

October 2024

U.S. ARMY ENGINEERING AND SUPPORT CENTER, HUNTSVILLE



The Bulletin

Finish Line

Huntsville Center races
to end Fiscal 2024

Story on page 4

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



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Commander's Thoughts

“Our projects ensure the health, safety and readiness of the Department of Defense, supporting both our warfighters, their families and civilian employees.”



Col. Sebastien Joly

Team,
I want to extend my heartfelt thanks for your dedication and hard work over the past few months. Your commitment has not gone unnoticed, and it's made a significant difference in our success. I'm grateful to lead such a talented team. Let's carry this momentum into the new year!

The work we accomplish at the Huntsville Center is vital. Our projects ensure the safety and readiness of the Department of Defense, supporting both our warfighters, their families and civilian employees. From sustainable engineering solutions to our innovative acquisition practices, our contributions directly impact national security and efficiency. Let's continue to collaborate and strive for excellence in every project. Your dedication truly makes a difference, and I'm proud to be part of such an impactful team.

Over the last couple of months, I've emphasized the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle and particularly throughout our end of year actions. Consistent exercise, balanced nutrition, and adequate rest boost our physical and mental well-being. By prioritizing these habits, we enhance our productivity and overall happiness. Let's continue to support each other in making healthy choices, no matter the month!

Huntsville Center's Organization

Day is set for Oct. 21 at Redstone Arsenal's Carroll D. Hudson Recreation Area. This is a great opportunity for me as I have the honor of recognizing your accomplishments by presenting our annual awards to members of our workforce. There will be plenty of activities and I encourage you to bring your family with you. Getting together for events away from the office are important in building team comradery, as well as relaxing and enjoying the great outdoors and I look forward to seeing you all there.

Huntsville Center's Small Business Industry Day is set for Oct. 23 at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center's Davidson Center for Space Exploration.

The event features a general overview of doing business with Huntsville Center and covers major regulatory changes and upcoming acquisitions, followed by an opportunity for attendees to interact directly with our program managers and contracting officials. If you are attending this event and representing your programs, the interactions you have with potential small business representatives is essential for showcasing all our products or services. Before the event, I encourage you to briefly review all our fact sheets, and not just those for your program. Being knowledgeable of all Huntsville Center programs helps build brand awareness, fosters deeper

stakeholder relationships, and ultimately ensures our success. Fact sheets for all our programs can be found on our public facing website at hnc.usace.army.mil/Media/Fact-Sheets.

National Hispanic Heritage Month closes out Oct. 15. This year's national theme – “Pioneers of Change: Shaping the Future Together” – captures the unique and storied history Hispanic Americans have in the Army. In November we will reflect on Native American Heritage Month – a time to celebrate the traditions, languages and stories of Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and affiliated Island communities. The Equal Employment Opportunity Office provides information to the workforce for special emphasis program observances to foster diversity in the workplace.

Kudos to Brecken Bailey, Access Control Point project manager, for earning the Center's September Employee of the Month. Brecken was recognized for her efforts to ensure correction of a contractor's actions in August which resulted in a damaged main water line at Fort Moore, Georgia, leaving thousands of Fort Moore residents without water.

Brecken and her team worked late

**See *COMMANDER*
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Center finishes fiscal year with more than \$2.6 billion obligated

By William Farrow

Huntsville Center Public Affairs

Huntsville Center raced across the fiscal year finish line on Sept. 30 with more than 3,900 contract actions totaling approximately \$2.6 billion obligated to support America's warfighters and other federal agencies.

According to Lelani Banks, Huntsville Center Business Operations Branch chief, the Center's breakdown shows that of the \$2.6 billion (contracts and cooperative agreements), Installation Support and Program Management Directorate obligated more than \$2 billion, Ordnance and Explosives Directorate obligated more than \$148 million and the Engineering Directorate obligated more than \$55 million. Cooperative Agreements saw 338 contract actions valued at more than \$96 million.

The top five programs of the Fiscal Year End 2024 were all ISPM programs with DLA-Fuels obligating more than \$376 million; Utility Metering and Controls Systems with more than \$329 million; Energy Savings Performance Contracting at \$195 million; Medical Operation and Maintenance Engineering Enhancement at more than \$191 million and Medical Repair and Renewal with over \$183 million obligated.

Of the \$2.6 billion obligated, more than \$900 million of the funds went to small business. Nicole Boone, Huntsville Center Office of Small



Business Programs director, said optimizing business opportunities for small business strengthens the nation's economic development.

"Huntsville Center is a dedicated teammate within the Army Small Business Programs and by ensuring small business is a top priority for awards, the Center is a premier leader within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers," Boone said.

Arthur Martin III, Huntsville Center programs director, said the work Huntsville Center does supporting the U.S. military around the world is critical to national security.

