



Huntsville Center  
**Bulletin**



U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville

# Homecoming

for Center's New Commander

See Page 5





# Table of Contents

## Content

Employee Spotlight: Jaclyn Fuller.....4  
 Homecoming for Center’s new commander.....5  
 Center closes fiscal 2019 at \$2 billion in obligations.....6  
 Efforts continue at Fort Bliss medical center.....7  
 Center ahead of the curve on USACE data.....8  
 FRP set to demolish unusable NASA facility.....10  
 FRP partners with National Demolition Association.....11  
 Training boosts safety acumen.....12  
 HPC program procures mobile supercomputer for Defense Department .....13  
 Certification, education at the core of Center’s success.....14  
 Energy Division’s expertise attracts contractors for ESPC workshop.....15  
 Ethics Corner: Values and ethical decision .....16

## Images

Inspiring.....9



Small Business Forum.....13



## Hail and farewell

### Welcome

Ordnance and Explosives Directorate: **Morgan Morrison**. Engineering Directorate: **Matthew McDonald, Steve Mosbey, Michael Mazerat, Katherine Christmas**.

Installation Support and Programs Management Directorate: **Benjamin Walp, Shasta Davis, Morgan Hales, Nancy Strube, Michael McCool, Katlyn Randal, Evan Treadwell, Ken Salter, Justin Shelton, Chaz Rogers, Charles Samuel**.

Center Contracting: **Andrew Page, Angelynn Gunn, Brian Roden, Jeff Haubenreiser, Jessica Jackson, Kamisha Hollaway, Lizette Kummer, Tim McMillan, Valerie Murphy, Vick Peltier, Yolanda McCray Ashley Bowers, Betty Davis, Darvy Hackler, David Hackler**.

### Farewell

ISPM: **Pervis Russell, LaKeshia Dunigan**.

CT: **Kamisha Hollaway**.

# Commander's thoughts



want to thank you all for the warm welcome. You have made the Griffin family feel right at home.

It's an honor for me to be a part of this great organization and I look forward to meeting each of you over the next several months.

As commander of Savannah District, I had many opportunities to work with the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville regarding projects within that District. I always felt the Center did outstanding work and I know we will continue to do outstanding work.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is a globally-recognized leader in engineering, science, and acquisition, and Huntsville Center is recognized globally for its role in supporting the USACE mission.

Once again the Center surpassed \$2 billion in total obligations for Fiscal 2019 and the Center's leadership are very proud of your accomplishments.

The work you do every year is vital to national defense and I hope you recognize how much it means to the men and women serving in uniform in every branch of service.

I am extremely honored to be associated with such a remarkable group of professionals and thank you all for your long hours and hard work.

The work we do provides vital support to the nation. Despite the demands of year-end, we took time to host Maj. Gen. Anthony Funkhouser

As the Deputy Commanding General for Military and International Operations, he is responsible for policy, programming, and technical

support in the execution of more than \$18 billion of design, construction, and environmental programs for the U.S. Army, the U.S. Air Force, other Department of Defense and Federal agencies, and foreign countries.

General Funkhouser exercises programmatic oversight over Huntsville Center.

During our meeting, we provided updates in critical areas such as the Center's end of fiscal year obligations and remaining work.

We also provided him with updates in mission critical functional areas such as facility and industrial controls systems, utility monitoring control and electronic security systems, low voltage facility-related systems, chemical weapon demilitarization and the Center's support to the combatant commanders such as Task Forces Power and Safe.

General Funkhouser is impressed by the quality and quantity of our work, and most importantly, he continues to be impressed with the outstanding professionals in Huntsville Center.

Congratulations go out to Mike May and Lori Wood, our employees of the month for September.

Mike is the Center's visual information specialist and does a great job providing VI products supporting all aspects of the Center.

Lori is a logistics management specialist and has been at the forefront of the Center's move to 475 Quality Circle.

Speaking of Quality Circle, the design team recently unveiled



**Col. Marvin Griffin**

upcoming enhancements to our new home. In the near future we'll see new carpet, paint, office furniture and cubicles.

We will also see an overhaul of the command conference room, the law library, the logistics management area and new signage on the building's exterior.

Pending electrical repairs that are being resolved through GSA, work should also resume with furniture installation and the remaining transition back into the building's Southwest Quadrant.

With October now upon us, everyone can take a breather now.

However, that won't last too long as the holidays are fast approaching.

Please take the time to enjoy the fall season and enjoy your family, friends and loved ones.



