



U.S. ARMY ENGINEERING AND SUPPORT CENTER, HUNTSVILLE



# The Bulletin

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## Range and Training Land Program delivers shoothouse to Army special forces

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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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# Commander's Thoughts

**“ I greatly appreciate your continued patience and mission focus. ”**



**Col. Marvin Griffin**

First, I wanted to thank everyone for the great participation in the virtual town hall we held June 19. We had tremendous participation with nearly 800 employees joining the program.

It was a great honor for me to see so many of our professionals recognized for their hard work.

This was just a small sample of the great work that goes on each and every day, by a dedicated workforce, in support of our nation. I also want to thank all the support staff who made the event such a success.

As I am certain you are aware, the number of new COVID-19 cases in the local area has risen considerably over the past few weeks and days. With that, we are going to continue maximum telework for at least the next couple of weeks and then re-assess numbers and trends. I think we are doing great in terms of mission execution for now.

So, for the time being, we are going to stay the course, continue to maximize telework, and hope that numbers

decline and the situation improves such that we can move out with our plans to return to the workplace.

I greatly appreciate your continued patience and mission focus.

I also want to echo the message from Lt. Gen. Todd Semonite, Chief of Engineers, regarding intolerance and racial division that still plague us as Americans. The recent events in our nation have highlighted that work still remains to ensure equality, equal treatment and civil rights for minority communities. Like many of you, I was deeply disturbed by the tragic death of George Floyd and the violence in the streets that distracted from peaceful and powerful demonstrations of free speech.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is an incredibly professional organization, founded on trust and credibility within our organization and with the public we support.

The Corps is a diverse organization and we are stronger for it - diversity of thought, background, race, sex, creed

and origin make us stronger and better at representing and serving this nation.

While I do believe we try hard to ensure everyone is treated with dignity and respect, I do know that we are not perfect and I am certain we can continue to be better.

So I ask that we challenge ourselves to treat each and every person with dignity and respect, value and respect other perspectives, and to speak out if we are not living up to these essential values.

There is no place in this organization for racism and intolerance - they are contrary to the values we represent and are destructive to the relationships and foundations we rely upon.

Huntsville Center is an incredible organization that delivers tremendous support to our nation. At the end of the day, our people, our diversity and our values are our greatest strength.

Thanks for all you do, and it continues to be a great honor for me to serve you.





More than 800 Huntsville Center employees from Huntsville, Alabama; Omaha, Nebraska; and Alexandria, Virginia, logged into an online meeting platform to hear the words of Huntsville Center leaders praise the workforce for a job-well-done during unprecedented times.

## Virtual town hall recognizes employees' achievements, brings workforce up-to-date

By William S. Farrow  
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

For more than two hours June 19, U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville leadership updated the workforce and recognized exceptional performance through presenting awards in the first ever virtual town hall event held online.

More than 800 Huntsville Center employees from Huntsville, Alabama; Omaha, Nebraska; and Alexandria, Virginia, logged into an online meeting platform to hear the words of Huntsville Center leaders as they praised the workforce for a job-well-done during unprecedented times.

"We are continuing to build trust in our relationships with our stakeholders safely," said Col. Marvin Griffin, Huntsville Center commander.

"We have a lot to be positive about, and today we are going to recognize the people doing tremendous work."

After presenting team and individual awards, Lt. Col. Hugh Darville, Huntsville Center deputy commander, briefed the workforce on the status of return-to-work efforts, explaining the requirements and procedures that will lead to the decision to return.

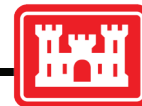
Darville said employee safety is the top concern and considerations of Department of Defense, Army, Corps of Engineers, state, local procedures will determine when and how the phased return will occur.

Following Darville's briefing, Nate Durham, project manager, talked about ongoing efforts to makeover Huntsville Center's new facility at 475 Quality Circle.

Following a question and answer period, Griffin closed out the virtual town hall by once again thanking the workforce for their patience and hard work.