"I'm so very grateful to have each one of you working for the good of our nation and steadfastly supporting our warfighters," he said.

"What you do really matters, and I hope that you know how important it is for a whole lot of people, that you will never meet, that you got it done. It should give you great pride to know

that your work made a difference in how well someone could fulfill their mission."

Col. Sebastien Joly, Huntsville Center commander, said he too is impressed with the hard work and dedication he observed over the last month.

He said he noticed team rooms occupied with Project Development Teams meeting to work through requirements, break rooms were full as people took small breaks to enjoy each other's company and recharge, and even the Center's gym saw an uptick in foot traffic as people were taking care of themselves during the high-paced time of year that often has employees working long hours.

"I'm so proud to be part of such a high performing team," Joly said.

"Every member of Huntsville Center plays a crucial role in delivering quality projects, on time, within budget, and safely."

Commander From Page 3

into the night to coordinate efforts between the contractor, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Savannah District and the city of Columbus' Waterworks Department to repair the damage. We're fortunate to welcome to new uniformed additions to the Center. I'd like to welcome Lt. Col. Todd Mainwaring, who will serve as the Center Deputy until Apr 1. He comes to the Center from Nashville District where he served as deputy commander for the district.

In October, Maj. Jon Franklin will join us as the Military

Executive Officer and will transition to becoming the Deputy on Apr. 1.

He joins us from Camp Shelby, Mississippi, where he has been focused on training Soldiers for the past several years, following a tour with Fort Worth District, where he served as a Project Manager. I'm excited for the help!

I also want to thank Laura Beth Quick who served as our Civilian Deputy to the Commander over the last several months. Laura Beth did an outstanding job keeping things running while we were awaiting our new deputy commander.

Essayons



Looking to FY 2025, Huntsville Center meets with contractors on safety topics

By Lillian Putnam

Huntsville Center Public Affairs

With fiscal year 2025 quickly approaching, U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville's Medical Division Operation and Maintenance Engineering Enhancement, OMEE, safety team conducted a meeting Sept. 17 with corporate safety leads to discuss any challenges and changes to policy heading into the new year.

Huntsville Center's OMEE program provides a simplified process to respond to the growing operation and maintenance needs of Department of Defense (DOD) medical facilities. The program uses streamlined processes that provide low-cost, quick-response contracts for the repair and replacement, preventive maintenance, and operation of equipment for DOD installations worldwide.

The meeting, led by Andrew Boston and Todd Lewis, Huntsville Center safety and occupational health managers, meets on a quarterly basis with an opportunity to meet in-person once a year to speak about a variety of safety topics.

"The forum gives the opportunity to directly communicate to contractors and tears down barriers to identify problems across the field and address multiple issues contractors come across," Boston said.

Kellie Williams, Huntsville Center safety chief, said the meetings help maintain an environment that ensures projects are completed safely.

"This best practice provides information that helps reduce Safety and Occupational Health resubmittals and reviews as we communicate issues seen along with solutions," Williams said.

The voluntary forum included

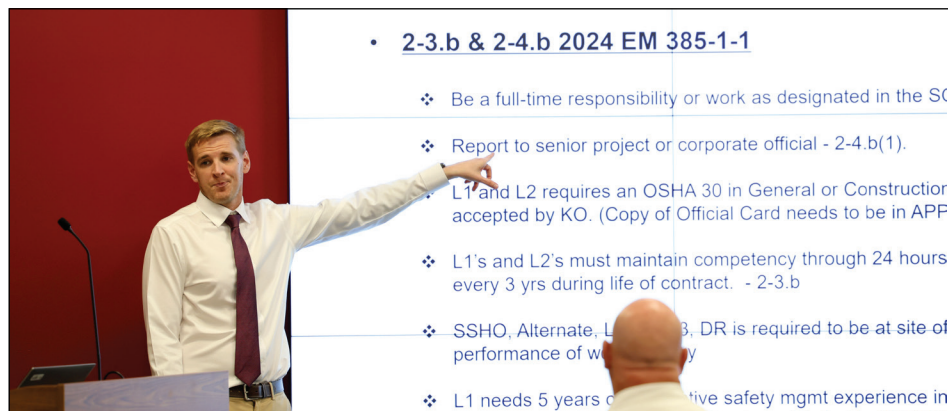


Photo by Chris Putman

Huntsville Center Safety and Occupational Health Manager, Andrew Boston, explains changes to corporate safety leads during a meeting Sept. 17.

attendance from the corporate safety leads for each of the five main contractors on the Operation and Maintenance Engineering Enhancement Multiple Award Task Order Contract.

Spencer Farrow, Health and Human Services' Government Services Risk Management vice president, participated and said he finds great value in the meetings as keeping a hazard free workplace is a team effort.

