



U.S. ARMY ENGINEERING AND SUPPORT CENTER, HUNTSVILLE



The Bulletin

January 2021

Huntsville Center

2020 Year In Review



Looking back at an unusual year

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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



HNC *Bulletin Content*

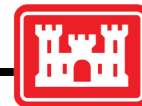
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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
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OF ENGINEERS,
U.S. ARMY ENGINEERING
AND SUPPORT CENTER,
HUNTSVILLE



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Commander's Thoughts

“ Be proud of what you do and what you represent and know that you will always have our support. ”



Col. Marvin Griffin

Happy New Year. I am hopeful everyone had a great holiday season and is safe and healthy this new year.

I realize we have some who have had to deal with COVID, individually or with their family and friends. As cases have risen around the country, COVID is still a very real risk and I ask that everyone continues to be vigilant and safe. Practice all the health protective measures and continue to be as safe as possible for you, your families and friends and our communities. We will get through this. Stay positive and stay connected with each other.

I have received several questions regarding the way ahead for COVID vaccines. The distribution plan for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is in development and will be published soon. Employees can exercise local, state or Redstone's Fox Army Health Center opportunities (if eligible and

available) for vaccination.

In other words, you have the choice to get it if you can through other means before the USACE distribution. The Redstone distribution will use the same priorities as USACE in accordance with Department of Defense and Army directives.

Now that we are using the Total Employee Development system, employees should be able to see the list of required mandatory training loaded to the "Mandatory Training" tab in TED the first week of each fiscal year.

TED is located at <https://ted.csd.disa.mil/>, and each class in TED should link you to the website source of the training or reflect that it is a classroom or face-to-face training requirement.

We experienced some growing pains with using TED and tried to iron all of those out in our first year of using the system last year. We also strive to publish a Daily Tasking Order at the

start of each fiscal year that includes an annex listing all mandatory training requirements for the year. As we receive requirement changes from higher headquarters, we may have to adjust and update the DTO.

If there are discrepancies in what you see in TED and the DTO, or if you have questions about TED, please coordinate with your administration officer or the human capital office.

Finally, I would ask that if you are having personal troubles or have concerns, that you reach out to someone – a supervisor or co-worker – for support. Everyone in this organization is valued and your health and welfare are incredibly important to me. I am incredibly proud of each one of you and of your tremendous accomplishments. Be proud of what you do and what you represent and know that you will always have my support.

Craven named interim deputy commander

Bill Craven has been named interim deputy commander for Huntsville Center. His career began over 33 years ago with the completion of his civil engineering degree from Auburn University and subsequent commission into the Army.

After leaving active duty in 1991, Craven served in four U.S.



Craven

Army Corps of Engineers districts, to include four tours at Huntsville Center and two tours with the Missile Defense Agency.

In his 29-year civilian career, his assignments have varied to include hydraulics engineer, architectural and engineering contract negotiator, GIS specialist/database administrator/system administrator, design engineer, project manager, supervisory project manager, program manager, deputy program manager and supervisory program manager.

Medical IO&T program works first VA project

By William S. Farrow
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

Huntsville Center's Medical Initial Outfitting and Transition program awarded its first IO&T project for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Awarded in September, the contract value is more than \$984,666 and the period of performance runs through March.

The contract is for the New York Harbor Healthcare System Manhattan Campus in Manhattan, New York City, New York. The VA New York Harbor Healthcare System consists of three campuses located in the East Side of Manhattan, Bay Ridge, Brooklyn and St. Albans, Queens.

The project provides services to replace three existing ethylene oxide sterilizers, said Kaleb Whisenant, IO&T project manager. Ethylene oxide is a low temperature gaseous process widely used to sterilize a variety of healthcare products, such as single-use medical devices.

Whisenant said the project also develops a concept of operations support for the VAMC staff for the proper use of the new sterilizers, associated equipment and functional areas impacted by the sterilizer replacement.

"We're ensuring that each required department works through all the operational issues with the new equipment, focusing on processes, maintenance and training requirements," Whisenant said.

This collaborative effort involves Headquarter, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the the USACE New York District and will be the pilot project to pave the way for future IO&T projects with the VA.

Whisenant said collaboration has proved vital as COVID-19 has presented the biggest challenge to



Courtesy Photo

A worker installs piping to one of the three new ethylene oxide sterilizer systems at the Veterans Administration's New York Harbor Healthcare System Manhattan Campus in New York.

the project.