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**

*The Huntsville Center Bulletin is printed by digital copier as an official publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the U.S. Army. Inquiries can be addressed to Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, Attn: CEHNC-PA, 5021 Bradford Dr., Huntsville, AL 35805. Phone: DSN 760-1692 or commercial 256-895-1692. The Bulletin is also available online at [www.hnc.usace.army.mil](http://www.hnc.usace.army.mil). The Huntsville Center Facebook page is located at [www.facebook.com/HuntsvilleCenter](https://www.facebook.com/HuntsvilleCenter). Follow Huntsville Center news and announcements on Twitter using hashtag #CEHNC. Circulation: 350.*

## BULLETIN

Commander..... **Col. Marvin Griffin**  
Chief, Public Affairs..... **Catherine Carroll**  
Editor..... **William S. Farrow**



**Printed on recycled paper  
30 percent post-consumer**



Employee Spotlight :

# Jaclyn Fuller



Roy W. Malone Jr., director of the Office of Center Operations at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, presents the "Capturing It Now Award" to Jaclyn Fuller, project manager in the Facility Reduction Program at the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, June 17, 2019. Malone visited Huntsville Center to personally recognize Fuller for her work as project manager for the NASA Santa Susana Field Laboratory demolition project in southern California.

## By Stephen Baack Public Affairs Office

The director of the Office of Center Operations at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center visited the Huntsville Center to recognize the hard work of a project manager with the Facility Reduction Program.

Roy W. Malone Jr., who holds a senior executive service position classification, presented the "Capturing It Now Award" to Jaclyn Fuller on behalf of Marshall's Office of Center Operations to recognize her for her work and accomplishments as project manager for the NASA Santa Susana Field Laboratory demolition project in southern California.

Santa Susana Field Laboratory played a role in the development

and testing of the rockets and other systems that became part of NASA's Apollo missions. Since then, NASA has opted to divest of the facilities and structures that comprise its portion of the site, which Malone said includes and demolition and environmental remediation.

"It so happens that Jaclyn is our point of contact, our program manager for our demolition programs at Santa Susana," Malone said to a group gathered in Huntsville Center's command conference room.

"And we've had other program managers before who were assisting us, and they did a good job, but Jaclyn just kills it based on what I'm told. She's always ready and always answering questions, going the extra mile to find information," Malone added.

"She is a major part of our efforts

of successfully completing – almost completing – the demolition."

Fuller, who has worked with NASA as the primary PM since January 2018, is quick to give credit to the members of the Facility Reduction Program team.

"I am very honored to receive this award and was not expecting this at all, but it could not have been accomplished without the FRP team," Fuller said.

"We absolutely depend on our partners, and the Corps is a major partner to Marshall Space Flight Center in the demolition activities and the work that we're doing out there," Malone said. "We couldn't do it by ourselves." The Capturing It Now Award is his organization's way of recognizing someone within a short timeframe for their excellence, he said. "Anyone can nominate anybody who they see doing a wonderful job," Malone said.

The **Employee Spotlight** is intended to highlight Center employees who positively impact the organization through mission achievements. Employees are featured quarterly in the Huntsville Center Bulletin. If you'd like to nominate someone for this recognition, please contact William S. Farrow, Public Affairs Office, at 256-895-1694, or email: [william.farrow@usace.army.mil](mailto:william.farrow@usace.army.mil).





Photo by Catherine Carroll

Maj. Gen. Richard Kaiser, right, deputy chief of engineers and deputy commanding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, presents the Huntsville Center's colors to Col. Marvin Griffin, as Albert "Chip" Marin III, Huntsville Center programs director looks on.

## Homecoming for Center's new commander

By William S. Farrow  
Public Affairs Office

A new commander took over the leadership and direction of Huntsville Center, during a change of command ceremony Aug. 15 at the University of Alabama in Huntsville's Chan Auditorium.

During the ceremony, Maj. Gen. Richard Kaiser, deputy chief of engineers and deputy commanding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers presented Huntsville Center's colors to Col. Marvin Griffin, signifying the organization's change in leadership. Griffin assumed command from Lt. Col. H. W. Hugh Darville, who had served as the Center's interim commander since April.

Darville return to his position as the Center's deputy commander.

Griffin will lead more than 1,000 employees at the Center's headquarters in Huntsville, Alabama, and its offices in Omaha, Nebraska, and Alexandria, Virginia.

He will also provide guidance and direction of the Center's global operations to include various program and project management, engineering and support disciplines totaling more than \$3 billion in fiscal year 2018. During his

speech to the hundreds of employees on hand for the event, Kaiser noted Griffin's extensive experience.

"You've got a seasoned commander," Kaiser said.

"This is Marv's third command. Marv is smart and he will learn fast. He'll get up to speed real quick and he knows what to do. He's the leader you deserve and the leader that will take this team forward."

Griffin most recently served as the chief engineer for the Resolute Support Mission and U.S. Forces-Afghanistan as part of Operation Freedom's Sentinel in Kabul, Afghanistan. He returned from his 11 month deployment in June. He also served as commander of the Savannah District, USACE from 2015 to 2018, and commanded the 62nd Engineer Battalion (Construction) at Fort Hood, Texas, including its deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan from 2011 to 2013.

Griffin, an Enterprise, Alabama native, said taking command of Huntsville Center was a real homecoming. "It's great to be here back in my home state again," Griffin said.