"Not only are we meeting with our counter parts in the other companies, but we also get to work towards building a singular understanding of the requirements of the Engineer Manual 385 which allows us to reach out and assist each other so that the safety program is consistent throughout all OMEE task orders."

This year's in-person meeting discussed revisions to the Corps safety manual document, EM 385-1-1, specifically the Accident Prevention Plan format. With the changes, Boston and Lewis highlighted the new Accident Prevention Plan format and the competent person form in addition to plan and program requirements.

"EM 385-1 describes the regulations and procedures to conduct work safely and is the governing document for the

Corps employees and contractors that work with us," Boston explained.

"With changes to that document, we wanted to extend our understanding and expectations to contractors to address any questions."

Not only did the forum offer participants with detailed guidance moving into fiscal year 2025, but it also provided an opportunity to collaborate on topics to better support the warfighter.

"We want to ensure contractors have the tools to safety complete work on their job sites to allow for faster and better delivery of our products that support the warfighter from a medical perspective," Boston said.

Col. Sebastien Joly, Huntsville Center commander, said Huntsville Center is recognized as a leading organization within USACE for implementing safety throughout its programs.

"We became the first Army organization to earn the Army's prestigious Safety and Occupational Health Star in 2022," Joly said.

"Safety is at the forefront of everything the Huntsville Center does and is a top priority as we protect our most valuable asset, our people."

Furnishings Program filling cyberspaces at Army Cyber Center of Excellence

By William Farrow

Huntsville Center Public Affairs

In the largest military construction program in the continental United States, Huntsville Center's Furnishings Program is providing programmatic support to the Army Cyber Center of Excellence (CCoE).

The multi-year, 25 project plan modernizes facilities at Fort Eisenhower, an Army installation near Augusta, Georgia.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Savannah District, serving as the Army's agent for military construction in Georgia, is overseeing the projects.

The largest single piece of the project is improving CCoE campus with \$934 million contract that includes both Military Construction (MILCON) and Sustainment/Restoration/Modernization (SRM) projects.

"The facilities are designed to strengthen the Army and improve cyber mission readiness by bringing together cutting-edge, innovative information technology, cyberspace operations capabilities, and an open, collaborative working environment to support the next generation of the Army's Cyber force," said Tony Cady, Savannah District's Chief of Military Programs and Project Management.

Huntsville Center's focus on the project is acquiring and installing \$40 million of furnishings to support CCoE's mission to train, educate, and develop signal, cyber, and electronic warfare professionals.

The Center's Furnishing Program procures administrative, barracks, lodging and educational furnishings for various federal agencies worldwide.

The program is a full-service program with project delivery teams providing project management, interior design, procurement, installation and quality assurance for all federal



Courtesy graphic

A 2019 mock-up is shown of part of the future Cyber Center of Excellence campus. As each MILCON project is completed Huntsville Center is filling the spaces with furnishings. The CCoE is the largest military construction program in the continental United States and is scheduled for completion in 2028.

agencies' furniture requirements. Mike Braddock, Furnishings Program project manager for the CCoE project, said his project development team (PDT) is overseeing the cradle-to-grave concept while ensuring standardized furnishings are provided to meet specific CCoE requirements.

"Our PDT's primary mission is to buy furnishings in accordance with CCoE requirements and to manage the delivery of those items to the new or renovated facility by the beneficial occupancy date," Braddock said.

Braddock said the project is at time challenging due to the large scale of the project.

"The campus's new and renovated facilities are modern digital classrooms and labs providing access to all the Army's operational and training networks," Braddock said.

"Anytime there is concurrent procurement for so many buildings at once, all during fiscal year end, there are certainly going to be challenges,"

he said.

Braddock said working with a transformation cell specifically set up to support the establishment of the campus, is unique and has eased some of the challenges associated with procuring furniture for the facilities.

The U.S. Army Cyber Command (ARCYBER) is the supporting Army headquarters under the U.S. Cyber Command.

The CCoE is the Army's proponent for modernizing cyberspace operations, networks, and electronic warfare (EW).

It develops related doctrine, and solutions for organization, training, materials, leadership, personnel, and facilities.

The facilities aim to boost the Army and its cyber readiness. They will combine advanced IT, cyber ops, and collaborative workspaces to support the next generation of the Army's cyber force.



Collaboration improving VA construction

By William Farrow

Huntsville Center Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) collaborative efforts continue to shape the future of Veteran health care facilities, marking a significant stride forward for VA's medical construction programs.

Nearly a decade ago, an Interagency Agreement was signed between the VA and USACE for USACE to provide project and construction management, engineering services, and other support to the VA. Huntsville Center plays a great role in the VA projects as it serves as the design and construction agent for major VA medical facilities valued at over \$100 million.

Currently, VA's major medical construction program oversees 30 health care facility construction projects in the U.S., with a total value exceeding \$14 billion.

