

Facility Systems Safety

Program Manager 256-895-1583

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

The Facility Systems Safety (FASS) program is designed to incorporate system safety into the facility design process as prescribed in Military Standard 882E (Standard Practice System Safety), AR 385-10 (Army Safety Program), DA Pam 385-16 (System Safety Engineering and Management), and new UFC 1-200-01 General Building requirements. The FASS process is used in the conceptual phase, planning stages, construction of facilities and facility reduction (demolition) to examine the specifics of the hazards involved, the level of risk, and the potential effectiveness of existing codes and standards. The FASS program is structured to guide designers toward elimination and control of hazards during criteria development and design of facilities. The U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, is a Technical Center of Expertise for the Army's FASS program.

The FASS process first examines specific hazards involved, the level of risk and the potential effectiveness of existing codes and standards. Following this discovery and analysis process, the FASS engineer works with the construction team and customer to implement solutions to either eliminate or reduce the risk through the use of controls set forth in codes and standards, specially designed controls or a mix of both control types.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for the development and implementation of the Facility Systems Safety Program Plan (SSPP), which details the designer's plan for executing the systems safety program for a specific project from the concept design phase to the acceptance of the completed facility. The plan describes in detail how each applicable element of FASS is to be implemented. Each Facility SSPP will address the proposed approach to the requirement, the content, and format of the deliverables, and indicate the level of effort for each area. An individually tailored approach based on the contract requirements, the anticipated hazards and the level of risk involved with the specific facility, the SSPP describes how each applicable safety element is to be implemented.

Defining safety and occupational health requirements at the earliest possible time through the FASS process is critical for both the customer and the design/construction team. Identifying issues early can result in cost-savings for the customer, increase customer satisfaction and reduce post-construction project rework/retrofitting to resolve safety issues.

For example:

The Army Safety Program lists "dredging" as an initial HIGH-risk project. Great Lakes dredging PDT have included safety into their risk management plan by engaging the Safety Office. When the PDT documented the hazards which were present, they were able to mitigate residual safety risk to the project.



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For example:

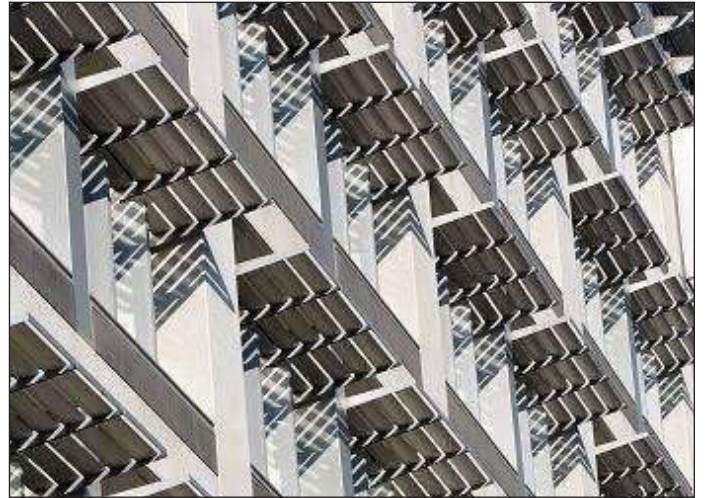
The sunshades on the sides of the Zorinsky Federal Building, a nine-story 432,000-square-foot building in downtown Omaha, diffuse sunlight, giving the building a 21st century look and reduced energy costs.

The way the shades accumulated sheets of ice in the winter posed enough risk to pedestrians that the federal government needed to invest an extra \$200,000 to \$500,000 for “ice-mitigation” measures.

With involvement from the Corps, however, the estimated **cost savings was between \$150,000 and \$450,000.**



Zorinsky Federal Building



Zorinsky Federal Building shades

For example:

Martin Army Community Hospital at Fort Benning, Georgia, experienced the same issue, but once the Corps of Engineers entered the project, there was an estimated **cost savings of \$100,000.**



Pictured are two angles from inside Martin Army Community Hospital at Fort Benning, Georgia.

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