

December 2024

U.S. ARMY ENGINEERING AND SUPPORT CENTER, HUNTSVILLE



The Bulletin

*Happy
Holidays*

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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U.S. ARMY CORPS
OF ENGINEERS,
U.S. ARMY ENGINEERING
AND SUPPORT CENTER,
HUNTSVILLE



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Commander's Thoughts

“ These recognitions aren’t just for the Office of Small Business Programs and Contracting Directorate staff, they are recognitions of your commitment to include small business as vital stakeholders in our mission. ”



Col. Sebastien Joly

Team,
The holiday season is in full swing, and I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.

Now that it's December, it is also a time to think about holiday block leave and holiday safety. I encourage each of you to work with your supervisor to take the time to submit your leave while ensuring minimal mission impact. Enjoy your leave with family and friends, and come back for the new year refreshed and ready to continue delivering our massive program!

Headquarters U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recognized excellence in contracting and small business partnerships during an awards ceremony in New Orleans.

The ceremony took place during USACE's participation in the Society of American Military Engineers' annual Small Business Conference. Leadership presented 45 individual and team awards for small business contracting accomplishments in Fiscal Year 24. I'm proud to announce Huntsville Center was recognized for Overall Highest Small Business Award by Dollar, Overall Highest Women Owned Small Business Award by Dollar, and Overall Highest Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business by Dollar. These recognitions aren't just for the Office of Small

Business Programs and Contracting Directorate staff, it's recognition of your commitment to include small business as vital stakeholders in our mission. Our own William Seelmann was recognized with a Special Action Award for Contracting Professional of the Year.

The Program Review Board, PRB Metrics and PRB Data Input App are continually improving in development. However, there are a few items that we are still working to resolve. Please continue to be patient as we work through the development processes necessary for such a massive undertaking.

The entire Projects Controls and Data Visualization PDT have done an amazing job thus far. So have each of you. The work that they are demonstrating is only possible because of the work done within each PDT to clean up our data and improve our data quality overall. We still have more work to do, but I appreciate what has been completed to date.

Congratulations to the nine Huntsville Center teammates completing the eight months-long Leadership Development Program II in October. The LDP II program utilizes a variety of methods for delivering content to develop

leadership competencies including: communication, time management, conflict management, customer service, contribution to mission.

Kudos to Daniel Cook, Jasmine Fortenberry, Robert Marsh, Natosha Matthews, Melinda McClellan, Shannon Norden, Derrick Slaughter and Paul Robinson for putting in the work making LDP II successful in building future leaders.

Kudos to our recent Employees of the Month. For November, we recognized Latoya Herrera and Ryan Reynolds, and for December we recognize Christopher Koch.

In November, we celebrated Veterans Day, and I enjoyed seeing photos of some of our veteran workforce in uniform on the monitors and social media.

To our veterans within Huntsville Center, thank you for your service and for continuing your mission of public service. The values that define our military—integrity, accountability and selflessness—are the same values you bring to your work every day here at the Center. This organization is stronger and more capable because of your presence and contributions.

Thank you so much for everything you do! Happy Holidays and GO Army! BEAT Navy!



Photo by Steve Lamas

Lt. Gen. William “Butch” Graham, Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, presents Nicole Boone, Huntsville Center Office of Small Business Programs chief, with one of the three awards recognizing Huntsville Center at the USACE Small Business Awards Ceremony, Nov. 19, in New Orleans, La. Joining in on the presentation are Liz Walker, USACE Small Business chief, Col. Sebastien Joly, Huntsville Center commander, and Sgt. Maj. Douglas Galick, USACE Command Sergeant Major.

Office of Small Business Programs recognized

Headquarters USACE Public Affairs Office

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recognized excellence in contracting and small business partnerships during an awards ceremony on Nov. 20 at the Ernest N. Morial Convention center in New Orleans. The ceremony took place during USACE’s participation in the Society of American Military Engineers’ annual Small Business Conference.