Earlier this summer, USACE and VA representatives united for a joint summit in Frederick, Maryland, to discuss strategic priorities including reinforcing the commitment to enhancing the national medical construction program.

Attendee Wade Doss, Huntsville Center Engineering director, said with so many stakeholders involved in every project, it is imperative that they all collectively recognize and understand each other's roles on the team.

Doss said presentations at the summit included information on the Enterprise Program Management Plan, the VA's infrastructure strategy including details on their current planning and programming efforts, roles and responsibilities and lines of communication from the PMO down to each project, as well as details on how to adjudicate disagreements along the way as facilities are planned, designed, constructed, and turned over to the VA.

"It was important for USACE reps to hear the 'big picture' from the VA in terms of their overall facilities portfolio and capital investment strategy," Doss said.

Key focuses of the conference were the health of the partnership for the national level medical construction program, shaping program priorities, and review of the strategic plan and partnering initiatives that will drive the future of this significant interagency program.

While VA and USACE leadership reflected on significant progress, it also found areas to improve, according to Mike Lanier, Michael Lanier, Project Development Team leader and Liaison to the VA for the Huntsville Center.

"Specifically, the group identified gaps in financial reporting and took decisive action to improve program performance," Lanier said.

The group also collaborated to standardize financial



Courtesy photo

Senior leaders from the Department of Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers conduct a three-day conference in Frederick, Maryland, at the VA Acquisition Academy in June.

reporting, enhance funding capabilities, and implemented more efficient processes.

"These updated financial policies will ensure that implementation is accountable, auditable and repeatable," he said. "Additionally, the leaders will continue to focus on simplifying and standardizing customer invoicing and order fulfillment."

Lanier said collaborative analytics too, will continue to drive personnel behavior, improve teamwork, and enhance the overall performance of the medical construction project. Huntsville Center's Medical Facilities Center of Expertise developed and implemented enterprise-wide standardized Medical Construction Quality Assurance training for USACE Districts executing VA projects with a focus on medically unique features.

The MCX trained over 300 staff from Louisville, Sacramento and Buffalo Districts and VA area offices.

Training covered topics such as: joint commission accreditation; medical gas systems; fire protection/life safety; plumbing systems, radiation shielding, HVAC; architectural mock-ups and communications systems. Additional training is being developed for next fiscal year and beyond with additional training modules.

Huntsville Center demos Fort Liberty barracks

By Lillian Putnam
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

A Huntsville Center's Facility Reduction Program (FRP) project is demolishing outdated barracks at Fort Liberty, North Carolina, formerly known as Fort Bragg. The demolition of the Smoke Bomb Hill Volar Barracks is part of a broader initiative to modernize housing facilities across military installations.

"Huntsville Center supports installations—that is a large part of what we do," said Col. Sebastien Joly, Huntsville Center, commander.

"Improving quality of life throughout the Army and the DOD is something Huntsville Center takes great pride in doing."

The Volar barracks, originally constructed in the 1970s for the Volunteer Army Initiative, were designed to improve living conditions and attract volunteers to reduce reliance on the draft.

However, in 2022, the barracks were identified as unsustainable due to maintenance deficiencies and outdated infrastructure with longstanding issues.

"We are demolishing old barracks on Fort Liberty to make way for new facilities to improve the quality of life for our Soldiers, Joly said. "Part of the new buildings will include furnishings provided by our world class interior designers."

Due to the large nature of this project, many organizations are working alongside Huntsville Center's FRP experts to conduct the demolition and construction.

"Multiple organization have been involved in this large-scale project, including the Savannah District, Seymour Johnson Resident Office, Wilmington District, South Command Area Office, Fort Liberty's Department of Public Works, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality,



Photo by Chris Putnam

Huntsville Center personnel observe demolition of Smoke Bomb Hill Volar Barracks, Fort Liberty, North Carolina, July 18. Demolition of the antiquated barracks make way for new barracks to improve single Soldier's quality of life.

Army Materiel Command, among other organizations," said Jake Gassaway, Huntsville Center Facilities Reduction Program project manager.

Army Materiel Command's Deputy Director for Facilities, Logistics and Environmental Management, Paul Schaefer, reiterated the importance of projects like this.

"The demolition of these outdated barracks is a testament to our unwavering commitment to providing our Soldiers with the quality living conditions they deserve," he stated.

"This is not just about bricks and mortar; it's about investing in the well-being and readiness of our most valuable asset — our Soldiers."

The demolition process will be multifaceted, with careful attention paid to environmental and safety concerns due to the amount of rainfall in the area.

"Because of the rainfall, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality required strict Storm Water Pollution Protection plans to be implemented prior to starting the demolition," Gassaway explained.

"This included silt fencing and the installation of multiple ground berms to mitigate environmental exposure."