"This is a great community in Huntsville, and we're incredibly blessed to be here. I'm honored to join your team at Huntsville Center and I look forward to getting to work to help deliver these incredible programs."



Photo by Catherine Carroll

Ron Brook, Huntsville Center Fuels program manager, updates his program's obligation numbers Sept. 23. August and September are two of the busiest months for the Center when stakeholders' requests for projects surge as they obligate money before the end of the fiscal year.

## Center closes fiscal 2019 at \$2 billion in obligations

By William S. Farrow  
Public Affairs Office

In fiscal 2019, the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville awarded more than 4,800 contract actions totaling more than \$2.2 billion in obligations for its stakeholders.

The awards effectively and efficiently establish the framework required for thousands of projects supporting military and government agencies globally through the sustainment, maintenance and upgrading of existing facilities, utilities and infrastructure and create solutions to support the nation's toughest engineering challenges.

As Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' focal point for management of programs that are out of the ordinary, highly specialized, or new, Huntsville Center's capabilities provide HQ USACE with a core capability for programs that do not fit clearly into a geographic region or functional category.

According to Amy Sullivan, Huntsville Center financial management analyst, the Center's breakdown shows that of the \$2.2 billion obligated, 44% went to support the Army and 37% for the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Nine percent was dedicated to Army Corps of Engineers Information Technology. Four percent was earmarked for the Air Force and 3% for the Navy, and projects for NASA came in at

1%. More than \$25 million was obligated in grants and cooperative agreements.

Recent Huntsville Center projects include providing large-scale IT equipment to the USACE and the DOD, demolishing outdated and unused structures on NASA campuses, clearing ordnance in Afghanistan, providing energy reduction and savings programs at Army installations and renovating and equipping military clinics and hospitals.

Albert "Chip" Marin III, Huntsville Center Programs Director, said the teamwork and helping-hands attitude is what makes the Center so successful during the months prior to Sept. 30. During those months the Center sees a surge in stakeholders' requests for projects, mostly from the Center's 31 installation support programs.

"Everywhere I go people are talking about helping others as their own work comes to closure," Marin said. "That attitude is indicative of a caring workforce and is what makes Huntsville Center stellar."

Marin noted that more than 43 percent of the \$2 billion obligations were small business awards. That number pushed the Center over the \$6 billion mark in obligations awarded to U.S. small businesses over the last decade.

"Our willingness to go the extra yard in helping our stakeholders and customer fulfill their requirements, and the manner in which everyone pitched in to bring the fiscal year to a close, was outstanding," Marin said.



Courtesy photo

Partnering with the U.S. Army Health Facilities Planning Agency and Fort Worth District, Huntsville Center’s Medical Outfitting and Transition program is assisting with the transition process at the 1.1 million square foot William Beaumont Army Medical Center replacement hospital at Fort Bliss, Texas.

## Efforts continue at Fort Bliss medical center

**By Mark Thompson  
Public Affairs Office**

**H**untsville Center’s Medical Outfitting and Transition program continues to oversee efforts to determine equipment needs, make purchases, currently estimated at \$72 million, and plan and execute transition of staff, equipment and patients for the William Beaumont Army Medical Center replacement hospital at Fort Bliss, Texas. MO&T is working in concert with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Fort Worth District as it coordinates the project’s construction components.

According to a Fort Worth District news release, the replacement hospital will be a new 1.1 million square foot medical center to serve the growing active duty and retiree population in and around the Fort Bliss and El Paso area.

The campus will include a main hospital, inpatient and outpatient clinics, administrative building, research building, central utility plant, two access control points and surface parking with over 4,000 spaces.”

MO&T teams provide total turn-key

project support for the equipping and transitioning of staff and patients associated with new and renovated military healthcare and medical research laboratory facility construction projects to support the medical mission throughout the world.

Brian Bezilla, MO&T project manager, says his role is to perform daily project management duties and serve as Contracting Officer’s Representative on the MO&T contract.

The MO&T contractor engages with WBAMC staff to determine equipment needs, make purchases (currently estimated at \$72M) and plan and execute transition of staff, equipment and patients from existing to new spaces.

“The U.S. Army Health Facilities Planning Agency is my first line customer,” Bezilla said. ”

“At least seven Center programs support them in these efforts. The Center’s individual project delivery teams have partnered to organically function as a broad PDT committed to HFPA. HFPA is pleased that they can come to Huntsville Center and get their needs met under one roof.”

Bezilla notes, when completed, the WBAMC hospital will be the largest stateside medical center in the Army portfolio.

The hospital is actually a campus of six buildings, including administration, a clinical investigation, two clinics, hospital and central utility plant.

The facility is off post and will have two access control points off two major highways in East El Paso.

Bezilla credits his program’s success in the project to teamwork.

“The entirety of the Huntsville Center team deserves recognition and praise,” Bezilla said.