"Travel restrictions have prevented us from traveling to the project site for pre-award site visits or inspections during the execution of the scope of work," he said.

"We have been able to overcome this challenge with the support from the New York District Metro East Resident Office providing on-site support for all pre-award site visits and providing daily quality assurance support on the project."

He said the collaborative effort here at Huntsville Center has been extensive as well, including its support coming from its Resource Management Office, Center Contracting and Office of Counsel.

"The teamwork has been outstanding," Whisenant said.

Julia Chlarson, IO&T branch chief,

said the opportunity to support the VA and the veterans the administration serves is a special honor and privilege.

"It is a proud moment to know that in some small, yet significant way, we have made a positive impact on the lives of veterans and their families," Chlarson said.

"For all they have given us through their service to this United States of America, it is a unique and humbling way to try and pay them back for their sacrifices. We hope to do more work with the VA in the future."

Huntsville Center's IO&T program offers 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.



Courtesy Photo

The National Museum of the U.S. Army is now open to the public. Housing more than 1,390 priceless artifacts documenting the Army's illustrious history, the building is protected by guards and a complex electronic security system designed and installed with guidance from the Electronic Security Systems team at Huntsville Center.

Center provides security expertise for new U.S. Army Museum

By Kristen Bergeson
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

When the National Museum of the U.S. Army opened its doors for the first time, visitors and museum personnel could rest assured that the priceless artifacts and displays would be safe and secure thanks to the security-systems expertise of employees at the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville.

The museum, located on a publicly accessible area of Fort Belvoir, Virginia, is the first and only museum to tell the entire history of the Army. Soldiers' achievements are featured in the sprawling 185,000-square-foot building with exhibits and displays that date back to the Army's inception in 1775.

The museum's 11 galleries house more than 1,390 artifacts including a sword from the defense of Fort McHenry in the War of 1812, the Sherman tank that first broke through enemy lines at the Battle of the Bulge in World War II, and a stopped wristwatch recovered from the wrecked E-Ring of the Pentagon after the Sept. 11 attacks. These irreplaceable items that document the history of the nation's

oldest military branch are protected around the clock by museum guards and a complex security system designed and installed with guidance from Huntsville Center's Electronic Security Systems team.

As the Army's Electronic Security Systems Mandatory Center of Expertise, Huntsville Center was charged with awarding the contract for the museum's ESS, reviewing and approving design plans, and providing continued technical expertise during the installation phase and beyond.

Huntsville Center awarded the \$3.5 million contract for installation to SigNet Technologies, Inc. The contract includes optional funding for continued monitoring through 2021.

With Huntsville Center's guidance, Signet installed more than 150 cameras, an intrusion detection system to protect individual artifacts, and nine emergency call boxes across the campus.

Project Manager Mindy Shelton, whose father is a retired Army military police officer who served in Operation Desert Storm and numerous other conflicts, said this project was especially meaningful for her. "This museum is really amazing because it covers any conflict our Army has ever been involved in. There is even a section for

Wounded Warriors artwork that they created during their recovery," she said. "It's truly phenomenal, and we are so proud to have been a part of it."

The museum was originally scheduled to open on June 14, 2020, in honor of the Army's 245th birthday, but was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite these setbacks, Shelton said the electronic security system was installed and running by the original deadline. She credited the contractor, her team, museum personnel and Huntsville Center Project Engineer Michael Bailey with their success.

Bailey said the museum's security system is unique because many of the galleries have revolving exhibits, which required a flexible design that allows museum personnel to move security components as the exhibits change. They also took measures to hide security equipment as much as possible.

"We didn't want gaudy cameras and devices to take away from the historic nature of the museum," said Bailey. "Cameras are everywhere, but you wouldn't know it."

The museum is now open with enhanced health and safety measures for visitors.

Fearns completes USACE leadership program

By Kristen Bergeson
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

Alan Fearns, a contracting officer section chief for Huntsville Center, recently graduated from a prestigious leadership program for top U.S. Army Corps of Engineers executives.

The USACE Executive Leadership Development Program is the top tier of a three-tier program designed to develop results-oriented leaders with the critical skills needed to lead change in complex environments.

Applicants to the yearlong course must be at the GS-13 level or above and are selected based on their potential for continued accomplishments and future success.

Fearns—a “rising star in contracting,” according to Michael Duffy, contracting division chief—retired from the U.S. Air Force in 2003 and has been a contract specialist at Huntsville Center since 2012.

Fearns said he applied to the ELDP because he wanted to challenge himself and broaden his perspective.

“Most of my job as a contracting officer involves solving acquisition problems, and I had grown pretty confident in my ability to find the appropriate policy or to use my judgment to effectively solve those problems, but that put me, inappropriately, in the position of thinking I had the answer for everything,” said Fearns.

“I knew that this program would challenge that thinking by exposing me to other organizations and how they operate, and I needed that challenge to take the next step as a leader.”

Participation in the ELDP typically involves a one-week resident program, a four-day workshop on Capitol Hill, a team project to produce a product of value to the assigned region, and a



Courtesy photo

Albert “Chip” Marin III, Huntsville Center programs director, (pictured right) presents a U.S. Army Certificate of Achievement to Alan Fearns, contracting officer, for successful completion of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers North Atlantic Division’s Executive Leadership Developmental Program.

four-month developmental assignment outside of the participant’s current area of expertise at another district or division.

Though a large portion of this year’s program was held virtually due to restrictions on travel and in-person meetings, Fearns completed his developmental assignment in resource management at the U.S. Army Materiel Command Headquarters prior to the COVID-19 shutdown that began in March.

Fearns said this assignment presented the greatest challenge during the program.

“I had to be effective for 120 days at something entirely new to me, so it was a bit of a scare, but it was exactly what I needed to grow,” he said.

For the required project, Fearns analyzed Huntsville Center data from past years’ results on the Federal

Employee ViewPoint Survey, conducted interviews to define and clarify the Center’s greatest needs, and made recommendations for improvement based on his findings.

He presented a final report of his findings to Huntsville Center leadership in November.

Fearns said the research process, especially the interviews with employees, taught him a lot about the relationship between motivation and compassion.

“We have so many people doing impressive things here, solving complicated problems, and what I learned is that we’re often motivated to work hard because we believe our leaders care,” he said.

“Their compassion and concern for their employees is often what gets the buy-in that’s needed to accomplish great things.”



Army surgeon general values medical division

By William S. Farrow
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

While visiting Fox Army Health Center at Redstone Arsenal in late October, Lt. Gen. R. Scott Dingle, U.S. Army Surgeon General, took the time to recognize members of the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville's Medical Division.

Dingle presented coins to 15 Huntsville Center employees for their support of the Army's critical medical facility lifecycle management programs, ranging from day-to-day maintenance support to programs operationalizing its multi-billion dollar military construction program spanning design, construction, initial outfitting and transition requirements.

Dingle referred to the work as pivotal to the medical mission and referred to the recipients as "unsung heroes" whose recognition is long overdue.

"This was recognition of individuals and a body of work by all within the Medical Division over many, many years," said Julia Chlarson, chief of the Medical Outfitting and Transition Branch.

"It is true that the beneficiaries of what we do, do not know who we are and it was a proud moment to hear General Dingle refer to us as unsung heroes. His recognition is proof that our customers recognize our efforts."

Dingle, who assumed command of the U.S. Army Medical Command in June, praised the team for ensuring Army Medicine provides safe, evidence-based environments of care



Courtesy photo

During a visit to Fox Army Health Center at Redstone Arsenal in October, Lt. Gen. R. Scott Dingle, U.S. Army Surgeon General, took the time to recognize members of Huntsville Center's Medical Division, including Wes Turner, Medical Division chief.

for the Army's top priority – its people.

Receiving coins were Col. Marvin Griffin, Huntsville Center commander; Wes Turner, Medical Division chief; Brian Bickell and Seon Farris, Medical Repair and Renewal program; Julia Chlarson, J.R. Teer, Kaleb Whisenant, Kim Fortenberry and Lauren Houpt, Medical Outfitting and Transition program; Mike Hunter, Jim Buhr and Elena Sabatini, Operational and Maintenance Engineering Enhancement program; Jeff Roberts, Center Contracting; Angela Caudle, Resource Management office and Katia Ortega, administrative support.

***"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.*

US Army Corps of Engineers
Engineering and Support Center

US Army Corps of Engineers

U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville

2020 Year in review

January



Col. Marvin Griffin, Huntsville Center commander, talks with the professionals working on a chemical warfare material remediation project at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, Jan. 16, for which Huntsville Center's Chemical Warfare Design Center serves as executing agent. The sites were identified by Alabama's regulatory authority in 2010 for remediation as part of the federal government's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. This remediation includes investigation of these sites and, as a required interim measure, removal of any discovered chemical warfare material.

February



Navigational Electronics Inc. demonstrator and subject-matter expert Ross Kenney explains features of the Microdrones MD4-1000 unmanned aircraft system controller to members of Huntsville Center during a capabilities review at the Rocket City Radio Controllers complex in southeast Huntsville, Alabama, Feb. 27, 2020.

March



A mission-essential employee walks down a hallway at Huntsville Center. The Center transitioned to maximum telework in March as Center professionals utilize maximum telework and adhere to social distancing guidance while continuing to accomplish the mission .



April



Working hand-in-hand with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' geographic districts, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Health and Human Services, Huntsville Center focused its skill and expertise in supporting the nation's efforts to combat the coronavirus pandemic. Paul McCarty, right, a mechanical engineer, and Richard Olmedo, an architect – both from Huntsville Center – compare notes during a site assessment in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, in April. Huntsville Center and Mobile District joined forces to evaluate potential sites for alternate care facilities in support of FEMA and in coordination with other federal, state and local partners in response to the COVID-19 pandemic

May



As the COVID-19 pandemic brought the nation to a standstill in March, a team of Huntsville Center munitions experts continued creating the 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, South Carolina. 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 its contractors.

June



A biomedical equipment specialist with the 807th Medical Command, inputs data at the Medical Equipment Concentration Site for the 88th Readiness Division in Ogden, Utah. Huntsville Center's Resource Efficiency Manager Program provided the 88th RD with site energy plans encompassing projects that achieve sustainable energy management at the 88th RD's more than 250 sites located across 19 states. Huntsville Center's Resource Efficiency Manager Program not only continued to deliver the program, but exceeded energy savings goals for the 88th Readiness Division.COVID-19 crisis.

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Year in review *Continued*

July



Huntsville's Facilities Reduction team transitioned to virtual site visits in order to minimize the spread of COVID-19 while ensuring the satisfaction of stakeholders. Team members utilize a variety of on-line tools, such as virtual conferencing platforms and aerial images such as the one seen here of a demolition site at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas, to gather information needed to develop an effective plan.

August



Seventeen Huntsville Center employees completed Leadership Development Program Level I in August. The eight-month long program utilized a variety of methods for delivering content to develop competencies including: communication, time management, conflict management, customer service, contribution to mission. LDP is a Corps of Engineers program with four levels that correspond to the USACE structure. Levels I and II are administered locally.



September



Focusing on the Army's priority of taking care of its Soldiers, the Huntsville Center awarded a \$4.5 million contract to Spectrum Solutions, Inc. in support of the U.S. Army Materiel Command's Smart Barracks Initiative. Huntsville Center is providing technical and contracting support for the AMC's Smart Barracks Initiative. Barracks at Fort Benning, Georgia, pictured here, were selected for the pilot program with plans to implement effective changes across many installations. The initiative strives to modernize Soldier barracks by applying innovations and best practices in smart technology, cyber and physical security, energy systems, and quality-of-life improvements for the Soldiers who call these facilities their home.

The Utility Monitoring and Control Systems Mandatory Center of Expertise's newest MATOC award, UMCS V, was identified as the best contract vehicle for the first phase of the project.

Phase 1 was awarded in September and is expected to be completed by 2023.

October



Subject matter experts from the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, joined other U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Redstone Arsenal personnel to participate in the Society of American Military Engineers Huntsville Post's virtual Small Business Forum in October. More than 350 participants, mostly small business owners and business representatives from across the country, logged in to learn about Huntsville Center's more than 40 programs and upcoming acquisitions.

About Huntsville Center

HNC

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

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

FY2020 40+ Programs

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

\$2.4B

*“HNC Delivers
Innovation”*

In fiscal 2020, Huntsville Center awarded contract actions totaling more than \$2.4 billion in obligations for its stakeholders. More than \$800 million were small business awards.



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