Since 2022, when the project was awarded, a variety of processes needed to be completed prior to the start of the demolition. Processes required before work on the buildings could occur included submitting work and safety plans, storm water pollution protection plans, along with implementing environmental controls, conducting environmental surveys, removing furniture and abating asbestos containing material in addition to other regulated material from all the structures.

Once the buildings are demolished and the material is cleared in accordance with environmental standards, new, state-of-the-art facilities will be constructed in their place.

Huntsville Center's FRP and Furnishings Program will work alongside other organizations to ensure all aspects of the demolition and outfitting meet the Army's standards for safety and efficiency.

"The demolition of the Smoke Bomb Hill Volar Barracks is a reminder of the Army's dedication to modernization, ensuring that the next generation of Soldiers can live, train and thrive in an environment that supports the mission," Joly said.



Photo by Lillian Putnam

Jacob Morrison, Huntsville Center project manager, relays information to Capt. Luiz Pereira, Brazilian army military works department, regarding Redstone Arsenal's 10-megawatt solar photovoltaic and 1-megawatt energy storage system.

Brazilian soldiers gain energy insight

By William S. Farrow
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

Brazilian army engineering officers visited Redstone Arsenal and Huntsville Center Aug. 21 to exchange information regarding energy projects.

That morning, Lt. Col. Heron Alves Dos Santos and Capt. Luiz Pereira Da Silva Neto, Brazilian army military works department, toured Solid Waste Disposal Authority (SWDA) of the City of Huntsville's Waste to Energy Facility.

The Facility serves the primary solid waste disposal needs of the city by combusting approximately 700 tons per day of municipal solid waste and converting the released energy into low-pressure steam which is supplied to the adjacent Redstone Arsenal.

The Brazilians then toured the 10-megawatt solar photovoltaic and 1-megawatt energy storage system on Redstone, meeting with subject matter experts there to gain insight into the project.

After the facility tours, The Brazilian's met with Col. Erin Eike, Redstone Arsenal garrison commander, at Huntsville Center where the Arsenal's public works department personnel provided detailed briefings and face-to-face information exchanges regarding the Arsenal's energy processes and resilience programs.

Brazilian army Capt. Pereira Da Silva Neto, Assistant to the directorate of Military Works – Energy Efficiency and Renewable Generation Section, then provided a brief to representative of Huntsville Center's Energy Division regarding Brazil's efforts to provide efficient energy solutions for some of their most remote outposts, many located in the Amazona state.

"These bases have no roads, and they must get supplies from the air, so it's not easy to get them the diesel fuel they require to power their generators," Pereira Da Silva Neto said.

Lt. Col. Alves Dos Santos, Assistant to the directorate of Military Works – Special Studies and Projects Section, said there is great interest from the Brazilian army in installing solar panels at the bases to provide the electricity needed to operate.

Ricky Tellstrom, Huntsville Center metering and energy support services chief and liaison for the visit, said it's the Army's goal to enable its installations to become more energy and water efficient and resilient, and from those efforts many best practices are noted and collected for future projects.

"By sharing information with our allies like Brazil, it makes our relationship stronger and ensures that both countries have secure, resilient and sustainable energy supplies to their military forces," Tellstrom said.

Furnishings Program supports Fort Carson barracks renovation and replacement projects

By William S. Farrow
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

Almost two years into a decade-long plan, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Omaha District continues renovating barracks or constructing new living quarters at Fort Carson, Colorado, and Huntsville Center keeps filling the spaces with furnishings to ensure Soldier's "quarters" become comfortable "homes."

Huntsville Center is designated as the central manager of furnishings procurement for the Installation Management Command (IMCOM). The Center's Furnishings Program constructs cradle-to-grave Project Delivery Teams that execute all Army unaccompanied housing furniture replacement contracts for HQ IMCOM worldwide.

Stephanie Hardin, Furnishings Program manager, said the program administers HQ IMCOM's workplan, specifications/procurements, provides contract management, training, coordination and quality assurance oversight.

She said the processes ensure the program consistently procures furniture that yields a higher quality of product which equals a longer life cycle durations and cost avoidance for our stakeholder.

"In the long run, our furniture program saves the customer money," Harding said.

According to Fort Carson Directorate of Public Works (DPW) there are three main efforts for the barracks there.

The main effort is building new military construction (MILCON) barracks for 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, with the first barracks estimated to be completed by fiscal 2027.

Other top efforts are renovations of Fort Carson's "rolling pin" barracks. They are called rolling pin barracks because their shape, which resembles a rolling pin when viewed from above. These barracks will be completed between fiscal 2024 and 2034 to meet the new "4 plus 2" standard, which includes four bedrooms, a kitchen, laundry room, and common area in each suite.