“As the construction pace constantly changes, we are required to be agile and adaptable in how we build and execute contracts. HFPA tends to work with MO&T over a longer time frame (currently six years on Fort Bliss) than other Center programs, so they tend to ask me the status of other programs’ efforts,” he said.

“Across the board, teams have been ready and willing to coordinate with me, provide advice and even asked me to review their work. As a result I consider us one big informal PDT.”



# Center ahead of the curve on USACE data

By Stephen Baack  
Public Affairs Office

As the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' commanding general issued a call to revolutionize its data strategy earlier this year, the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, was already well ahead of the curve.

In Lt. Gen. Todd Semonite's January 2019 "SemoNOTE" to the USACE team, he challenged leaders to develop a "sound data strategy encompassing strong data governance and quality analytics" to drive informed decision-making. Huntsville Center had a five-year head start on achieving this vision.

In 2014, Dan Heinzelman, then Huntsville Center's business manager, proposed a plan for a focus group that would later become the Business Practices office.

Dee Benson now leads this innovative team. She formulated the mission, selected the talent, and developed the way ahead. But it didn't happen overnight. "It was a very difficult time period because back then no one was thinking about data analytics and visualization," Benson said.

"There were no resources, and there were no tools to tap into. "Over the years, we sought out opportunities and whatever resources we could access, whether it be tangible software resources or networking throughout the enterprise, [to aid in analyzing and visualizing data]," she said. Benson's first step was finding the right people.

She began by writing new job descriptions and utilizing the Office of Personnel Management's Direct-Hire Authority process to quickly reach candidates with the right skills.

Benson also contacted the head of the Management Science / Business Analytics (Master of Science) degree program at the University of Alabama in Huntsville and other universities for



Photo by Stephen Baack

**Manveer Singh Khanijoun, a business data analyst with Business Practices at the Huntsville Center, navigates a Qlik Sense dashboard Aug. 28, 2019, as part of Huntsville Center's push to incorporate data analytics, visualization and automation into its everyday processes.**

possible candidates.

"Some of the key skill sets I looked for were, certainly, the ability to understand data; the ability to understand the types of tools and methods that could be utilized to mine and visualize data; and understanding things like data structure and data analytics," she added. In 2018, Benson hired Manveer Singh Khanijoun as a business data analyst.

That year, Khanijoun had earned his Master of Science in Business Analytics from the University of Alabama in Huntsville. About three months later, the SemoNOTE from January validated that the data strategies the team was working on were the exact things USACE was moving toward, Khanijoun said.

In December 2017, Business Practices began using the software application Qlik Sense, giving people the ability to create and share real-time data visualizations by using a custom "dashboard" of graphical elements and other key metrics.

Since then, the Center has automated many of its management control functions. The Business Practices team developed a dashboard for Human Capital to track and report acquisition workforce metrics for which the Army Acquisition Support Center holds the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers accountable. The ASC system uses what it calls the Career Acquisition Personnel and Position Management Information System, or CAPPMS.

Laura Beth Quick, Human Capital manager, has the responsibility of delivering a variety of employee metrics to CAPPMS. These metrics include employee certifications, Continuous Learning Points percentages, and the status of employees' Individual Development Plans and annual ethics training. The act of manually pulling the data from different sources, consolidating the information and then packaging it all into the correct format for CAPPMS was time-consuming,

**See DATA on Page 7**





## Inspiring

**Audrey Robinson, Esq., left, chief of counsel at NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, speaks during a Women’s Equality Day discussion panel at Huntsville Center Aug. 22. Robinson was joined on the panel by Dr. Juanita M. Christensen, executive director of the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation and Missile Center, and Karen Pane, director of Human Resources for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. During the panel, the Senior Executive Service level-guests discussed overcoming obstacles, following examples strong female role models set for them, and embracing lessons and opportunities throughout their careers.**

## DATA

Quick said.

“Before Business Practices got involved, I was pulling two different reports, merging them together, spending time sorting and filtering and doing all of those calculations by major subordinate command, the Center, and for USACE as a whole,” Quick said.

“With the Qlik Sense dashboard, I am able to turn three to four hours’ worth of work from those spreadsheets into less than five minutes.”

Another advantage of the Business Practices data strategy is that it requires employees to input data using more strict criteria.

The vision of where Huntsville Center is going is to have one central location that facilitates the collecting, mining and validation of the data in collaboration with the owners of the data, Benson said.

“This improves data integrity, which improves reporting, and ultimately

improves decision-making for leadership,” Khanijoun said. Also, Benson and her team have spearheaded the effort of automating the Contractor Performance Assessment Reporting System closeouts and put in place a tool for tracking Huntsville Center’s acquisition certifications across the enterprise – among other innovations.

“It tells the story of the data much better,” Benson said. “Prior to that there was just an Excel spreadsheet with no quality visualization.” Good visualization and displaying information in dynamic views make the data easier to digest, Khanijoun agreed.