USACE leaders presented 45 individual and team awards for small business contracting accomplishments in Fiscal Year 24

“For the second year in a row, USACE obligated over \$10 billion to our small business partners. Those

dollars contribute directly to the Army mission and Small Business program, accounting for 41% of the Army’s Small Business Spend, and fulfilling our mission statement to be the Army’s leader in utilizing small businesses for the delivery of the USACE mission,” said Lt. Gen. William H. “Butch” Graham, Jr., 56th Chief of Engineers and commanding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Other leaders in attendance included Megan Dake, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for procurement, Kimberly Buehler, director for the Army Office of Small Business Programs, Command Sgt. Maj. Douglas Galick, 15th command sergeant major of USACE, and leaders from USACE divisions, districts and centers.

USACE Small Business Awards publicly recognize individuals and organizations that have significantly contributed to the achievements of the USACE Small Business Program.

Excellence in Contracting awards recognize the achievements of the USACE contracting workforce for their continuing and exceptional commitment to the country. Specifically, this program recognizes those who have contributed to the USACE Campaign Plan Objective 4c3, “Improve Acquisition Execution with Policy, Processes, and Certified Professionals,” and who achieved exceptional success during FY 2024.

**See Awards
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Awards

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Small Business Awards

Nomination Award Categories

- David Willis, New Orleans District, Small Business Professional of the Year
- Tristin Suetsugu, Honolulu District, Contracting Professional of the Year
- Philip Wolf, Sacramento District, Program Manager/Engineer Professional of the Year
- Theresa Afrank, Alaska District, Small Business Champion Award of the Year
- Engineer Research and Development Center, Small Business Success Story

Non-nomination Award Categories

(In addition to the nominated award categories, USACE recognizes divisions, districts and centers with overall highest achievement in contract dollar amounts and percentage of overall contract dollars awarded to small businesses in all socioeconomic categories, as determined by FY24 contract award data.)

Division Awards

- South Atlantic Division: Overall Highest FY24 Small Business Award by Dollar
- Mississippi Valley Division: Overall Highest FY24 Small Business Award by Percentage
- South Atlantic Division: Overall Highest FY24 Women-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Award by Dollar
- Mississippi Valley Division: Overall Highest FY24 WOSB Award by Percentage
- Lakes And River Division: Overall Highest FY24 HUBZone Award by Dollar
- Lakes And River Division: Overall Highest FY24 HUBZone Award by Percentage
- Pacific Ocean Division: Overall Highest FY24 Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB) Award by Dollar
- South Pacific Division: Overall Highest FY24 SDB Award by Percentage
- South Atlantic Division: Overall Highest FY24 Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) by Dollar
- South Pacific Division: Overall Highest FY24 SDVOSB by Percentage

Districts and Centers Awards

- Huntsville Center: Overall Highest Small Business Award by Dollar

- Chicago District: Overall Highest Small Business Award by Percentage
- Huntsville Center: Overall Highest WOSB Award by Dollar
- HECSA Overall Highest WOSB Award by Percentage
- Louisville District: Overall Highest FY24 HUBZone Award by Dollar
- Wilmington District: Overall Highest FY24 HUBZone Award by Percentage
- Honolulu Center: Overall Highest SDB Award by Dollar
- Little Rock District: Overall Highest SDB Award by Percentage
- Huntsville Center: Overall Highest SDVOSB by Dollar
- Portland District: Overall Highest SDVOSB by Percentage
- New England District: FY24 with highest percentage of set-asides in FY24
- St. Paul District: FY24 District/Center with largest dollar award to Small Business (Districts/Centers Less Than \$400M annual obligations)
- Honolulu District: FY24 District/Center with largest dollar award to Small Business (Districts/Centers Greater than \$400M annual obligations)
- Honolulu District: FY24 Largest increase in Small Business from past fiscal year by dollars
- Norfolk District: FY24 Largest increase in Small Business from past fiscal year by percentage