The \$4 million Fort Carson furnishings contract was funded by IMCOM Operation and Maintenance (O&M) funds. The contract called for the suites to be outfitted with a single bed and mattress, nightstand, armour, desk and chair in the bedrooms. Common areas are furnished with a sofa, armchair, table and four chairs. A microwave oven, refrigerator and washing machine and a clothes drier outfit the rest of the Soldiers' "home."

Tiffany Torres, Furnishings Program project manager for the Fort Carson development, said she believes the furniture procured and installed improves Soldiers' comfort while



Photos by Chris Putman

A single Soldier's barracks room at Fort Carson, Colorado. Huntsville Center's Furnishings Program is providing new furnishings at barracks across the Army.

maintaining functionality.

"It is incredibly rewarding to see how you are impacting the daily life of a Soldier," Torres said.

"Ultimately, we are here working to support them in everything they do. And seeing the results that work, either firsthand, or by talking to our Housing POCs is really rewarding."

However, projects of this magnitude don't go without challenges. One of the big tests, Torres said, was the furnishings team lacked adequate competition for under-counter refrigerators.

She said during the solicitation process, the team learned that some of the potential bidders were having issues providing quote and they were running the risk of losing bidders due to them not being able to find a source for that particular appliance. She said the project delivery team discussed options and decided it was best to pull that item out of the package and have a separate solicitation for just that appliance which went out specifically to appliance vendors.

"I believe that quick thinking and action helped us overcome the issue and allowed us to get several quotes and ultimately the best value for the Government," Torres said.

The Furnishings Program is always looking to improve processes and automate. The program has recently implemented a new online ordering system which is deployed for both the Army and Navy unaccompanied housing programs.

This new system has streamlined the process from order receipt to contract closeout. It helps in standardizing product offerings for standard designs to ensure consistency throughout all facilities and helps the PDT in automation and real time reporting throughout the process. Soldiers living in 17 of Fort Carson's barracks buildings are swapping end-of-lifecycle furniture for new items and once the exchanges are complete, 1,554 rooms will have new Army furniture.



Photos by William S. Farrow

Gregory Lane, Military Energy Performance Contracting Forum lead, addresses forum attendees at Huntsville Center, Aug. 12. The forum focused on service-wide energy programs and projects utilizing private capital to make infrastructure improvements and new efficiencies without tapping into the capital budget.

Military energy contracting forum growth consolidates efforts for service branches

By William S. Farrow
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

Building on the success of past Energy Exchange workshops, and with the intent of expanding the discussion on topics applicable to all military installations, Huntsville Center's annual energy contracting workshop for stakeholders, utility providers and energy service companies has grown.

Formerly known as Huntsville Center's Energy Exchange, the event is now the Military Energy Performance Contracting (MEPcon) Forum, expanding this year to include nearly all branches of service.

Past Energy Exchange workshops were generally focused on Huntsville Center's third-party financing (TPF) capabilities in the Energy Savings Performance Contracting (ESPC) and Utility Energy Services Contracting (UESC) programs.

The Aug. 12-15 MEPcon Forum's first day was held at Huntsville Center and the following days at the Jackson Center at Cummings Research Park.

The forum focused on service-wide TPF, ESPC and UESC programs and

projects utilizing private capital to make infrastructure improvements and new efficiencies without tapping into the capital budget to support and enable the warfighter while meeting energy and environmental mandates.

Attending this year's event were more than 200 ESPC and UESC leads from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and ESCO representatives supporting service various service branch energy contracts.

By working together with Office of the Secretary of Defense and other agencies, MEPcon participants focused its sessions on developing alignment and symmetry to achieve energy and climate goals at military installations around the world.

Rebecca Isacowitz, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy Resilience & Optimization, attended the first two days of the forum. She said the forum is a great opportunity to focus on energy resilience through TPF.

Isacowitz is responsible for providing policy and governance for programs and activities that enable energy resilience for systems

and installations.

"The conversations are really great for the future and where we want to be, and I want to continue to participate and lead and see what we can all do together," she said.

Gregory Lane, MEPcon Forum lead, said TPF is a complicated business, and he believes the forum has great value since attendees are under the Department of Defense umbrella.

However, just because they are all working toward the same goal, there are differences.

"Folks in the room may have similar approaches but maybe different thoughts," he said.

"Diversity is key, because the Army looks at their challenges a little differently than the Navy, the Air Force or the Coast Guard, and hearing different perspectives allows that diversity in the conversation.

Lane said Energy Contractor (ESCO) representatives attending enhances the conversation too.

"Bringing in the ESCOs – our partners in this process – is really a good perspective," Lane said.

Deputy commander in place

In early September, Lt. Col. Todd Mainwaring became the Huntsville Center deputy commander. Prior to his current assignment here, he was Deputy District Commander for the Nashville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

He received his commission from the United States Military Academy in 2007. After Officer Basic Course in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, Mainwaring reported to the 2nd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, in 2008.