“Business Processes has greatly aided the entirety of HNC in being better able to see itself through the extraction, consolidation and assessment of data from numerous sources,” said Albert “Chip” Marin III, the Huntsville Center

programs director.

“Their creation of visual tools to see and understand the data has been huge in allowing leaders to better understand issues, and thus, to make more informed decisions,” Marin added.

“Additionally, the automation of tools used in presenting information for Project Review Boards, Acquisition Line Item Reviews, and Program-Branch-Division-Directorate Line Item Reviews are noteworthy and have saved countless man-hours previously spent manually gathering and displaying data.”

The topic of data analytics may not be glamorous, but it is revolutionizing the way the Center does business.

“I think it’s a huge success story for Huntsville Center that not everyone here knows about,” Benson said.

“We have formed a group of people who are implementing pivotal data strategies.”



NASA photo

Huntsville Center's Facility Reduction Program awarded an \$11 million contract for the abatement and demolition of the 500,000 square foot administrative building located on NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans. A tornado damaged the building resulting in its closing due to asbestos contamination.

## FRP set to demolish unusable NASA facility

By William S. Farrow  
Public Affairs Office

**H**untsville Center recently awarded an \$11 million contract for the abatement and demolition of a visitor center entrance and a 500,000 square foot administration building on the campus of NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans.

Several structures on the 839-acre campus were damaged during a 2017 tornado and most are operational today. However, a structure set to be demolished hasn't been occupied since then.

Huntsville Center's Facilities Reduction Program manager said the project is cumbersome not only due to the size of the facility, but also due to the environmental regulations associated with the demolition.

"This is one of the largest FRP demolition projects, and the largest abatement project FRP has taken on," said Michelle Clark, FRP manager. "The structures were built before the restrictions for using asbestos were put into place. The tornado shook the entire building, covering everything—computers, chairs, filing cabinets, work stations—it was all covered with asbestos," she said.

"As such, FRP's contractor, Bhat Environmental Associates, Inc., will treat and dispose of everything as asbestos-containing material."

Huntsville Center's FRP eliminates excess facilities and structures using Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity contracts. The program's four regional Multiple Award Task Order Contracts execute demolition, and a Single Award Task Order Contract is on hand for specialized demolition expertise required in situations like the MAF project.

For more than half a century, NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility has been the agency's "rocket factory," the nation's premiere site for manufacture and assembly of large-scale space structures and systems. Currently, the MAF is responsible for manufacturing and assembling the core stage of NASA's next-generation heavy-lift rocket, the Space Launch System.

The facility is also involved in manufacturing large structures and composites for the Orion crew vehicle.

Previously, NASA used the facility to assemble the external propulsion tanks for the space shuttle program, as well as Saturn V moon rocket stages. MAF is managed by NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center on Redstone Arsenal.



# FRP partners with National Demolition Association

By William S. Farrow  
Public Affairs Office

Huntsville Center is partnering with the National Demolition Association, a non-profit, trade association representing companies involved in demolition and demolition related activities.

The partnership will ensure the entire demolition industry benefits through increasing contractor's access to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' education and training programs. The partnership also provides NDA members access to safety and risk management best practices and resources.

Huntsville Center's Facilities Reduction Program eliminates excess facilities and structures to reduce Government energy and maintenance costs, eliminate safety hazards, nuisances, and unsightly structures, and free up valuable Government real estate for future development.

The FRP centrally manages these programs with execution accomplished through installations, USACE districts and Installation Support Center of Expertise product delivery teams. FRP assists installations and regions in developing lists of removal candidates, preparing statutorily required documentation and performing pre-demolition environmental surveys, in addition to removing excess inventory.

"The NDA and USACE jointly share industry best practices and develop and support programs and activities which will have a significant impact on the safety and well-being of workers in the demolition industry and provide companies and workers the skills and knowledge necessary to mitigate risk and enhance opportunity for success on projects," said Jeffrey Lambert, NDA's chief executive officer. Lambert said access to USACE training and best practices ensures the highest standards of work are performed on



File photo

**Workers employed by Bhate Environmental Services Inc., a Huntsville Center Facilities Reduction Program contractor, deconstruct a chapel on Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri in 2015. Huntsville Centers partnership with the National Demolition Association, a non-profit, trade association representing companies involved in demolition and demolition related activities, provides NDA members access to safety and risk management best practices**

USACE projects.

"Huntsville Center Facility Reduction Program has an excellent track record of Multiple Award Task Order Contracting, ensuring best in class contractors perform required work safely and implement industry best practices," he said.

The partnership also benefits Huntsville Center's FRP by providing a "pool" of safe, reliable best-in-class demolition contractors to bid on projects to service USACE projects, said Michelle Clark, Huntsville Center's FRP manager.

She said the FRP also references NDA practices, contractual documents and manuals too. "This partnership will be mutually beneficial to develop peripherals that are strictly aligned, at a minimum, to our requirements," Clark said.