Excellence in Contracting Awards

- Jennifer Gilbreath, Omaha District: Contract Specialist of the Year
- Melissa Harlan, Pittsburgh District: Procuring Contracting Officer of the Year
- Maui Wildfire Debris Removal Mission, Honolulu District: Team of the Year
- Kathryn Newhouse, Kansas City District: Procurement Analyst of the Year
- Jacob Mura, Omaha District: Administrative Contracting Officer of the Year
- John Hickman, Omaha District: Manager of the Year
- Europe District: District/Center of the Year
- MAJ David Terhune, Albuquerque District: 51C Commissioned Officer of the Year
- MSG Tom Green, Alaska District: 51C Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year
- William Seelmann, Huntsville Center: Special Action Award: Contracting Professional of the Year

Unprecedented \$960M contract awarded for ordnance remediation

By Lillian Putnam

Huntsville Center Public Affairs

Huntsville Center's Ordnance and Explosive Directorate awarded an unprecedented \$960 million contract fully for small businesses, marking the first time that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has dedicated such a large project to exclusively to small enterprises.

The Multiple Award Task Order Contract, MATOC, will focus on identifying, recovering and safely disposing of ordnance and explosives across various defense sites, as well as managing hazardous, toxic and radioactive waste.

The scope of the Environmental and Munitions Response Restricted, EMR2, contract includes locating, identifying, evaluating, packaging, transporting and disposing of munitions and explosives of concern.

The contract, which is expected to be executed over the next 10 years, aims to mitigate environmental risks associated with the ordnance and contaminants at various currently and formerly used defense sites, property adjoining currently and formerly used defense sites and other federally controlled or owned sites.

"This 100 percent small business MATOC will provide USACE access to the most highly qualified small business contractors with proven experience to perform Military Munitions Response Program, MRR, response involving conventional munitions, Environmental Compliance and Remediation Services, ECRS, and Other Munitions Related Services, OMRS, as necessary to enable lands and waters to

be safely and efficiently used for their intended purpose," Kijafa Johnson-Cooper, Base Operations, Environmental and Energy Branch contracting officer, said.

With the MATOC structure, multiple small businesses will be eligible to receive task orders, allowing Huntsville Center to distribute work across a range of companies based on regional needs, specific expertise and new technology.

"Work efforts for this contract may include the use of robotic or innovative technology where feasible and practical," said Richard Locklair, Ordnance and Explosive project manager.

"This unleashes the innovation of small businesses to use cutting edge technologies to meet the requirements of the task order."

For small businesses, this contract represents not only a substantial growth opportunity, but also a chance to contribute to the nation's efforts to improve environmental quality. Huntsville Center Ordnance and Explosive Directorate's primary mission is to support Headquarters USACE, divisions, districts, laboratories, centers and other customers in the performance of military and civil environmental missions.

"We achieve this mission by maintaining state-of-the-art technical expertise and competencies for hazardous-waste remediations, radioactive-waste remediations, munitions-response actions, green and sustainable remediation, environmental-compliance activities and explosives-safety requirements," Locklair said.



Photo by William S. Farrow

Rundown

Brig. Gen. Kirk Gibbs, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Deputy Commanding General for Military and International Operations, receives an overview of Huntsville Center programs during his visit to the Center Oct. 23. Gibbs is responsible for policy, programming, and technical support in the execution of an annual \$25 billion portfolio of engineering, design, construction, and environmental programs for the U.S. Army, other Services, Joint Force, Department of Defense and federal agencies, and foreign countries integral to military readiness and defense of the Nation and its allies.



Photo by Chris Putman

More than 30 Huntsville Center personnel assisted small business representatives during Huntsville Center's Small Business Industry Day 2024 event at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center's Davidson Center for Space Exploration.

Industry Day helps stimulate nation's economy

By William Farrow
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

Networking is a powerful form of promotion that provides access to the extended circles of each connection made.

For more than 100 business representatives attending Huntsville Center's Small Business Industry Day 2024, swapping contact information and marketing company capabilities ensures businesses understand how they fit with the Huntsville Center mission.

The Oct. 23 event at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center's Davidson Center for Space Exploration allowed attendees interaction with other business representatives as well as face-to-face engagement with Huntsville Center's project development teams on hand to clarify requirements and relay future projects requiring contractor capabilities.

Attendee Josh Thiel, Hinz Consulting senior vice president, said the advantages of attending the Industry Day 2024 has been beneficial to his company.