He immediately deployed to Iraq where he served as a platoon leader in downtown Baghdad. Upon return, he served as the Executive Officer of the 101st's Air Assault School.

In 2010, Mainwaring was selected to serve as the Aide-de-Camp to the commanding general of the Mississippi Valley Division. In this capacity, he responded to one of the largest floods to ever pass down the Mississippi River in the spring of 2011.

Following this assignment, Mainwaring took command of 643rd Engineer Company, 84th Engineer Battalion in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

After command, Mainwaring attended graduate

school at Stanford University where he studied sustainable construction and energy efficient building design. He applied this education to teaching Civil Engineering at the United States Military Academy from 2016-2019. Following Command and General Staff College in 2020 he joined the 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) in Eglin Air Force Base, Florida as the Group Engineer. In this capacity, he served as the senior engineer advisor to the Group Commander and managed a diverse construction program at home station on Camp Bull Simons and across South America in support of special operations.

Mainwaring holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the USMA as well as two Masters of Science from Stanford University (Civil Engineering and Management Science).



Lt. Col. Todd Mainwaring

GETTING TO KNOW LT. COL. TODD MAINWARING

NAME/ POSITION/TITLE: Lt. Col. Todd Mainwaring (pronounced Manner-ing), Huntsville Center Deputy Commander

WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GREW UP: Huntsville Center Deputy Commander!

WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT YOUR JOB: I love the complexity and diversity of Huntsville Center's programs. What a fascinating, unique mission set. On a superficial level, this building (RG 300) is AMAZING! Coming from Nashville—where parking costs \$30 per day—I'm so grateful for how accessible this building is for our employees.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE BEST ASSIGNMENT IN YOUR CAREER? Commanding a vertical Engineer Construction Company in Hawaii. We deployed to small islands all over the South Pacific and built schools, aid stations, and suspension bridges in remote areas. Some islands hadn't seen an American Soldier since World War II! It was so fulfilling to see expeditionary construction make such an impact on these communities.

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR THE NEXT YEAR? I've been a deputy commander before, so I hope my learning curve isn't so steep, but I want to contribute to the Huntsville Center mission in any way that I can. This will be a quick assignment for me—I'm headed to command the Charleston District next summer—but I look forward to making the biggest impact possible.

IF YOU COULD DO ANYTHING FOR A DAY, WHAT WOULD IT BE? I love to travel. A perfect day to me would be exploring a foreign country. My family and I spend part of Christmas last year hopping around Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. We toured cathedrals, took a train through the Alps, and shopped at Christmas markets.

WHO IS YOUR HERO AND WHY? My wife and kids. The longer I serve, the more I've asked of them, and I'm so humbled by their support and sacrifice. Servicemembers know what they are signing up for, their families (especially kids) don't. Every time I'm thanked for my service, I hope the same appreciation is extended to military families. They sacrifice just as much, or more.

WHAT IS THE BEST PIECE OF ADVICE SOMEONE HAS GIVEN YOU? "It is not the critic who counts." I've got a copy of President Theodore Roosevelt's "Man in the Arena" speech hanging on my wall at my house. Every time I read it, I take something new away, but the mindset of "there is something worse than failing: not trying" is something I tell myself—and my kids—everyday.

HOW DO YOU LIKE TO SPEND YOUR FREE TIME? With two kids, I don't have much free time, but when I do, I like to read. I shift between fiction and non-fiction, but lately I'm on a history kick. I'm reading a lot by Erik Larson (Demon of Unrest, Dead Wake). I also enjoy watching pro-soccer (I'm a big Nashville SC fan) and college football (Roll Tide!).



Small Business Industry Day set

By William Farrow

Huntsville Center Public Affairs

The date is set for Huntsville Center's Small Business Industry Day 2024. The event is Oct. 23 at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center's Davidson Center for Space Exploration.

The event is set to begin at 12:30 p.m. with QR codes available for business representatives to register their information.

Opening remarks will be provided by Col. Sebastien Joly, Huntsville Center commander, in the auditorium at 1 p.m. followed by presentations from Arthur Martin III, Huntsville Center programs manager, and Ronnell Booker, Huntsville Center contracting chief.

Presentation agenda consists of an overview of Huntsville

Center's scope of work, its planned acquisition strategy approach and small business tips and best practices.

From 2-4 p.m., Huntsville Center representatives will be available for specific information sessions in the auditorium with other representatives available in the museum area.

The event will also provide networking opportunities as Huntsville Center program and project managers and contracting specialists will provide updates on programs such as: energy; electronic technology; facilities; military support; facility technology; medical engineering/medical facilities architectural-engineering contracts; ordnance and explosives; safety and pre-award contracting.

Small business is an integral part of Huntsville Center's mission. In Fiscal 2024, more than \$900 million awards were eligible to small business.