"I'm extremely impressed with all you are doing and proud of the great work you do for the nation," Griffin said.





U.S. Army Reserve photo by Sgt. Jeremiah Woods

Sgt. 1st Class George Hummel, a biomedical equipment specialist with the U.S. Army Reserve 807th Medical Command, inputs data while maintaining medical equipment at the Medical Equipment Concentration Site for the U.S. Army Reserve 88th Readiness Division in Ogden, Utah, April 17. Huntsville Center's Resource Efficiency Manager Program provides the 88th RD with site energy plans encompassing projects that achieve sustainable energy management at more than 250 sites located across 19 states.

## REM's exceed energy savings goals

**By William S. Farrow**  
**Huntsville Center Public Affairs**

**H**untsville's Resource Efficiency Manager program not only continued to deliver its services, but exceeded energy savings goals for the 88th Readiness Division throughout the COVID-19 crisis.

Huntsville Center's REM program provides guidelines and training to establish its managers at installations where they help organizations there identify projects and practices there to reduce energy and water costs.

These managers provide vital expertise to develop site energy plans encompassing projects that achieve

sustainable, renewable, secure and resilient energy management.

Rachel Kemper, REM for the U.S. Army Reserve's 88th Readiness Division, headquartered on Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, has been teleworking exclusively since March.

Managers like Kemper are the "energy boots on the ground" assisting energy managers to increase energy awareness and collecting data for reporting site energy management.

The 88th RD provides services and base operations support to 277 sites across 19 states in the northwestern U.S. from the Ohio River Valley to the Pacific Coast, providing numerous and varied opportunities for energy savings.

With 579 facilities totaling more than 10 million square feet of facility space, Kemper had planned on visiting many of the sites since she took the REM job in September.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit the U.S. in March and travel restrictions were put in place, Kemper's plan had to change.

"We've had to be more creative to accomplish some of our goals," Kemper said.

Since implementation of maximum telework in March, Kemper completed desk audits of sites that have not had a physical in-person audit in a number

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of years.

Desk audits include reviews of energy usage history, preferably over numerous years, to identify any changes in usage.

“Any increase in usage could indicate an energy issue that can be further investigated,” she said.

Kemper’s desk audits identified the potential energy savings of nearly \$150,000 annually. This amounts to approximately 2.5% savings of the 88th RD energy costs. The primary areas for savings included upgrading the LED lighting, re-tuning building controls (temperature and ventilation rates) and replacing the heating and cooling equipment with high efficiency equipment.

Kemper also gathered and reviewed current equipment reports to verify that the equipment is operating at optimal functionality.

However effective Kemper has been over the last months monitoring energy

usage, she plans to conduct onsite visits once the COVID-19 restrictions are relaxed.

“Reviewing the documentation prior to making site visits will allow focus areas at each site to be on the forefront,” she said.

Working from home, Kemper has also conducted closer reviews of energy bills for excess fees, taxes or additional charges. During her reviews a number of bills were found to have tax fee charges.

“These bills are in the process of being investigated through contacting the utility companies,” she said.

“Many sites aren’t aware that tax fees can be negotiated and removed,” she added. “A review of prior year bills often finds substantial savings for the government.”

Kemper’s reviews of energy bills can identify taxes, fees or incorrect utility rates. Correcting a poorly chosen electric rate can save upwards of 10% of the bill, she said, and state and city taxes can add 6 to 8% to a utility bill.

She added that the bill review so far

has identified a total of 15 bills with additional fees to be negotiated, Kemper said.

An additional goal Kemper has been working on is assembling an energy usage dashboard to more effortlessly compile the consumption data for analysis and siting trends.

Each REM often has multiple areas of responsibility, and a dashboard will allow for combining, comparing and analyzing data at one location.

Andrew N. Nimitz, Army Reserve Installation Management Directorate’s energy program manager said he’s pleased with the dedication of Huntsville Center’s REMs as they are an integral part of the energy and water efforts across Reserve installations, all of which fall under one of four geographic Readiness Divisions.