Hinz Consulting assists small business with preparing individual

bids and understanding government contracting policy and processes.

Thiel said face-to-face engagement with small business representatives allows him to provide insight regarding what Hinz' consulting services can provide.

"This small business event has been spectacular for networking," Thiel said.

Nicole Boone, Huntsville Center Office of Small Business Programs chief, said Industry Day event is more than a networking event. She said the result of the event improves the nation's economy while supporting the warfighter.

"We are an integral part of the Army Small Business Programs Team and a premier leader within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers," Boone said.

"By optimizing business opportunities for small business concerns to support the Center's many programs strengthen our nation's economic development."

Boone said it's vital that the American taxpayer understands the important role small business plays in supporting Department of Defense.

"So many people see the DOD's

annual budget and they may think that money goes solely to large defense contractors, but in reality, so much of it goes to small business," she said.

"Last fiscal year, Huntsville Center obligations amounted to more than \$2 billion for projects and services supporting all military branches and several other federal agencies," she said.

Of that \$2 billion, Boone said more than \$1 billion went to small business as Huntsville Center fully complies with the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 and supports the government's policy of placing a fair proportion of our contracts with qualified small, small disadvantaged, women-owned, HUBZone, veteran-owned and service-disabled veteran-owned business concerns.

"That is money paying for products manufactured in the U.S. and salaries small business pays its employees, so the money is indirectly going back into our communities," Boone said.

"At Huntsville Center, we consider small business to be the heart of the U.S. economy and a vital part of the USACE procurement process."



Photo by Lillian Putnam

Professionals from Huntsville Center's Range Training and Land Program Mandatory Center of Expertise conducted a Target Interface Inspection for a range at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin Nov. 20 to ensure equipment interface points conform to standard design, identify deficiencies and verify final target requirements.

RTLP inspectors improve Fort McCoy targets

By Lillian Putnam
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

Engineers and project managers from Huntsville Center's Range and Training Land Program Mandatory Center of Expertise, RTLP MCX, recently completed a Target Interface Inspection, TII, for the Scout and Reconnaissance Gunnery Range at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.

The inspection is a significant step toward ensuring the state-of-the-art range is operational for Soldiers live fire training in 2025.

"Our Target Interface Inspection assists with quick installation and ensures full functionality of the systems allowing Soldiers to begin training sooner" said Burlin Emery, Huntsville Center Ranges and Training Land Program project manager.

The TII ensures that all equipment interface points meet the Army's Range Design Guide standards. The inspection also identifies any deficiencies in construction and verifies that the range's final targetry requirements are met before use of the range.

"Using new technology improves efficiency and reliability of our target systems, allowing Soldiers the maximum training time and increasing throughput on the ranges," Emery explained.

During the inspection, engineers evaluated all 190 target

emplacements on the range. These emplacements are equipped with fully automated systems designed to support event-specific and computer-driven target scenarios. The advanced scoring system provides precise feedback to trainees, enhancing the training experience.

"The RTLP MCX's design reviews, request for information recommendations and construction inspections have made it possible for Soldiers to train in dynamic environments on the new range," said Paul Bryant McQueen, RTLP electrical engineer.

With Fort McCoy's motto being the "Total Force Training Center" and having over 30 live-fire ranges, this specific range is uniquely designed to train and test scout reconnaissance crews and sections on mission-critical skills.

These include detecting, identifying, engaging and defeating both stationary and moving targets. By simulating real-world combat scenarios, the range equips soldiers with the expertise needed for operations in complex environments. In addition to scout-specific training lanes, the facility features four machine gun qualification lanes.

The combination of scout gunnery and machine gun training makes the range a versatile asset for unit readiness. With the TII complete and construction adjustments underway, the range is on track to open this summer.

"The military currently operates in a resource constrained environment, and it is important that we maintain ranges to a



Demo project is refresher course in munitions response 3Rs actions

By William S. Farrow

Huntsville Center Public Affairs

The old saying “safety first” is relevant at every worksite. However, it’s especially relevant when working on U.S. military installations as many hazards may be present but unknown due to the onset of time.