Courtesy photo

Preparation is key

Members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Critical Public Facilities Team review disaster relief plans in Kihei, Hawaii following the Maui wildfires. If a disaster or emergency happened today, would you know what to do? National Preparedness Month is September and it's a perfect time to maximize preparedness by reviewing information in advance and taking steps to understand risk. Visit www.ready.gov for more information.

Kudos Corner:



Photos by William S. Farrow

September Employee of the Month

Laura Beth Quick, right, Huntsville Center civilian deputy to the commander, presents Brecken Bailey, Access Control Point project manager, with an employee of the month certificate for September. Bailey was recognized for her efforts to ensure correction of a contractor's actions in August which resulted in a damaged main water line at Fort Moore, Georgia, leaving thousands of Fort Moore residents without water. Bailey, along with her project development team, worked into night to coordinate efforts between the contractor, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District and the city of Columbus' Waterworks Department to repair the damage.



Photos by Martha Cook

September Employee of the Month

Col. Sebastien Joly, Huntsville Center commander, Lt. Col. Todd Mainwaring, Huntsville Center deputy commander, Arthur Martin II, Huntsville Center programs director and Betina Johnson, Ordnance and Explosives Design Center division chief present Ryan Bailey, Ordnance and Explosives Directorate geologist, with a command coin and certificate recognizing Bailey as employee of the month. Bailey worked tirelessly the week of Aug. 13-19 to assist with getting a critical acquisition for the Army Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF) Northwest Region out on the street for acquisition. Bailey rose to the challenge with his leadership to ensure the acquisition would be completed in Fiscal 2024. It was discovered late in the fourth quarter that the funds were congressional funds and could not be returned. Bailey led the Project Development Team to release the Request For Proposal within one week while training two new project managers.



Photos by Steve Lamas

Medical O&T success

Lt. Col. Todd Mainwaring, Huntsville Center's deputy commander, presented Griffin McLaurin, Mason Shockley and Gabi Jarrell with command coins as appreciation for their support in awarding the largest Initial Outfitting and Transition support contract in the history of the Medical Outfitting and Transition branch for Huntsville Center. Arthur Martin III (right) Huntsville Center Programs Director, joined Wes Johnson, Medical Outfitting and Transition branch chief (second from right) to recognize McLaurin, Jarrell and Shockley.



Safety Corner:



US Army Corps
of Engineers®



SAFETY & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH TRAINING FY25

COURSE	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q
10 HR OSHA	3-4 DEC	26-27 FEB	28-29 MAY	6-7 AUG
Arc Flash		26 MAR		
Bloodborne Pathogen	13 NOV		6 MAY	
CPR/AED/First Aid	13 NOV	4 FEB	6 MAY	5 AUG
Defensive Driving		29 JAN		30 JUL
Fall Awareness/Ladder Safety			7 MAY	
Floor Monitor Training		12 FEB		
HAZWOPER Refresher		9 DEC		
New Employee/Supervisor Safety Awareness	4 DEC	5 MAR	4 JUN	3 SEP
Personal Readiness (Formerly Suicide Prevention)	29-31 OCT			
Respiratory Protection		9 DEC		
Supervisor Development		17 JUL		

The Fiscal Year 25 safety training schedule has been finalized. To sign up for OSHA 10 hour Construction, CPR/First Aid, ARC Flash, Ladder Safety, or HAZWOPER 8 hour refresher, please go to the Safety Office SharePoint site, click on "Training", then "Request Training." For more information on these safety courses, contact the Safety Office.

Ethics Corner: Interaction with Non-Federal Entities has rules

By Margaret Simmons
Huntsville Center Office of Counsel

What are Non-Federal Entities? The ones that are most familiar are Society of American Military Engineers and the Association of the United States Army. There are others such as local trade organizations and professional organizations that offer training to keep your credentials current.

You need to be familiar with the left and right boundaries when you interact with an NFE. The rules can be very complex and they are fact specific. You might be asked to speak at an event hosted by an NFE. If you plan to attend that event in your official capacity as a Government employee, there are several questions that have to be asked in order to be approved as a speaker.

You need to coordinate with the Office of Counsel

before you say yes and accept that invitation. If you are an officer in that NFE there are additional rules that come into play and could impact whether or not you can speak and what you can actually speak about.

If you do speak, what if you are offered a gift for speaking? This is where the gift rules would kick in and if the NFE is a prohibited source, the value of the gift would have to be less than twenty dollars. You may have gotten free attendance for the day because you were approved as a speaker. Is that okay? Generally, the answer is yes if you got approval to be a speaker.

Just be aware that you need to make sure your supervisor is aware and agrees with your attendance, and that you have gotten the proper information from Office of Counsel if you plan to be a speaker. For more information, contact the Office of Counsel.

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