“They contribute their time, skills and knowledge to the development of Energy and Utility Modernization projects, Energy Resilience and Conservation Program projects, the Enterprise Building Control System program, and more,” Nimitz said.



***“This has changed the way we do business,  
but it has not changed the business we do.”***

*Huntsville Center is teleworking and observing social distancing.  
Public Safety is our top priority.*

 **U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville**



Courtesy photo

Paratroopers with 2nd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), practice cordon and search tactics during warfighter training at Fort Carson, Colorado, in 2018. Huntsville Center's Range and Training Land Program prepared programming cost estimates for a shoothouse at the post to support the U.S. Army Special Operations Command's project approval and funding process.

## Center, Omaha District deliver range to Army special forces in Colorado

By William S. Farrow  
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

**E**ven as the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the normality of day-to-day life, Soldier's readiness is still a top priority for the Army.

Huntsville Center is supporting Army readiness by delivering the program during these uncertain times. Last September, Huntsville Center's Range and Training Land Program prepared a programming cost estimate for a shoothouse at Fort Carson, Colorado, in support of the U.S. Army Special Operations Command's project approval and funding process.

The Center's RTLP team provided an estimate of total funds requested to execute the project. The programmed amount included contracting, design, planning, construction, supervision, overhead, quality control and contract close out costs. In mid-February 2020, the 10th Special Forces Group at Fort Carson informed the RTLP team that approximately \$1.2 million was approved and the project needed to be

awarded for construction this fiscal year. By teaming efforts, the RTLP team was able to support the 10th SFG by developing a design-build request for proposal deliverables for the shoothouse by the end of April.

"This was a product of a multiple virtual charrettes with Huntsville Center's in-house team (architecture, site development, structural, specifications, and fire protection) and (the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) Omaha District to work out the requirements with 10th SFG and develop the technical documents package," said Kent Ingram, RTLP project manager.

Huntsville Center is the designated Range and Training Land Program Mandatory Center of Expertise, providing centralized management and engineering support to all parts of the Training Support System enterprise including the Sustainable Range, Soldier Training Support and Mission Command Training Support programs.

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## **RANGE** **From Page 7**

The RTLP MCX assists the Department of the Army and installations in planning, site development, programming and design of ranges — both military construction, and Operations and Maintenance funded. The goal is to standardize ranges and training, while decreasing the overall cost of range design, construction, operation and maintenance as well as implementing new technologies to improve training capability in support of new weapons systems and tactics.

The RTLP MCX is the centralized repository for information and expertise in planning, programming, design and construction of automated ranges, Training Support Centers, Combat Training Complex standards and Mission Training Complex standards, and projects for the TSS Program. Ingram said the engineering drawings, key specifications and site layout is the "thinking" part of the

technical piece of the request for proposal.

"The documents are the product of the discussions, meetings and agreements with the product development team," Ingram said.

What makes this project unique is that it all came together under restricted travel due to the COVID-19 pandemic, requiring all meetings to be conducted virtually.

"No face-to-face meeting," Ingram said. "This was truly a virtual design charrette."

Another challenge associated with the project was that a prior concept design existed.

"The team had to go through it and decide which pieces to use and which not to use," Ingram said.

"We had to re-validate the requirements baseline with the user/group engineer and build technical consensus and execution strategy/timeline with Omaha District, Huntsville Center engineers, Fort Carson range control and the 10th Special Forces Group engineer."

The work conducted by the Huntsville and Omaha teams both exceeded the expectations during these COVID-19 struggles, said 1st Lt. Gregory Woerner, 10th SFG deputy engineer.

"The new shoothouse is critical to 10th SFG readiness and without it, our Special Forces Advanced Urban Combat trainers lack the infrastructure required to meet their training requirements and could delay future SFAUC classes and negatively impact the entire unit," Woerner said.

"Through coordination we were able to agree on a virtual charrette despite everyone's concerns," he said.