So was the case when workers at the Volar Barracks facility reduction project at Fort Liberty, North Carolina, discovered what they believed was an unidentified explosive ordnance (UXO) there in September.

The Huntsville Center project demolishing the Smoke Bomb Hill Volar Barracks at Fort Liberty is part of a broader initiative to modernize housing facilities across military installations.

However, when the demolition subcontractor began removing a concrete slab under one of the wooden, World War II-era barracks, a suspected UXO was encountered.

Precautions were taken at the site and Fort Liberty’s Explosive Ordnance Demolition (EOD) team and other emergency services were notified.

Jake Gassaway, Huntsville Center FRP project manager said the proper steps were taken, following the 3Rs – Recognize, Retreat, and Report. EOD found the UXO wasn’t a threat and removed it.

Gassaway said FRP demolition subcontract crew were to be commended for following the 3Rs protocol.

“They called (project manager), EOD and Terry Brooks, Savannah District quality assurance specialist. Everyone came out did their jobs and after investigation, it was determined it was an ornamental piece from a by-



Photo by Chris Putman

Crews demolish portions of the Smoke Bomb Hill Volar Barracks at Fort Liberty N.C. During the facility reduction project, workers discovered an object believed to be unexploded ordnance.

gone era,” Gassaway said.

“Apparently someone had what I believed to be a war trophy of some kind.”

The EOD technicians on site told Gassaway they weren’t sure what kind of bomb it was, probably because it was so old.

“It was the top of an old bomb but judging by the weight and size they probably put their guide-on flag in it (as a base for the flag),” Gassaway said.

Millions of acres in the United States are known or suspected to contain munitions from live-fire training or testing and even combat. These explosive hazards may be found on the surface or in the subsurface.

Munitions may often be encountered during construction (or in this case, demolition) projects. Although munitions will most likely be encountered in areas where the military is or has conducted munitions-related activities (e.g., operational and former ranges), they may be encountered anywhere.

Prior to working in areas with a history of military use, even areas where the Department of Defense may have completed an environmental response (cleaned up) to remove detected munitions, it is important to know a site’s history and the hazards known or suspected to be present.

Amanda Sticker, Huntsville Environmental and Munitions Center of Expertise 3Rs program lead, said the incident highlights the importance of being aware of the potential presence of munitions and consistently applying the 3Rs.

“By following these steps, the demolition crew ensured their safety and enabled the proper, trained authorities to assess and address the situation without harm,” Sticker said.

“This is a perfect example of how preparedness and vigilance can mitigate risks during construction and demolition activities on military installations.”

For more information on the 3Rs, visit <https://3Rs.mil>.

EMCX assists Army with HAZMAT tracking system transition

By William S. Farrow
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

Huntsville Center's Environmental and Munitions Center of Expertise (EM CX) Directorate, located in Omaha, Nebraska, is providing implementation and training as the Army begins using a new hazardous material (HAZMAT) management system.

The new system, Web Compliance Assistance and Sustainment System-Enterprise (WEBCASS-E) Hazardous Material Inventory Database (HMID) is a commercial off-the-shelf system serving as the current Enterprise Environmental Safety and Occupational Health – Management Information System (EESOH-MIS) replacement program for Army Installations worldwide beginning this fiscal year.

Once implemented, the new system will continue meeting federal laws and Army regulations while tracking and managing the procurement, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials across the service.

Army G-4 (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology) is the proponent of the Army Hazardous Material Management Program (HMMP) and currently uses the EESOH-MIS, a tracking tool developed by the Air Force and used by many components of Department of Defense. The EM CX has provided implementation and training for EESOH-MIS use for more than a decade at more than 70 installations around the world.

However, Army G-9 (Installations) proposed migrating from EESOH-MIS to WEBCASS-E HMID in 2021. Upon full implementation, WEBCASS-E will continue providing Army commands and installations with an integrated platform used for the entire Army Environmental Program resulting in saving the Army millions of dollars per year in IT computing, licensing, and service costs.

The new system, which incorporates an enhanced, intuitive user interface hosted in a cloud environment, is expected to improve data management efforts, and lead to better data integrity and more robust HAZMAT control and reporting, according to G-9.