Huntsville Center's Facility Reduction Program the NDA will host each organizations' industry experts at events and conference

and facilitate training and education for USACE contractors as well as collaborate to assess, contribute, and utilize recommendations in the continual development and promotion of the Foundations of Demolition Management Training Series in capability/capacity assessments and referral in the MATOC process.

In 2004, FRP was created when the U.S. Army Installation Management Command selected a single execution agent, USACE, to centrally manage the program to simplify and streamline facility removal efforts.

As a result of FRP's best in class approach, its customer base has grown to include the Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and, National Aeronautics and Space Association.

In addition, facility removal has expanded to include re-location of transportable facilities and disassembly of metal structures, providing the Army with the opportunities for recycling and re-use.





Photo by Stephen Baack

**Kyle Shireman, a safety manager with Huntsville Center, leads safety training for contractors specializing in electronic security systems.**

## Training boosts safety acumen

**By Stephen Baack  
Public Affairs Office**

**M**ore than 40 contractors representing 15 companies took part in the Electronic Security Systems Contractor Safety Summit at Huntsville Center, July 24-25.

The field of electronic security systems includes access control, intrusion detection and video surveillance for facilities or perimeters of land. Huntsville Center is home to the Electronic Security Systems program and serves as the Electronic Security Systems Mandatory Center of Expertise for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Kyle Shireman, safety manager for the Electronic Technology Division, led the training. Contractor safety officers comprised most of the group, but there was also a mix of project managers, program managers and senior-level officials from the visiting companies.

The purpose of the two-day summit was to discuss Huntsville Center's safety expectations and the emphasis that all levels of its management place on safety, and to exchange lessons learned, according to Kellie Williams, chief of Safety and Occupational Health.

A central part of the summit was covering the ins and outs of managing a safety program in accordance with the Corps of Engineers' Safety and Health Requirements Manual, Engineering Manual 385-1-1. The material included accident prevention plans, safety submittals, activity hazard analyses, contractor oversight and incident reporting. Shireman said while the ESS field may be generally less

hazardous than many other engineering and construction disciplines, it nevertheless has its own distinct risks. Low-voltage components like surveillance cameras, for example, must be connected to higher-voltage power sources. Also, the installation of many ESS components requires "working at heights." According to 385-1-1, fall protection is required at or above 6 feet for government employees and contractors who are working under the purview of USACE. Because contractors are often retrofitting older buildings with the ESS components, the facilities themselves can harbor their own safety risks.

"What I always tell them is, 'It's not only your job that's hazardous; it's also the facilities you're working on,' because we're going to old facilities," Shireman said.

"We don't always know the condition of the wiring when you start opening up walls, and you don't always know the people you're working around."

The seminar wasn't limited to safety ESS-specific safety subject matter because, as Shireman said, every work site has safety concerns and risks. Concurrent to the ESS Contractor Safety Summit, the Energy Division was also conducting two adjacent workshops, one of which was focused on safety.

Seizing the opportunity, Shireman teamed up with Safety Manager Will Eggleston as they delivered more detailed material for the larger, combined group. Safety wise, Shireman said, both audiences had plenty to learn from each other.

"When Will talked about his stuff," said, "it was hitting home with my personnel as well. The workshop was hugely beneficial from the feedback we're getting."

# HPC program procures mobile supercomputer for Defense Department

By William S. Farrow  
Public Affairs Office

Huntsville Center’s Facility Technology Integration, High Performance Computing Program recently procured a new supercomputer that will serve users from all of the services and agencies of the Department of Defense.

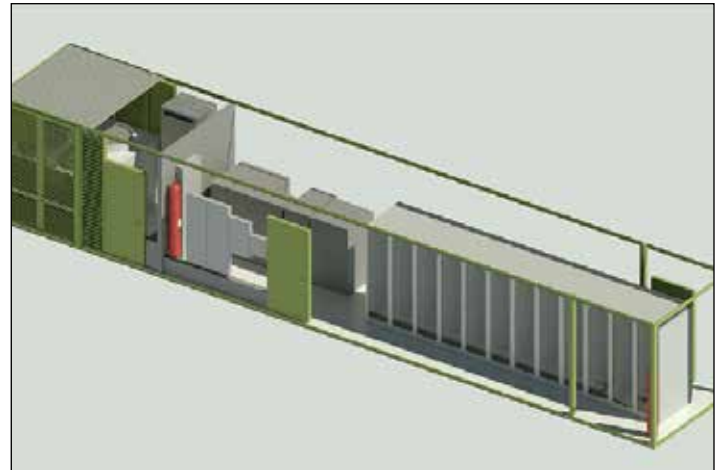
The \$12 million contract provides for a supercomputing system housed in a shipping container with onboard power conditioning and cooling, along with the corresponding hardware and software maintenance services.

The “HPC in a Container” is designed to be deployable to the tactical edge and deployment opportunities to remote locations are currently being evaluated. The new supercomputer will initially be based at the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Developmental Command Army Research Laboratory DOD Supercomputing Resource Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

Sally Parsons, Huntsville Center Information Technology Systems Division chief, said the system brings a significant capability to support militarily significant use-cases that were not possible with supercomputers installed in fixed facilities.

