of that while my body can keep up. Also, my son recently discovered baseball, so I plan to spend a lot of time driving him to practices and games. It is quite possible that my next job could be “baseball mom!”

### What do you do outside of work?

I love anything that allows me to be creative. From baking to art, fashion and writing, I just enjoy “making” things. I am also a huge animal lover and like to visit animal preservations as well as conservation-based zoos.

If you have an All-Star in YOUR organization, please email us at [usarmy.detrick.amlc.mbx.pca@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.detrick.amlc.mbx.pca@army.mil)!

### What do you do?

I am the manager of the Forward Repair Activity-Medical site at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Here, we provide units at Campell and the surrounding states. I oversee the day-to-day operations of the facility, including process improvements, customer relations and coordination of schedules of the incoming units for drop-off of equipment.

### What do you do outside of work?

I like working outdoors. I have a hobby farm where I raise chickens and ducks. I do also put time into a small garden when I am not working on my 100-year-old house.

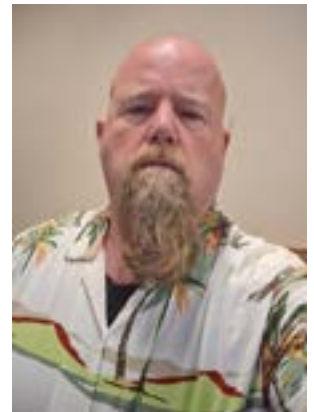
### How long have you worked here?

A total of about 16 years -- 2010 to 2025 under USAMMA, and now 2025 to present with AMLC.



### CHRISTOPHER KAREL

Site manager,  
Forward Repair Activity-Medical (Fort  
Campbell, Kentucky)



### What's your favorite quote?

*"Knowledge is like money: to be of value it must circulate, and in circulating it can increase in quantity and, hopefully, in value."*  
— Louis L'Amour

I do enjoy sharing information and the ability to talk to BMETs that come to the FRA-M site for whatever equipment related concerns they have.

### What do you enjoy most about your job?

I do like the interaction with the different BMET's (biomedical equipment technicians) we encounter daily. The talking through of general problem-solving and sharing of knowledge; it is a small field, and I see the same BMETs continually.

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**What do you do?**

I am the sole enlisted Air Force liaison at the Army's largest medical materiel distribution hub supporting EUCOM, AFRICOM and AFCENT. I lead the optimization of supply chain management for \$141M in Class VIII supply annually through strategic sourcing, conduct site visits and develop training standards for 5 MTFs and 62 Air Force accounts.

**What do you enjoy most about your job?**

What I love most about my role as a medical materiel technician is knowing that our work is the backbone of life-saving operations. In the Air Force, our mottos are "Not Without Us" and "Whatever It Takes." To me, this represents our unwavering commitment to ensuring our doctors, nurses and technicians have the exact supplies they need to care for our service members and their families. Every single day, our efforts directly determine whether a medical provider has the right equipment in hand to save a life.

**What's your favorite quote?**

"If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it."

To me, this means that God will never put me through something that I cannot handle. Sometimes the hardest challenges make us the strongest.



**TECH. SGT.  
ALEXANDRA SANDERS**

**Medical materiel technician/Air Force LNO, USAMMC-E**



**What do you do outside of work?**

I like to volunteer at Kaiserslautern High School, supporting the JROTC and Athletic Booster Club. I also like DIY projects, including making T-shirts or wine glasses.

**How long have you worked here?**

Two years.

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### What do you do?

As an IT specialist, I am the frontline of IT support for our organization. My primary role is to ensure that all team members can perform their duties without any technological interruptions. This involves managing and troubleshooting our IT systems, providing timely user support and safeguarding our digital infrastructure. I see myself as a problem-solver and a mission enabler, making sure the digital gears of USAMMC-K are always turning smoothly and securely.

### What do you enjoy most about your job?

I enjoy the challenge of solving a complex technical puzzle. There's a great sense of satisfaction when a difficult issue is resolved and my colleagues get back to their mission without delay. Knowing that my work directly impacts on our team's efficiency is what truly motivates me.

### How long have you worked here?

I have been a dedicated member of the USAMMC-K family since October 1, 2015. It has been a privilege to support our mission for over a decade, witnessing and contributing to our technological growth and operational excellence.



**YONGHWA SON**

**IT specialist,  
USAMMC-K**



### What's your favorite quote?

My favorite quote is from Admiral William H. McRaven: "If you want to change the world, start off by making your bed."

This quote perfectly reflects my approach to IT. A secure network isn't built on one heroic fix, but on the consistent, daily disciplines—checking the logs, verifying backups and applying patches. These are the small, essential habits that prevent big problems and guarantee our team can always achieve its mission.

### What do you do outside of work?

It's a bit of an irony, but I like to hit the gym to handle our increasingly lightweight IT gear. When I'm not doing that, I love to travel to historical sites, go camping and just play around with AI.

If you have an All-Star in YOUR organization, please email us at [usarmy.detrick.amlc.mbx.pca@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.detrick.amlc.mbx.pca@army.mil)!