Once the transition decision was made in 2021, G-4 tapped the EM CX to aid with the transition from EESOH-MIS to WEBCASS-E HMID.

One of the primary EM CX missions is to support Army environmental missions while maintaining state-of-the-art technical expertise and competencies for HAZMAT remediations.

Lannae Long, EM CX environmental regulatory specialist,



File photo

A hazardous material reuse center employee in Grafenwoehr, Germany, operates a forklift to move hazardous material containers. Huntsville Center's Environmental and Munitions Center of Expertise (EM CX) Directorate is providing implementation and training as the Army begins using a new hazardous material (HAZMAT) management system.

said that's what makes the EM CX a good fit for getting WEBCASS-E HMID up-and-running Army wide as the EM CX fosters trust, innovation, communication, quality and knowledge throughout the Environmental Community of Practice.

"We will help the Army transition to WEBCASS-E HMID as smoothly and easily as possible," Long said.

Part of Long's role in the process is to keep EESOH-MIS running as it is now, and then begin helping installations transition to WEBCASS-E HMID.

"Army installation personnel moving from EESOH-MIS to HMID are probably thinking 'Argh, really? You're making me do something new?'" But they need to recognize that the actions for tracking HAZMAT is going to be about the same," she said.

"The muscle memory and the activities are basically going to be the same – It's just a different system."

For instance, Long said HMID uses different nomenclature, as a hazardous material control point (under EESOH-MIS) will be called an issue point (under HMID)."

When EESOH-MIS was implemented, Long said because the program started from nothing, there was a proficiency 'learning curve' to overcome. She said today's HAZMAT users are at a pretty high-level of proficiency. It will be an easier transition from EESOH-MIS to HMID.

**See HAZMAT
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Photo by Steve Lamas

Future leaders

Congratulations to the nine Huntsville Center teammates for completing the eight months-long Leadership Development Program II Oct. 3 at the Center. The LDP II program utilizes a variety of methods for delivering content to develop leadership competencies including: communication, time management, conflict management, customer service, contribution to mission. LDP is a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers program with four levels corresponding to the USACE structure. From left is Arthur Martin III, programs director, Lt. Col. Todd Mainwaring, deputy commander, and Bill Craven, installation support director along side LDP II participants Dan Cook, Paul Robinson, Melinda McClellan, Derrick Slaughter, Natosha Matthews, Shannon Norden, Margaret Simmons, office of counsel chief and LDP II champion, Jasmine Fortenberry, Ketrich Kennedy and Robert Moss, with Col. Sebastien Joly, commander.

HAZMAT From Page 10

No matter what HAZMAT tracking platform the Army is using, Long said the main goal of the EM CX regulatory program is supporting the Army Hazardous Materials Management Program (HMMP).

“We’re here to help Army installations meet the requirements for environmental safety, industrial hygiene and worker safety through EESOH-MIS, HMMP, and the next several years, WEBCASS-E HMID,” she said. “That requires commitments from all levels.”

Army Regulation 200-1 requires garrison commanders implement an installation wide HMMP and hold tenant units accountable for complying with the policies and standards of the installation and ensure that applicable environmental requirements are incorporated into all procurement actions.

“The Assistant Secretary of the Army (for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology) is focused on reducing volume and toxicity of hazardous material by incorporating environmental management into appropriate acquisition regulations, policies and procedures,” she said.

As a proponent of the HMMP, she said the Deputy Chief of Staff G-4 incorporates environmental requirements

in materiel management, logistics, supply, transport, maintenance, and training.

Commitment from Army installation commanders, Long said, is vital to the HMMP as they are charged with complying with environmental laws and directives at the installation level, and conversion to the WEBCASS-E system.

As chairperson for the installation’s HMMP committee and Environmental Quality Control Committee (EQCC), installation commanders ensure their installation’s units and shops are complying with all policies and standards. At the user level, the commitment is to establish the authorized use list (AUL), only order hazardous material listed on the AUL, and track HAZMAT purchase and usage and use the HAZMAT as directed.

“They are the ones at the front line,” Long said. “They are the ones using HAZMAT to complete their mission. They know exactly what they need to do their job.”

Long said the commitment from all parties regarding HAZMAT tracking is focused to reaching goals and objective. “The Army goal is to reduce unused HAZMAT and generation of Hazardous waste. The objective is to protect human health and the environment.”



Courtesy photo

Huntsville Center's Critical Public Facilities Planning and Response Team deployed to western North Carolina in support of Hurricane Helene disaster relief efforts. The team is (from left to right) Brett Frazier, action officer, Robert Corrales, mission manager, Valetta Jo Baker, mission specialist, April Rafael-Adams, cost engineer, James Dunn, resident engineer, Kelly Longberg, National Environmental Policy Act compliance officer, Joshua Mason, site engineer, Daniel Cook, Mission Manager, and Paul McQueen, electrical engineer.

Nine deploy for emergency relief actions

By Lillian Putnam

Huntsville Center Public Affairs

In the wake of flooding caused by Hurricane Helene, Huntsville Center deployed nine personnel to assist with emergency relief efforts for communities impacted by the historic storm.

Huntsville Center mobilized resources and personnel focusing on restoring essential services and preventing further damage. The personnel deployed provided technical support and resources across North Carolina, working in coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, USACE South Atlantic Division, USACE Wilmington District and local emergency responders.

"Our support is all about getting local communities back on their feet. It is about reestablishing facilities to support the day-to-day functions," Charles Carson, emergency management specialist, said.

The relief efforts are aimed at securing critical

infrastructure, providing temporary building solutions and assisting in waste and water mitigation efforts. USACE has recognized the importance of reinstating electricity, water supplies and road access and is working to restore the impacted areas.

The Center has professionals evaluating and developing innovative solutions to water and waste systems in western North Carolina. Other relief initiatives involve assessing and planning temporary facilities for local government organizations and other critical facilities.

Huntsville Center's Critical Public Facilities Planning Response Team assessed 17 separate facilities.

The facilities under assessment include county offices, townhalls, fire departments, social services buildings and public works and recreations buildings.

"These temporary structures will provide facilities to meet the immediate and critical needs of local governments until permanent structures can be built," Carson said.



Kudos Corner:

November Employees of the Month

LaToya Herrera

Col. Sebastien Joly, Huntsville Center commander, and Dianne Humphries, ACE-IT operations officer and Herrera's supervisor, present Herrera a certificate for her selection as November Employee of the Month. Herrera, mail room clerk, provides exceptional customer service to the Huntsville Center community. Whether she's answering inquiries, providing regulatory guidance, or ensuring timely mail services, she is well-known for her ability to 'Make It Happen.' Herrera effortlessly contributes her expertise to ensure the overall success of the mail services mission.



Photo by Steve Lamas

Ryan Reynolds

Col. Sebastien Joly, Huntsville Center commander, and Reynolds' supervisor Carolyn Harris, Business Management Division chief, present Reynolds, a data scientist, with a certificate for his selection as November Employee of the Month. Reynolds was assigned as a project lead project to develop a program budget application to modernize and automate how data was collected. The application development provided Huntsville Center the foresight and flexibility to response to changes in customers' demands.



Photo by Steve Lamas

Safety Corner:

Staying safe during the festive season

Courtesy of Huntsville Center Safety Office

As the holiday season approaches, we all look forward to time with loved ones and well-deserved breaks. However, it's crucial to stay mindful of safety, both at work and at home. Here are some tips to ensure everyone enjoys a happy and safe festive season.

Decorate Wisely

- Ensure Christmas lights and other decorations are in good condition before using them.
- Use ladders safely and follow proper procedures when hanging decorations.
- Avoid overloading electrical outlets to prevent fires.

Stay Healthy

- The holidays can be stressful, so take time for self-care and relaxation.
- Practice good hygiene, especially with the increased chances of seasonal illnesses.
- Balance indulgence with healthy eating to maintain your well-being.

Travel Safely

- Plan your travel routes and leave early to avoid rushing.

- Make sure your vehicle is in good condition, especially for long trips.
- Don't drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and ensure you get enough rest before driving.

Be Mindful at Work

- Continue following safety protocols and procedures even during the festive season.
- Report any hazards or unsafe conditions immediately.
- Look out for your colleagues and encourage a culture of safety and support.

Fire Safety

- Keep candles away from flammable materials and never leave them unattended.
- Test smoke alarms and ensure they are in working order.
- Have a fire extinguisher accessible and know how to use it.

Manage Stress

- The holidays can be hectic, so it's important to manage stress effectively.
- Set realistic goals and priorities.
- Take breaks when needed and don't hesitate to ask for help if you're feeling overwhelmed.



Snack time

Don Monk, Medical Outfitting and Transition Division project manager, rests with a snack after giving blood on Halloween. More than 40 Huntsville Center employees climbed aboard Lifesouth's Bloodmobiles and donated "the gift of life" Lifesouth is a non-profit community bloodbank serving more than 150 hospitals in Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Tennessee.

Photo by William S. Farrow



Ethics Corner:

Don't let ethics violations take the “fun” out of CFC fundraising

Courtesy of Huntsville Center
Office of Counsel

Prior to the 1950s, fundraising in the federal workplace was an uncontrolled free-for-all, and charity designations were not allowed.

In 1964 the first “combined” campaigns were conducted as experiments in six cities, consolidating all drives into one.

The result was a substantial increase in contributions, and employees were pleased with having to deal with fundraising only once a year.

Today, Combined Federal Campaign affords all employees an opportunity to contribute to one or more charitable, humanitarian or medical research organization at a local or national level.

CFC is the largest and most successful workplace philanthropic fundraiser in the world. Federal employees have raised million dollars for charitable causes around the world.

Despite being a sanctioned fundraising activity, CFC is subject

to ethics rules and restrictions. Key workers and senior leadership may encourage participation in the CFC but may not set individual donation goals, ask for specific donations, or endorse a particular charity.

Those who choose not to participate may not be singled out or coerced.

During CFC it is common to award prizes and incentives to generate participation in fundraising activities. While anyone may voluntarily donate prizes or contribute to CFC, it is not permissible to ask a contractor or business to donate prizes or incentives, or to make contributions.

Neither appropriated funds nor campaign proceeds may be used to purchase food, beverages, or entertainment for CFC events.

Games and activities used to generate participation can cross the line into gambling, which is strictly prohibited. Creativity in developing fundraising efforts can help avoid this problem. For example, lottery-type games, door prizes, and similar events are not gambling as long as they do not include: 1) the

furnishing of consideration (money or something of value), 2) in a game of chance, 3) that offers a reward or prize. Events that do not include all three of these elements are not gambling. **TIP:** It should be clear that contributions are not required.

Lotteries and raffles are permitted when in compliance with gambling regulations and approved by agency head in accordance with agency rules. Chances to win must be disassociated from the amount of contributions. Raffle prizes should be modest (under \$50) in nature and value.

Examples of appropriate prizes are lunch with agency officials, special parking spaces for a limited period, and gifts of minimal financial value.

Special CFC fundraising events, prizes and gifts should be approved in advance by the commander and an ethics official. Fundraisers like car washes, bake sales, and contests are permitted, subject to some further restrictions.

If you have any questions, contact Office of Counsel (Margaret Simmons or Clay Weisenberger).



The 2024 Redstone Arsenal Combined Federal Campaign, the official federal workplace giving campaign, set a goal of \$1 million. The campaign ends on Jan. 15, and all paper pledges should be submitted by the end of December. Federal employees, active-duty service members, retirees and contractors are all eligible to donate. This year's CFC theme is “Give Happy!” and the campaign offers four ways to give:

- Online Giving System: [Givecfc.org](https://givecfc.org). Click the *Donate* button at the top of the page to get started.
- Paper pledge form: Download a pledge form, at givecfc.org/pledgeform.
- Text-to-Donate.
- CFC Giving App.

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.

FY2024 40+ Programs

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

\$ 2.6B

**“HNC Delivers
Innovation”**

In fiscal 2024, Huntsville Center awarded contract actions totaling more than \$2.6 billion in obligations for its stakeholders.



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