“This is a singularly important achievement for its end-users,” Parson’s said.

“Because of the sensitive nature of the work involved, we here at Huntsville Center will never know exactly the solutions this unique tool will provide in the field, but I am



**Design rendition of the containerized \$12 million supercomputer the Center procured for the Department of Defense.**

quite confident that our work will result in both lives saved and problems avoided.”

The Center’s HPC Program supports the Department of Defense High Performance Computing Modernization Program through the annual procurement of HPC systems.

The program utilizes a dedicated, multidiscipline product delivery team approach to meet its stakeholder’s requirements.

The PDT includes subject matter experts in the areas of project management, information assurance/cyber engineering, contracting, resource management, and legal counsel. The system is expected to be delivered later in 2019,

Registration is open for the Huntsville Center’s Small Business Forum 2019 set for Oct. 24 at the Davidson Center for Space Exploration, located on the U.S. Space and Rocket Center campus. This event is scheduled from 8 .a.m. – noon and features a general overview of upcoming acquisitions. To register for the event, visit [www.hnc.usace.army.mil](http://www.hnc.usace.army.mil) .



# Certification, education at the core of Center's success

By William S. Farrow  
Public Affairs Office

Huntsville Center has the certified experts stakeholders count on to accomplish unique, complex, global missions.

However, today's stakeholders are bringing even more complex requests to the Center requiring its more than 1,000 employees to deliver innovative solutions.

To meet those complex requests, the Center's workforce is ticking the required academic and professional boxes to become experts in their arenas. The Center currently has a stable of 20 employees with doctorate degrees.

More than 225 of the Center's employees are certified and registered as engineers, project managers, energy managers interior designers, architects, and cybersecurity professionals.

The Center's acquisition workforce has more than 650 acquisition professionals meeting and exceeding federal acquisition certification standards.

"The Center's success is dependent on educated, highly skilled workers," said Albert "Chip" Marin III, the Center's programs director. Marin provides oversight and guidance for the Center's 43 programs, and he understands in depth how certification and professional development improves each program's capabilities to provide solutions to stakeholders looking for safe, affordable and effective project delivery.

Marin said there are benefits to any agency having certified personnel on their team.

"An organization possessing a well-certified workforce instills confidence in the Center's stakeholders and customers that our workforce is technically competent and able to execute their requirements professionally," he said.

"Allowing employees to seek training for certifications instills a willingness



Photo by William S. Farrow

## A display of photos on a wall at Huntsville Center spotlights employee's certifications and professional credentials.

on management's part to ensure their workforce is trained and shows a commitment to the employee's professional development.

This commitment to our employees leads to employees trusting their leadership to take care of them," Marin said.

"A well-certified organization is better able to execute its missions day in and day out ... increasing our organizational effectiveness and productivity."

One of the Center's employees most recently accepted into a certification program is Jesus Ramirez-Rodriguez, Fuels Branch deputy program manager. Ramirez was selected to participate in the Certificate of Construction Management Program at Auburn University's McWhorter School of Building Science.

"Jesus' application to this program shows his dedication to his professional development. His selection for the program ensures he continues to deliver vital public and military engineering solutions and services to the nation and its partners at an even higher level of competence," said Dennis Bacon, Fuels Branch chief.

Ramirez said he applied to the program for an opportunity to continue learning and growing professionally.

"This program will enhance my ability to understand construction aspects as a technical person that will help me to better understand any project while managing projects," he said.

Anoop Sattineni is an associate professor at the McWhorter School of Building Science and oversees the CCMP at Auburn. Sattineni said upon completion of the 12 credit graduate program, Ramirez will have a deeper understanding of estimating, bidding, sequencing, scheduling and managing construction projects, especially the contractual and legal aspects that drive the decision making process in the construction industry.

"McWhorter School of Building Science at Auburn University and the Corps of Engineers have collaborated since 2009," Sattineni said.

"The growth of the program can be attributed to the practical nature of the education taught by dedicated faculty that brings a wealth of industry experience to the classroom."



# Energy Division's expertise attracts contractors for ESPC workshop

By Stephen Baack  
Public Affairs Office

An Energy Division workshop brought dozens of contractors from throughout the country to Huntsville Center July 25.

The workshop focused on the Energy Savings Performance Contracting Program and the measurement and verification process therein.

Boyce Ross, Huntsville Center's then-acting deputy commander (civilian) and director of Engineering, opened the event by welcoming attendees and giving a historical overview of Huntsville Center, explaining how it fits into the greater Corps of Engineers picture.

"From the beginning we started developing expertise that no other organization in the Corps of Engineers either had the ability to develop from a technical perspective, or it wasn't normal, regularly occurring work that the Corps of Engineers' districts could perform," Ross said.