"The Huntsville team was able to gather the necessary information from 10th SFG and their own architects and engineers to deliver a product that will meet the end user's intent. The Huntsville Center team was able to turn the project over to the Omaha District for the awarding process and allow their team to digest the project before a contractor would execute the design-build process."



## **Please wear it**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced July 9 that more than 30 people lost their lives to drowning in June at lake and river projects the agency manages. The June statistics represent a 47% increase in drownings over the same time period last year. USACE also reported that nearly all the drowning victims were adult males between the ages of 18 and 85 and were not wearing a life jacket at the time of the drowning. For more water safety information visit: [www.PleaseWearIt.com](http://www.PleaseWearIt.com).





Courtesy photo

Personnel apply absorbent rolls to a simulated hazardous material spill during a training scenario at U.S. Army Garrison Rheinland-Pfalz in 2019. U.S. Army Installation Management Command garrisons are more efficient and effective at management, tracking and reporting of hazardous materials thanks to the Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health

## Center improves hazardous materials management training at Army installations

By William S. Farrow  
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

Army garrisons are more efficient and effective at managing, tracking and reporting hazardous materials thanks to Huntsville Center's Environmental and Munitions Center of Expertise implementing the Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health – Management Information System.

The EM CX provided program management for the EESOH-MIS implementation for U.S. Army Installation Management Command as it builds and manages the EESOH-MIS training team, training development, upward reporting and funds management. IMCOM requested that the EM CX train and implement the use of EESOH-MIS at IMCOM installations to manage their hazardous materials and hazardous wastes.

Previously, many installations used other more costly user licenses, such as the Hazardous Materials Management System, or other commercial databases that required annual renewal fees to manage their data.

Licensing costs were greatly reduced with the single EESOH-MIS application.

“Through implementation of the EESOH-MIS, installations can effectively control necessary quantities of hazardous materials maintained on hand to meet mission requirements while at the same time protecting the environment by minimizing excess ordering and controlling hazardous constituents” said Diana Rochford, EESOH-MIS program manager from the EM CX, which is located in Omaha, Nebraska.

Rochford said implementation of this system will allow the Army to reduce costs, reduce waste, and increase readiness by ensuring all Army installations and activities use it to manage hazardous materials and to satisfy regulatory reporting requirements.

Implementation of EESOH-MIS is of great value to the Environmental Quality program, because it retrieves data as it complies with environmental reporting requirements, such as the Emergency Planning and Community

Right to Know and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

Safety data sheets are now available to communicate risks associated with HM to emergency responders and HM handlers.

The costs associated with the preparation of HW disposal documents have been reduced through less paperwork and shorter time frames.

Control of the quantity and nature of HM stored on the installation ensures compliance with pollution prevention requirements.

The EM CX's team members met and coordinated with stakeholders in order to implement a hazardous material management program in the best way, to include training for HM requirements and acting as a liaison between all parties to ensure good communication. Stakeholders include Department of Army G-4, the Deputy Chief of Staff G-9, IMCOM Headquarters, Army Sustainment Command, Public Works directorates across the Army, tenant organizations,

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# Center plays key role in South Carolina munitions remediation project

By William S. Farrow  
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

A team of Huntsville Center munitions experts created plans and execution portion for the removal of “munitions and explosives of concern,” or MEC, on 1,277 acres located entirely inside Croft State Park near Spartanburg, S.C.

As the COVID-19 pandemic brought the nation to a standstill in March, work to clean up former Camp Croft, a Formerly Used Defense Site, began following the April 1 contract between U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District, and a joint venture of Weston Solutions, Inc., of Peachtree Corners, Georgia, and Zapata Inc., of Charlotte, North Carolina.

Huntsville Center’s Ordnance and Explosives Military Munitions Design Center manages many of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Military Munitions Response Program projects for Formerly Used Defense Site and Base Realignment and Closure sites.

For the Camp Croft project, the Huntsville Center team wrote the performance work statement, issued the project request for proposal and managed the pre-award contractor site visit. Huntsville Center’s Military Munitions Design Center has a unique technical capability in a very specialized subject area that is critical to other Corps of Engineers commands, said Drew Thompson, MMCX project manager for Croft site.

“We partner with local USACE districts, regulatory agencies, interested citizens and other stakeholders, to develop plans to oversee the execution of munitions removal.”

On the Camp Croft project, the Huntsville Center team is partnering closely with Savannah District, the Corps’ geographic district serving as the



Courtesy photo

**Technicians use electromagnetic metal detectors to determine if an item below ground is a military munition. Huntsville Center’s Ordnance and Explosives Military Munitions Design Center manages and executes many of the Corps of Engineers’ Military Munitions Response Program projects for Formerly Used Defense Site and Base Realignment and Closure sites.**

regional FUDS program manager.

The \$36.5 million award includes a geophysical survey and removal of MEC inside Croft State Park, located on land used by the Army during World War II as a basic training center.

During its wartime use, the Army established live-fire ranges, impact areas for artillery, and trained Soldiers to use small arms, anti-tank rockets, anti-aircraft artillery, and mortars at Camp Croft. Following deactivation of the base in 1945, the federal government sold 7,000 of its 19,000 acres to the state of South Carolina for use as a park, which opened in 1949.

What makes the Camp Croft site notable is the FUDS remediation work s being completed in close coordination with the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism as well as the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Thompson said one of the challenges is the environmental impact of removing vegetation in

a heavily-wooded state park known for equestrian, biking and hiking trails. Vegetation removal has to be performed in order for the geophysical equipment to work properly, Thompson said.

“The work has to be performed in 100 to 200 acres at a time so that vegetation is not removed at the same time. Because certain species of trees grow throughout the park, we are meeting the state park’s vegetation removal requirements and leaving specified trees and vegetation untouched.”

Thompson said the contractor uses equipment to remove underbrush and other vegetation so workers can use geophysical equipment to detect potential unexploded ordnance below ground. Daryl Donatelli, Huntsville Center Geophysicist for the Croft project, said Advanced Geophysical

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## CAMP CROFT

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Classification technology is the primary equipment used to detect munitions in the ground at Camp Croft.

“The AGC equipment is mobilized over all accessible areas of the site with the positioning tracked by a centimeter accuracy positioning system -- either a commercially available Global Positioning System or Robotic Total Station,” Donatelli said.

After the data is processed, Donatelli said the field positions of detected munitions can be reacquired, flagged and then the munition is removed.

“This method allows us to safely leave the vast majority of the non-hazardous metal in the ground; reducing the cost and time to perform munitions cleanup.”

Managing the FUDS program is a major undertaking, and progress ultimately depends on communication, partnerships and community involvement. As the executive agent for the FUDS program, the Corps of Engineers is reaching out to local communities to explain the processes involved in removing military munitions is one of the top priorities.

Although a state park may seem like an easier venue for MEC remediation work as opposed to a populated city, town or suburban area, Thompson said the Camp Croft project has proven challenging. In 2019, Camp Croft became third priority on the national FUDS project list.

“The citizens that live in the area are concerned and involved and there have been restoration advisory board meetings with the Corps and the community for more than 20 years,” Thompson said.

A Restoration Advisory Board, or RAB, is made up of interested community members who reflect the diverse interests of the local community, as well as representatives of



**A photo of a 60 mm mortar round found by a park ranger at Camp Croft State Park, South Carolina in 2018. A Huntsville Center team has been involved in the remediation process to remove munitions found at the park.**

state, local and federal agencies.

Boards are designed to serve as a focal point for the exchange of information between the Corps and the community. Huntsville Center’s Environmental and Munitions Center of Expertise in Omaha, Nebraska, was also closely involved in the project.

The EM CX is using the Camp Croft site as a pilot program for the new Munitions Response Quality Assurance Project Plan process aimed at assisting districts in their initial meetings with regulators and stakeholders. The MR-QAPP Toolkit introduces new terms, approaches, and QA/QC procedures applicable to Munitions Response projects. Thompson said he’s pleased with the response from all parties involved in the Camp Croft project and looks forward to restoring the site safely and quickly with little impact on people wanting to visit the state park.

“We have worked hard to make this happen, even as the COVID-19 pandemic began. I thought it would impact the project, but we moved forward and Savannah District now has the contract in place and work is beginning,” Thompson said. “We have all come together and are on the same page.”

## HAZMAT

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and shop stewards and safety and occupational health personnel where HM or HW are used.

There is a long list of accomplishments achieved from 2017 through 2019 as the EM CX, on behalf of IMCOM, trained and implemented the use of the EESOH-MIS.

Installation staff was trained to perform necessary HM and HW management duties. The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act or EPCRA was created to help communities plan for chemical emergencies and requires installations to report on the storage, use, and releases

of hazardous substances. EPCRA reporting was used during this process.

Initial and follow-up installation site visits and weekly calls with installation staff were conducted to monitor progress and assist with the set-up of information within the EESOH-MIS database. HAZMAT and shop training, reviewer training and administrator training was developed, while installation EESOH-MIS administrators and user access was established and managed.

Installation staff was trained to set up processes within EESOH-MIS and also trained in EESOH-MIS workflows.

Consistent and efficient implementation of EESOH-MIS was enabled when a web-based training site

was developed and technical support was provided to installation users.

Reports to track implementation progress were provided to HQDA and IMCOM. The efforts of the EESOH-MIS team during this two-year period resulted in the transition of 10 installations to the EESOH-MIS.

There were 123 EESOH-MIS training sessions completed, six follow-up visits, nine pre-site visits and six data collection visits were conducted. IMCOM installations are now more efficient and effective in managing, tracking, and reporting of hazardous materials and hazardous wastes due to the EESOH-MIS implementation at Huntsville Center’s EM CX.

# Protecting procurement integrity, confidentiality while working in open spaces

**By Melanie Braddock**  
**Office of Counsel**

**A**s the majority of Huntsville Center workforce moves in to a space with a more open configuration, we need to be especially mindful about what information we discuss openly with our colleagues.

We must be cognizant of those around us such as contractors that serve as part of our workforce as well as contractor visitors.

The new, more open areas will allow voices – and thus information – to travel more easily to individuals who do not have a need to know.

The Procurement Integrity Act is implemented through FAR 3.104. The Act prohibits present and former U.S. officials from knowingly disclosing contractor bid or proposal information or source selection information before the award of a Federal agency procurement contract.

The FAR 3.104-1 defines “contractor bid or proposal information” and “source selection information” is defined in FAR 2.101.

Accordingly, we need to be careful not to inadvertently disclose

information such as prices or pricing, evaluations (technical or cost), competitive range determinations, etc., in our everyday conversations. The inadvertent release of information could be a source of considerable misunderstanding and embarrassment for the government.

Such releases of information can cause a protest or require the government to have to re-do the selection process – wasting precious dollars and time and impacting mission. Additionally, casual information could provide an unfair advantage or disadvantage might result for one of the offerors. Accordingly, it is incumbent on all of us to not make any unauthorized disclosures of information.

Below are some *Do* and *Do Not* for the transition:

### **DO**

- Maintain information security on proposals, evaluations and discussions during AND after completion of selection board
- Ensure source selection activity is separate from your other work activities

- Assure that the selection materials are strictly limited to the actual source selection participants

### **DO NOT:**

- Do not disclose evaluation information to individuals not serving on the source selection team.
- Do not deliberate or discuss evaluation outside the SSEB location. This includes open areas, hallways, stairwells, outside on the way to your cars, etc.
- Do not discuss issues of evaluation, even after selection(s) and announcement of any and all decisions. If there was an issue with an offeror, it should never be discussed except in the board report or a debriefing.

So as you choose how and whether to discuss certain items, remain mindful and vigilant to those around you as well as the status of the information to be shared.

As an acquisition center, we all must ensure procurement integrity and demonstrate that we hold ourselves to the highest standards every day.

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