What that's evolved into, he continued, is an array of Centers of Expertise with a lineup of experts in a variety of complex technical specialties.

One area of expertise that goes back to the 1970s, Ross added, is the Installation Support Technical Center of Expertise, which includes the Energy Division.

"A lot of the innovative things that have happened in the energy field have a genesis in Huntsville Center," he said.

"Energy Savings Performance Contracting is one of them. Between us and the Department of Energy, we're the only game in town for the Department of Defense."

ESPC workshop attendees included members of various utility companies and representatives from every energy-service company under Huntsville Center's ESPC Multiple Award Task Order, along with Huntsville Center Energy Division professionals and, as a special guest, the program director of DOE's Federal Energy Management Program, Robert Ivester.

The ESPC program gives federal agencies a way to make improvements to existing infrastructure at military installations to increase energy efficiency, ensure energy resilience, and save taxpayer money – all without the requirement of upfront capital costs or congressional funds. ESPC contract vehicles leverage third-party financing to fund these energy-conservation measures.

This approach is especially handy for installations that do not have funds already budgeted for improvements on existing infrastructure.

As part of the ESPC process, Huntsville Center maintains



Photo by Stephen Baack

**Shah Alam, Energy Savings Performance Contracting program manager, covers introductions with a group of more than 70 contractors and government personnel attending an ESPC workshop in July. The group included representatives from the 13 energy-service companies that fall under Huntsville Center's ESPC Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity Multiple Award Task Order.**

an Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity Multiple Award Task Order, which has a current roster of 13 energy-service companies, or ESCOs.

For each project, the ESCO that secures the contract is responsible for producing upfront capital costs through a financier. The ESCO and financier are then paid from the savings generated by the energy-conservation measures the ESCO produces for the installation. The measurement and verification process ensures a project is meeting those energy savings requirements, which are outlined in the contract. The process must be conducted annually throughout the life of the contract, which can be up to 25 years. For fiscal 2018 alone, Huntsville Center's ESPC Program racked up more than \$102 million in verified savings.

"The main purpose of the workshop was to share experiences with each other about the measurement and verification process, and also to come up with a common understanding between the ESCO community and us about the process we need to follow, how we decide on site visits, how we communicate back and forth, and how we handle any issues that might come up," said Shah Alam, Huntsville Center ESPC program manager.

# Ethics reminders key for post-fiscal year end

By **Melanie Braddock**  
Office of Counsel

**W**hew! We survived year end and now it is time to do all those things that we put off because we were so busy.

Maybe you are planning lunch with that former colleague who now works in industry. Or maybe you are headed to a football game with tickets you got from a friend. Now is the time to take a minute and recall your ethics rules. So let's do a quick recap of some of the most often needed ones.

**Gifts from a Prohibited Source:** Remember that the rule is that an employee shall not solicit or Acceptancy gift or other item of monetary value from any person or entity (a) seeking official action from or doing business with the Army; or (b) whose interests may be substantially affected by the performance or non-performance of the employee's duties.

**Exceptions to the Gift Rule:** An employee may accept an unsolicited gift with a market value of \$20, per occasion, so long as the total value of all gifts received from a single source during a calendar year does not exceed \$50.

**Gifts based on a personal friendship (one that occurs regularly outside of normal workweek hours):** Gifts of "items with little intrinsic value or are intended solely for presentation" such as a certificates, greeting cards for birthdays, or trophies for best presentation. Regardless of the allowable exceptions, the rule states that an "employee should consider declining a gift (even if it is permissible) if a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts would question the employee's integrity or impartiality as a result of accepting the gift." So know the rule, know the exceptions,

but more importantly know how your actions will be seen by the public and make a choice you can live with being written about in the local news.

**Recognition of contractors:** Fiscal law and Department of Defense policy prohibits giving awards or other recognition to contractors or their employees. Specifically, it prohibits the establishment of "awards, award programs, ceremonies, or receptions to acknowledge contributions by organizations or companies having a commercial or profit-making relationship with DoD" and the granting of recognition to "persons, organizations, or companies having a commercial or profit-making relationship with DoD or with a DoD Component" as the means to "avoid issues in connection with contractual relationships and obligations, actual or perceived conflicts of interest, and actual or perceived acts of favoritism." Additionally, the Endorsement Rules prohibits the use of official position, title or authority, including official letterhead, to commend the performance of a contractor or a contractor employee.

**All commendations for work performed should be captured in the Government's database – CPARS:** Beyond that, the only thing an employee with authority over a contract may, in coordination with the contracting officer, may make is a simple factual statement that the contractor's work satisfied the Government's requirements.

As you clean off your desk and get back on a normal work schedule, make sure to keep your Ethics in mind.

The Office of Counsel is looking forward to providing your annual ethics training in November and pointing out those who forgot their Ethics in the Hall of Shame.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
ENGINEERING AND SUPPORT CENTER, HUNTSVILLE  
P.O. BOX 1600  
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35807-4301

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED