

2013 Phoenix Award Announced

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (FEB. 7, 2014)

The Department of Defense announced the 2013 winner of the Phoenix Award, part of the Secretary of Defense Maintenance Awards, on Feb. 5 in the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes. The field-level maintenance award honors military maintenance organizations for outstanding performance. The winner is chosen from active and reserve organizations performing unit- or field-level maintenance and singled out as the best of the best.

The 2013 winner of the Phoenix Award for field-level maintenance is D Company, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Aviation Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division in Fort Bragg, N.C. While deployed to Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan, D Company maintained and supported 53 H-60 and CH-47 aircraft flying combat missions totaling more than 43,000 flight hours, sustained an 87 percent fully mission-capable aircraft readiness rate, completed over 3,000 unscheduled mission-critical aircraft work orders, performed 42 major phase inspections, and managed an inventory worth \$150 million, all while setting the standard for aviation maintenance performance within the 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade. These and other maintenance-related actions enabled Task Force Talon to successfully conduct air assault, air movement, reconnaissance, medical evacuation, and security operations throughout the ground commander's area of responsibility.

AF Officer Honored with Space Operations Award

45TH SPACE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS
(FEB. 14, 2014)

Chris Calkins

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla.—Lt. Col. Samuel A. Little, director of operations, 45th Launch Support Squadron, was recently named by the National Space Club as recipient of the prestigious General Bernard Schriever Award, honoring excellence in military space operations and acquisition.

Little was selected by a panel of experts from across the aerospace and defense industry. He

will be presented the award at the National Space Club's Goddard Memorial Dinner on March 7 in our nation's capital. The annual Dr. Robert H. Goddard Memorial Dinner is the major event of the Washington space calendar, first celebrated in 1958.

A 1997 graduate from the University of Florida, and a Central Florida native, Little was commissioned through the Air Force ROTC program.

He never thought his career path would reach to the stars. He didn't pick Space as a career; Space picked him.

"As an environmental engineering major at UF, I fully expected an Air Force assignment in the Civil Engineer arena. But that didn't happen," he said.

"Only one of us went the CE route and the rest were commissioned as 62Es [Developmental Engineer]. "In addition, I was selected for the Operational Space and Missile Tour program. That program put me in an operational space and



Air Force Lt. Col. Samuel A. Little was recently named by the National Space Club as recipient of the prestigious General Bernard Schriever Award, honoring excellence in military space operations and acquisition. "The best part of our team's job here at the Cape is hearing that the spacecrafts we ushered through launch have been fully checked out and are entering operational life," Little said. He is the director of operations, 45th Launch Support Squadron, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla.

U.S. Air Force Photo/Shawn Walleck

missile tour for my first assignment and then sent me to an acquisition tour second.

“So, I went to Undergraduate Space and Missile Training at Vandenberg AFB and on to the 3rd Space Ops Squadron as a satellite vehicle operator,” he added.

He has been a member of the 45th Space Wing Sharks since 2011.

According to Col. Matthew Skeen, commander, 45th Launch Group, Little successfully led his squadron as they integrated and launched six Department of Defense satellites, provided Air Force support to three successful Falcon 9 launches, and piloted the groundbreaking Global Positioning System III pathfinder satellite.

Little, who acknowledged great honor in earning the award, said any accolades that come his way are a reflection on the team he is a part of, and the magnitude of the work they do.

“The best part of our team’s job here at the Cape is hearing that the spacecrafts we ushered through launch have been fully checked out and are entering operational life,” Little said.

“That means we did everything right and gives us a huge sense of accomplishment. Building on that, we’ve gotten feedback from the users of these satellites about the impact they have on missions close to home and downrange,” Little said.

“Our team also works with the Falcon 9 program on their certification effort to become a DoD launch provider. So seeing a successful Falcon 9 launch is a huge reward for us.”

He also emphasized how little room [meaning none] there is for error in his unit’s job performance.

“One hundred percent mission success is our driver for how we manage our force. We have one shot at success in the launch mission, and these satellites are crucial to the nation,” Little said with emphasis.

“We instill this mindset in all our folks to keep them focused on mission assurance and doing all they can to ensure a successful mission.”

He also said there is always room for improving his unit’s methods and processes.

“We also look to innovate in the manner we conduct mission assurance activities. We are always re-evaluating our mission execution after each launch to identify areas where we can improve or change processes to bolster mission assurance. We have to do this to be successful now and in the future,” he said.

“Colonel Little led the squadron to a flawless performance in a year with the most demanding operations tempo in the squadron’s history,” wrote Brig. Gen. Nina Armagno, commander, 45th Space Wing, in a memorandum to Air Force Space Command Headquarters.

“Sam also guided his team of young military engineers and experienced noncommissioned officers as they adapted to a dynamic schedule. He also leveraged his unrivaled space operations expertise and extraordinary leadership ability to make invaluable contributions to our nation’s space capabilities this year,” she wrote.

NAVSUP Weapon Systems Support Enhances Fleet Readiness, Saves Millions

NAVSUP WEAPON SYSTEMS SUPPORT OFFICE OF CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS (FEB. 18, 2014)

Sarah Glinski

PHILADELPHIA—NAVSUP Weapon Systems Support (NAVSUP WSS) officials announced Feb. 18, that an initiative to modify spare F/A-18 Hornet windshield panels to fit F/A-18E/F Super Hornets and EA-18G Growlers has received final approval to proceed.

The initiative, known as the F/A-18 Windshield Logistics Engineering Change Proposal (LECP), will save the Navy approximately \$8 million in fiscal years 2015 and 2016.

The savings will be obtained by converting and reusing Legacy Hornet C and D model windshield inventory into Super Hornet and Growler E/F/G windshield assemblies, thereby eliminating the need to buy brand new units to support the newer planes.

“Windshields are specialty items that take a long time to build. The tremendous engineers and logisticians involved in this initiative ran models projecting our declining Legacy needs against those of a growing population of Super Hornets, and they took action right away to not only improve readiness, but also to save costs,” said Cmdr. Matthew Ott, NAVSUP WSS Philadelphia Aviation Operations director. “Their innovation speaks volumes to the type of good that LECPs can do for our Navy.”

"We're enhancing Fleet readiness, saving money, and using the talents across our Naval Aviation Enterprise at the same time," Ott continued. "It's a win-win situation, and I'm really looking forward to seeing the Fleet Readiness Centers implement another great LECP. LECPs offer industry, program management activities, and all associated with Naval Aviation a tool to make high return investments in reliability and help cut total ownership costs."

Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR)'s Fleet Readiness Center Southwest (FRC-SW) currently repairs both Legacy and Super Hornet windscreen assemblies. The first of the 75 windshield panels to be modified will be converted by FRC-SW in the first quarter of fiscal year 2015.

Other organizations heavily involved with the initiative include NAVAIR Headquarters, Navy Spares Committee (SPARCOM), Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) Code N98, and Boeing.

A field activity of the Naval Supply Systems Command, NAVSUP Weapon Systems Support (NAVSUP WSS) is the U.S. Navy's supply chain manager providing worldwide support to the aviation, surface ship, and submarine communities. NAVSUP WSS provides Navy, Marine Corps, joint, and allied forces with products and services that deliver combat capability through logistics. There are more than 2,000 civilian and military personnel employed at its two Pennsylvania sites. The NAVSUP WSS Philadelphia site supports aircraft, while its Mechanicsburg site supports ships and submarines.

For more news from Naval Supply Systems Command, visit <http://www.navsupsup.navy.mil> and www.navy.mil/local/navsup/.

Navy Engineers Selected for Energy and Sustainability Award

NAVFAC EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS (FEB. 22, 2014)

Darrell E. Waller

PORT HUENEME, Calif.—Two Naval Facilities Engineering and Expeditionary Warfare Center (NAVFAC EXWC) engineers received the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) project of the year award at a ceremony in Oxnard, Calif., Feb. 20.

David Chavez and Bruce Holden were recognized for their work on Energy and Environmental Sustainability at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti.

"David and Bruce developed and led several teams to support Camp Lemonnier in reducing energy need in container-

ized living units [CLUs]," said NAVFAC EXWC Commanding Officer Capt. Mark. K. Edelson. "Their work in improving energy usage is invaluable and has direct benefits to our warfighters in Djibouti and in locations around the world."

The energy improvements were largely based on modified environmental control units within existing CLUs (also referred to as "Super CLUs"); power grid revisions; reducing water needs through improved facilities and increased re-use water; and the reduction of solid waste burned in the camp incinerator.

"I was happy to accept this award as part of a great EXWC team effort," said Chavez, EXWC environmental engineer. "Multiple departments were used to provide excellent support to Camp Lemonnier to reduce energy use, reduce water consumption, and reduce solid waste."

The Super CLUs save thousands in energy usage, increase living space and privacy for individuals, reduce noise, and allow more personnel to be comfortably housed in a given unit than current CLU configurations.

The project also reduced fuel burned in camp generators by 500,000 gallons while increasing total energy output by 2 million kWh. Water use was also reduced by 50,000 gallons per day through the use of low water use washing machines and low flow shower heads.

The team's successful demonstration of variable, split load HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) units led the camp to purchase and replace all CLUs and environmental control units (ECUs), with 900 of 1500 units replaced and the remainder changed out by the end of FY14.

The improvements are being adapted across NAVFAC, with one facilities engineering command incorporating EXWC ECU recommendations into future CLU purchases.

NAVFAC EXWC is the Navy's premier activity for facilities and expeditionary technology solutions, engineering services, equipment logistics, and products needed to equip the fleet and meet warfighter requirements. EXWC also delivers specialized engineering and technology solutions that support sustainable facilities and provide logistics and expeditionary systems support for Navy combat force capabilities.

To learn more about NAVFAC's global facilities engineering command, visit <http://www.navfac.navy.mil>. For more news from Naval Facilities Engineering Command, visit <http://www.navy.mil/local/navfachq/>.

Naval Supply Systems Command Announces 2013 Sailor of the Year

NAVSUP Office of Corporate Communications (Feb. 25, 2014)

MECHANICSBURG, Pa. —The commander of Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) announced the NAVSUP 2013 Sailor of the Year Feb. 21.

Damage Controlman 1st Class (AW/SW) Jessica Nedzweckas was selected as SOY. She currently serves as leading petty officer, NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center (FLC) Yokosuka, Site Atsugi, Japan.

"She is being awarded this honor for her dedication in leading a team of more than 120 personnel who are responsible for the management of more than 130 million gallons of petroleum products, valued at more than \$1 billion, in support of Joint Task Force warfighters in the 7th Fleet area of responsibility," said Rear Adm. Jonathan A. Yuen, NAVSUP commander. "Our enlisted sailors, serving in positions throughout the NAVSUP enterprise, provide vital support to our Navy, nation and allies, and DC1 Nedzweckas exemplifies this."

Her duties also include all aspects of operations, maintenance, and security across three independent fuel terminals, which include 397 acres of land, 24 tanks, four barges, nine multi-purpose boats, five tank trucks, and more than 43 miles of fuel pipeline. Her daily efforts also include oversight on the upgrade of fuel tanks, piping and pumps, which greatly increased efficiencies and the effectiveness of petroleum product distribution at the Akasaki Fuel Terminal.

"She oversaw \$800 million in infrastructure, and ensured the safe delivery, receipt, and environmentally safe storage of Defense Logistics Agency-owned bulk petroleum war reserves," said NAVSUP FLC Yokosuka Commanding Officer, Capt. Martin Fields. He also explained that DC1 Nedzweckas' management was a key reason for the department's zero safety mishaps record, and she contributed to the enduring regional safety record of more than 1,700 days without an accident. "She's always seeking greater responsibilities. She quickly qualified as Command, Fleet Activities Sasebo command duty officer, a watch station normally reserved for chief petty officers and above," Fields said.

DC1 Nedzweckas, a native of Phoenix, Ariz., entered the Navy as an Intelligence Specialist (IS) Seaman Apprentice in 2000. After completing recruit training at Great Lakes, Ill., she attended Intelligence Specialist "A" School in Dam Neck, Va. She later completed Naval Special Warfare Intelligence Course "C" School, and then reported to Commander, Naval Special Warfare Group ONE in March 2001. In 2003,

she transferred to *USS Boxer* (LHD 4), and initially served in the Intelligence Work Center as an IS, but later transferred to the Damage Control shop after cross rating to Damage Controlman in 2005. Nedzweckas next transferred to Great Lakes, Ill., where she served as Damage Control Instructor at the Center for Naval Engineering. She then reported aboard NAVSUP FLC Yokosuka in November 2012.

"Petty Officer Nedzweckas cares deeply for her sailors, officers, and enlisted alike," Fields said. "Her professional knowledge, pride, and record speak for themselves. She is approachable, amicable, and pleasant no matter what is going on. She epitomizes the type of superior individual vital to the future of the Navy, and is unquestionably deserving of recognition as NAVSUP Sailor of the Year."

"I extend a hearty congratulations to DC1 Jessica Nedzweckas for her selection as the NAVSUP 2013 Sailor of the Year," said NAVSUP Command Master Chief (SW/AW) Sidney Dawson and master chief petty officer of the supply community. "Her selection is a true testament to her hard work, dedication, professionalism, and commitment to excellence. DC1 is truly the best of the best, and a great example of the caliber of sailors serving across the NAVSUP Enterprise."

The NAVSUP and Navy Supply Corps team share one mission—to deliver sustained global logistics and quality-of-life support to the Navy and joint warfighter. NAVSUP/Navy Supply Corps' diverse team of more than 25,000 civilian and military personnel oversee a diverse portfolio including supply chain management for material support to Navy, Marine Corps, joint and coalition partners, supply operations, conventional ordnance, contracting, resale, fuel, transportation, security assistance, and quality-of-life issues for our naval forces, including food service, postal services, Navy Exchanges, and movement of household goods. The NAVSUP/Navy Supply Corps team forms a vast network of professionals who deliver unparalleled products and services to customers in the Fleet and across the world.

For more news from Naval Supply Systems Command, visit <http://www.navy.mil/local/navsup/>.

USTRANSCOM Leads Efforts to Increase Visibility for DoD Logistics Requirements

U.S. TRANSPORTATION COMMAND NEWS RELEASE (MARCH 13, 2014)

Cynthia Bauer

U.S. Transportation Command is leading successful efforts to create new computer applications for greater visibility

into global Department of Defense deployment and distribution requirements.

Under the direction of the Joint Staff J4 and in partnership with the DoD and combatant commands, USTRANSCOM is refining the Global Combat Support System-Joint or GCSS-J with a broad joint logistics focus. The system gathers data from many different data sources, including the USTRANSCOM and Defense Logistics Agency IGC (Integrated Data Environment/Global Transportation Network Convergence) system.

The system then provides a fused, integrated, near real-time, multidimensional view of combat support and combat service support. Based on a memorandum of agreement with Joint Staff, USTRANSCOM leads Joint Capability Area (JCA) 4.1-Deployment and Distribution, which provides users the ability to plan, coordinate, synchronize, and execute force movement and sustainment to support military operations.

"The program team has worked hard to overcome 'swivel-seat' management of logistics through many separate authoritative data systems," said Andrew Monday, chief of USTRANSCOM's Logistics Enabling Support Division, or TCJ4-T.

"GCSS-J continues to evolve and provide joint commanders increased logistics visibility and decision support tools they need in a common operational picture."

GCSS-J provides users near-real time information through such applications or widgets, as watch boards, reports, and mapping visualizations for leaders to develop effective courses of action and make informed decisions.

Kelly Mueller-McNulty of TCJ4-T said they collaborate with their USTRANSCOM partners to develop widgets to support the distribution and deployment joint capability area. She said, "Creating widgets and improving the system are a team effort. We collaborate across USTRANSCOM directorates as well as with the other combatant commands and the Defense Information System Agency. All have been, and will continue to be, essential to our success."



Army Maj. Shari Bennett of the Logistics Enabling Support Division at U.S. Transportation Command briefs Rear Adm. Dave Baucom, director of Strategy, Policy and Logistics, and Vice Adm. Andy Brown, USTRANSCOM deputy commander, on the capabilities of the Global Combat Support System-Joint. USTRANSCOM is responsible for developing system applications for deployment and distribution.

Photo by Bob Fehringer, USTRANSCOM Public Affairs

The system continues to evolve. Enhancements in January's GCSS-J release provides visibility for air and seaports, air and sea cargo, air and sea schedules and node mapping. A subsequent release scheduled for July 2014 will include an application for retrograde cargo the command helped develop during the recent Joint Logistics Enterprise Data Sharing Quick Reaction Test and widgets that identify global fuels and ammunition inventories.

Army Maj. Shari Bennett said the division continues to emphasize awareness of and education on the power of GCSS-J so it will gain in acceptance and use "We need more people to use the system and provide feedback for improvements so we can provide logistics capability in line with the Joint Staff vision and shape future widget development," she said.

AEDC Engineer Receives National Honor

ARNOLD ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT COMPLEX PUBLIC AFFAIRS
(MARCH 13, 2014)

Raquel March

ARNOLD AIR FORCE BASE, TENN.—Dr. Donald Malloy, a licensed professional engineer in the U.S. Air Force's Ar-

old Engineering Development Complex Test Operations Division, was selected as the Air Force Materiel Command Federal Engineer of the Year and one of the top 10 federal engineers of the year for 2014.

He was honored at the Federal Engineer of the Year Award ceremony on Feb. 20, 2014, at the Washington, D.C., National Press Club, hosted by the National Society of Professional Engineers.

The award is the only one of its kind to recognize exceptional engineers in the federal government at the national level. Engineers who are selected for the honor have made contributions such as maintaining power stability and efficiency of vital infrastructure, providing airfield and weapons expertise to support military operations, or instructing the future generations of military civil engineers.

Malloy is the aerodynamics analysis lead engineer at the complex and provides leadership for multiple defense programs as well as high-quality solutions to warfighters worldwide. His expertise extends to the areas of propulsion integration, weapons separation, and aerodynamic and aerothermal analysis and evaluation.

Malloy's responsibilities include integrated test team development across the AFMC's Air Force Test Center and support for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Science and Technology Organization Applied Vehicle Technology Task Group on Reliable Prediction of Separated Flow Onset and Progression for Air Vehicles.

He also contributes his expertise to chairing and participating in multiple professional engineering committees and advisory groups and assisting young professionals.

Army on Budget, on Schedule with Hypersonic Missile Program

ARMY NEWS SERVICE (MARCH 14, 2014)

C. Todd Lopez

WASHINGTON—In August, the Army expects to again test its Advanced Hypersonic Weapon Technology Demonstration. The results of that test will help determine the system's future.

Lt. Gen. David L. Mann, commander, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, discussed the status of the Advanced Hypersonic Weapon, or AHW, program, Wednesday, before the Senate Armed Services Committee, subcommittee on strategic forces.



Dr. Donald Malloy

U.S. Air Force photo/Rick Goodfriend

"Based upon the results that come from that test, we'll go ahead and, again, work closely with Office of the Secretary of Defense as to what they would like us to do, what the next steps are," Mann said.

The general told lawmakers the Army is also working with the Navy on "possible utilization of this capability."

The AHW is part of an effort to develop a conventional "Prompt Global Strike" capability. Conventional means non-nuclear. The AHW can be launched from the United States and can hit a target anywhere in the world. It can travel at speeds of Mach 5, about 3,600 mph, or higher.

As part of the November 2011 test, an AHW was launched from the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Kauai, Hawaii, and arrived 30 minutes later at the Reagan Test Site, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands—a distance of about 2,500 miles.

Mann said with the AHW, the Army is on budget and on target with the program.

"I don't see any kind of an overrun at this moment," he said. "Everything is kind of predicated on what happens after the test. We have the monies allocated to support the test. We don't envision any kind of overruns."

MISSILE DEFENSE

Beyond offensive capabilities like the AHW, the Army is also looking at defensive capabilities against threats from other nations.

The U.S. has defensive missile capabilities at Fort Greely, Alaska, and Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. Mann said adding an additional site on the East Coast of the United States would be beneficial to America's defense capability.

"Obviously, putting a third site out there on the East Coast will provide increased capacity, not so much capability, but increased capacity," Mann said. "You will take your assets and spread them out so that you don't have them just at Greely or at Vandenberg Air Force Base. It also will give a little bit more decision space or 'battle space' as it's known, in order to make a decision regarding a threat emanating from Iran."

Mann told lawmakers the Army must focus more on "long-range discrimination," of targets—determining what is a threat.

"I think it's fair to say that we will never have enough interceptors to really address all the threat vehicles that are out there," he said. "I think it's more important that we're as efficient and as effective with the interceptors that we currently have, and that's the reason for making sure that we're providing the interceptor with the best track data—the discrimination—to be able to really identify the target within a complex. That's really what I would really highly recommend."

Air Force Announces Annual Engineering, Environmental Awards

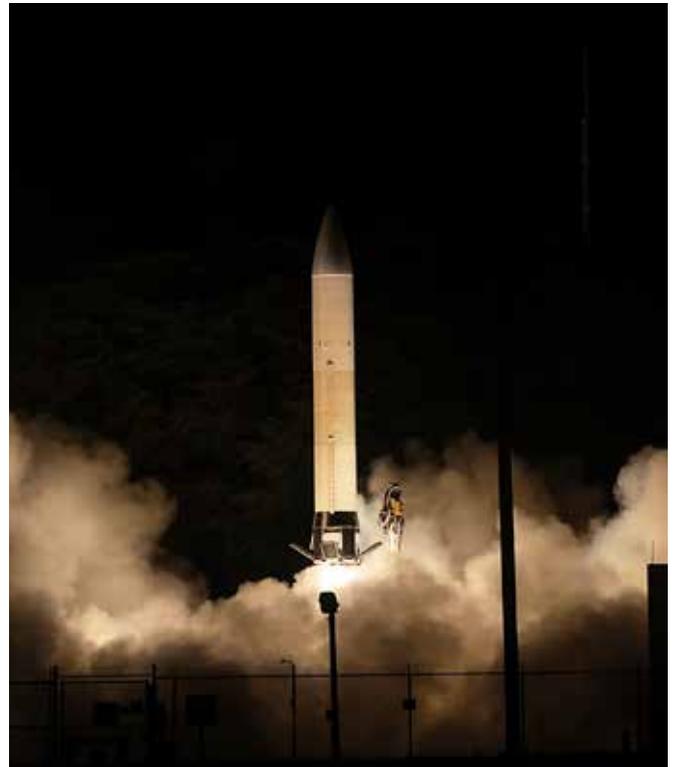
AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS (MARCH 17, 2014)

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas—Air Force officials recently announced the winners of the annual Gen. Thomas D. White Environmental Awards and Civil Engineer Awards.

The Gen. Thomas D. White awards recognize Air Force bases conducting the best or most-improved environmental programs in various categories, and the teams and individuals that contribute the most to Air Force environmental efforts each year. Winners of these awards go on to compete for Department of Defense awards. Congratulations to 2013 Civil Engineer Award winners.

The Air Force Outstanding Civil Engineer Unit Awards

- Large Unit Category: 87th Civil Engineer Squadron, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J. (Air Mobility Command) and 35th CES, Misawa Air Base, Japan (Pacific Air Forces)



The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command conducts the first flight of the Advanced Hypersonic Weapon concept, Nov. 18, 2011. The AHW is a first-of-its-kind glide vehicle, designed to fly within the earth's atmosphere at hypersonic speed and long range. It was launched from the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Kauai, Hawaii, to the Reagan Test Site, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands.

U.S. Army photo

- Small Unit Category: 355th CES, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz. (Air Combat Command) and 8th CES, Kunsan AB, Republic of Korea (PACAF)
- ARC Category: 439th CES, Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass. (Air Force Reserves Command) and 158th CES, Burlington Air National Guard Base, Vt. (Air National Guard)

The Maj. Gen. Del R. Eulberg Award

27th Special Operations Civil Engineer Squadron, Cannon AFB, N.M. (Air Force Special Operations Command) and 718th CES, Kadena AB, Japan (PACAF)

The Maj. Gen. Robert C. Thompson Award (Resources)

18th Civil Engineer Group Resources Division, Kadena AB, Japan (PACAF) and 99th CES, Nellis AFB, Nev. (ACC)

The Brig. Gen. Archie S. Mayes Award (Engineering)

88th Air Base Wing Engineering Division, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio (Air Force Material Command) and 35th CES, Misawa AB, Japan (PACAF)

The Maj. Gen. Clifton D. Wright Award (Operations)

27th SOCES, Cannon AFB, N.M. (AFSOC) and 355th CES, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz. (ACC)

The Senior Master Sgt. Gerald J. Stryzak Award (Explosive Ordnance Disposal)

90th CES/CED, F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo. (Air Force Global Strike Command) and 96th CES/CED, Eglin AFB, Fla. (AFMC)

The Col. Frederick J. Riemer Award (Readiness & Emergency Management)

Active Duty Category: 52nd CES/CEX, Spangdahlem AB, Germany (U.S. Air Forces in Europe) and 36th CES/CEX, Anderson AFB, Guam (PACAF)

The Brig. Gen. Michael A. McAuliffe Housing Excellence Award

86th CES/CEH, Ramstein AB, Germany (USAFE) and 502nd CES/CEH, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas (Air Education and Training Command)

The Balchen/Post Award (Snow and Ice Removal)

773rd CES/CEOH, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska (PACAF) and 92nd CES/CEOH, Fairchild AFB, Wash. (AMC)

The Maj. Gen. L. Dean Fox Award (Senior Military Manager)

Maj. Elizabeth Harwood, 786th CES/CEO, Ramstein AB, Germany (USAFE) and Lt. Col. Aaron Altwies, 628th CES/CC, Joint Base Charleston, S.C. (AMC)

The Maj. Gen. Eugene A. Lupia Award (Military Manager)

- Company Grade Officer Category: 1st Lt. Matthew Fecke, 27th SOCES, Cannon AFB, N.M. (AFSOC) and 1st Lt. Ryan Hill, 60th CES, Travis AFB, Calif. (AMC)
- NCO Category: Tech. Sgt. Andrew Krueger, 90th CES, F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo. (AFGSC) and Staff Sgt. Nicole Nellist, 502nd CES, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas (AETC)
- Airman Category: Senior Airman Stephen Beasley, 100th CES, RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom (USAFE) and Senior Airman Bruce Green, 773rd CES, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska (PACAF)

The Maj. Gen. Joseph A. Ahearn Enlisted Leadership Award

Chief Master Sgt. Freddie Davis, 509th CES, Whiteman AFB, Mo. (AFGSC) and Chief Master Sgt. Patrick D. Jones, 51st CES, Osan AB, Republic of Korea (PACAF)

The Chief Master Sgt. Larry R. Daniels Award (Military Superintendent)

Senior Master Sgt. Daniel Clark, 51st CES, Osan AB, Republic of Korea (PACAF) and Senior Master Sgt. Brian Ginter, 50th CES, Shriever AFB, Colo. (Air Force Space Command)

The Harry P. Rietman Award (Senior Civilian Manager)

Wayne Williams, 439th Mission Support Group Civil Engineering, Westover ARB, Mass. (AFRC) and Kyle Hicks, 35th CES, Misawa AB, Japan (PACAF)

Air Force Outstanding Civil Engineer Manager of the Year Award

- Civilian Manager Category: Jamie Visinoni, 9th CES, Beale AFB, Calif. (ACC) and Andrea Goodson, 509th CES, Whiteman AFB, Mo. (AFGSC)
- Civilian Supervisor Category: Sean Grady, 673rd CES, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska (PACAF) and Elsa Feliciano, 45th CES, Patrick AFB, Fla. (AFSPC)
- Civilian Technician Category: Greg Nelson, 9th CES, Beale AFB, Calif. (ACC) and Keith Pellerin, 673rd CES, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska (PACAF)

The Maj. Gen. William D. Gilbert Award (Outstanding Staff Action Officer)

- Officer Category: Lt. Col. Shawn Larcher, Air Force District of Washington, Joint Base Andrews, Md. (AFDW) and Lt. Col. Kevin Williams, U.S. Transportation Command, Scott AFB, Ill. (USTRANSCOM)
- Enlisted Category: Senior Master Sgt. Edward Lockhart, Headquarters Air Force Civil Engineer Center, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas (AFCEC) and Senior Master Sgt. Lamar Heard, PACAF/A7, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii (PACAF)
- Civilian Category: Rodney W. Wise, Headquarters AFGSC/A7, Barksdale AFB, La. (AFGSC) and Nathan Rowland, Headquarters USAFE/A7, Ramstein AB, Germany (USAFE)

The Maj. Gen. Augustus M. Minton Award (Outstanding Engineering Article)

James Martin, Headquarters AFMC/A7, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio (AFMC) and Capts. Kate Miles and Jeff Klein (co-authors), 633rd Air Base Wing, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va. (ACC)

The Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) New-
man Medal: Col. David DeMartino, HQ AFCEC, Joint Base
San Antonio- Lackland, Texas (AFCEC) and Col. John Baker,
Headquarters ACC, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va. (ACC)

The Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) God- dard Medal

Active Duty Category: Master Sgt. Tommy Childers, Jr., 56th
CES, Luke AFB, Ariz. (AETC) and Senior Master Sgt. David
DeLoney III, 820th RHS, Nellis AFB, Nev. (ACC)

The National Society of Professional Engineers Federal Engineer of the Year Award

- Military Category: Capt. Timothy Callahan, Air Force Insti-
tute of Technology, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio (AETC)
- Civilian Category: Dr. Donald Malloy, Arnold Engineering
Development Complex, Arnold AFB, Tenn. (AFMC)

Congratulations to Gen. Thomas D. White Environmental
Award winners

Environmental Quality Award, Installation Excellence Category

96th CEG, Eglin AFB, Fla. (AFMC)

Environmental Quality Award, Individual/Team Excellence Category

718th CES, Kadena, Japan (PACAF)

Installation Award for Environmental Restoration Program Excellence Category

9th CES, Beale AFB, Calif. (ACC)

Environmental Restoration Program Award for Individual/ Team Excellence Category

92nd CES, Fairchild AFB, Wash. (AMC)

Installation Award for Natural Resources Conservation Program Excellence Category

177th Fighter Wing, Warren Grove Range, N.J. (ANG)

Natural Resources Conservation Award for Individual/ Team Excellence Category

96th CEG, Eglin AFB, Fla. (AFMC)

Cultural Resources Management Award, Installation Excellence Category

2nd CES, Barksdale AFB, La. (AFGSC)

Individual/Team Excellence Award for Environmental Ex- cellence in Weapon System Acquisition Category

F-35 ESOH Team, AFLCMC/WNVV, Wright-Patterson AFB,
Ohio (AFMC)

Army Civilians Recognized for Vital Contributions to America's Infrastructure, Security, Prosperity

ARMY NEWS SERVICE (MARCH 23, 2014)

Lisa Ferdinando

WASHINGTON—For assisting communities after devastat-
ing storms and leading vital civil works projects throughout
14 states in the Northeast, the Army recognized three U.S.
Army Corps of Engineers civilians assigned to the New York
District, North Atlantic Division, Thursday, during a cere-
mony at the Pentagon.

Under Secretary of the Army Joseph W. Westphal presented
the Meritorious Civilian Service Award to Joseph R. Vietri,
chief of the planning and policy division; Joseph J. Seebode,
deputy district engineer; and Thomas M. Creamer, chief of
the operations division. The award is the second highest
Department of the Army honorary award.

"These awards recognize the commitment of these individu-
als, and their entire team, as they expertly oversee a myriad
of essential projects that range from advancing the Ports of
New York and New Jersey, to providing hurricane and storm
damage reduction and infrastructure repair," Westphal said
while presenting the awards.

Westphal pointed out the corps' coastal and community
rebuilding efforts in the Northeast region following major
disasters, such as 9/11, the Joplin Tornadoes, Hurricane
Sandy, and Hurricane Irene.

"We must truly appreciate what a monumental task it is for
the corps to assist victims and coordinate clean up efforts
following disasters. Their expertise is unmatched and is es-
sential to these communities and our nation," said Westphal.

Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick, chief of engineers and the com-
manding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
lauded the dedication of the awardees and the entire U.S.
Army Corps of Engineers team.

"These are great leaders of our team, and they represent
the New York District, the North Atlantic Division, and [U.S.
Army Corps of Engineers employees] all over the United
States and the world," he said.

"One of the things we try to do is tell the story about the
Corps of Engineers," he said. "I think it's a great story of

America—the history of the Corps of Engineers is the history of America.”

THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The Army established the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers March 16, 1802, to provide vital public engineering services to strengthen security, energize the economy, and reduce risks from disasters. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers works with state and federal agencies to manage existing infrastructure, develop necessary projects, and coordinate effective responses to ecological crises such as oil spills, drought, and fire. Foreign governments also rely on the corps for their expertise and resources.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has approximately 37,000 civilians and soldiers delivering engineering services to customers in more than 130 countries worldwide.

“The Corps of Engineers is one of our nation’s most treasured assets. The capability and ingenuity of the corps will always ensure our nation’s security and prosperity,” Westphal said as he concluded the ceremony.

Afghan University Continues DoD Business-building Effort

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE (MARCH 26, 2014)

Cheryl Pellerin

WASHINGTON—With support from the Defense Department’s Task Force for Business and Stability Operations, the American University of Afghanistan in Kabul is taking over a successful pilot effort to speed the growth of small- and medium-size companies, and help to stabilize the Afghan economy.

DoD formed the task force, known as TFBSO, to leverage American international economic power as a strategic tool in Afghanistan for promoting economic stabilization and security. The Investments and Entrepreneurship Program, in particular, helps facilitate deals between responsible investors and Afghan firms and enhances the efficiency of Afghan companies by providing business consulting services.

TFBSO managers Brendan O’Donoghue and Griffin Huschke told American Forces Press Service in a recent interview that the task force’s mission ends with calendar year 2014 on Dec. 31, and they were looking for an organization capable of continuing to provide business services in Afghanistan into the future.



Staff and clients settle into new space in February 2014 for the Business Innovation Hub at the American University of Afghanistan in Kabul.

DoD photo

After visiting private and public universities in Kabul, Jalalabad and Herat, they chose the American University of Afghanistan, or AUAF, which O'Donoghue, program manager of TFBSO's Investments and Entrepreneurship Program, said is "widely considered the best university in Afghanistan and is the best university to accurately implement our vision."

The model for the new center is the TFBSO Herat Business Accelerator pilot, established in 2011 initially to work with technology start-up companies. Several of the first accelerator firms went on to develop and market software products for local business applications, O'Donoghue said, "but we found that many of them were too small and conceptually underdeveloped to fully benefit from the business management services the accelerator provided."

The task force also discovered companies operating in non-technical sectors that would benefit from business services, O'Donoghue said, so the accelerator began working with those that had proven business concepts but needed coaching to develop business models and management practices.

"We wanted to focus on the strength of the economy," O'Donoghue said, adding that working with small- to mid-size companies affects more employees and more quickly moves money into the economy.

"If you have a 500-person firm that grows 25 percent, you've got another 100 people working, not to mention the multiplier effect in the economy like the downstream jobs it creates," O'Donoghue explained.

The accelerator provided on-the-job training and helped companies with business plans, financing assistance, process improvements, and strategic planning.

It has helped 35 companies and 810 employees, and 130 female entrepreneurs and employees in Afghanistan, and its companies generate more than \$30 million in revenue and more than \$6 million in profit, O'Donoghue said.

One of their clients is a food processing company in Herat that works with 25,000 farmers in Afghanistan and distributes dairy products around the country.

"We started working with them," O'Donoghue said. "There's a term in Afghanistan in Farsi called zerang, and these guys are very zerang, meaning very savvy in their business practices. But they're not very good, like a lot of firms, in making sure they have a proper business plan and financials."

Accelerator staff helped the company with these essentials and helped it secure loans for equipment inventory. After much searching, accelerator staff also found a European equipment manufacturer who was willing to work with the food processing company in Afghanistan.

Now, O'Donoghue said, "the company can expand its business line, employ more people, and improve its revenues and profits, which is good for everyone, but you can see the challenges involved in trying to integrate [Afghan companies] into the international business community."

Huschke, project manager for the Herat Business Accelerator, said another client was a women's food processing co-op doing business from a traditional mud structure in the hills outside Herat.

"The senior entrepreneur from this women's co-op had studied for a summer at [the Thunderbird School of Global Management in Glendale, Ariz.], a top-ranked international business school," he said.

"She is a smart woman," he added, "and food processing is important in Afghanistan because there's very little access to cold storage or proper canning, so ... it's a good way to make money."

Huschke said the accelerator helped the co-op straighten out its finances, pay down debt by restructuring loan payments, and most importantly helped it find money for a storefront in Herat City proper.

"They moved from the mud hut into downtown Herat, and their sales are going through the roof," he said. "We help them with their strategic financing and strategic planning, and I think with the [new] terms of the loan, it will be paid off by this time next year, and the senior entrepreneur ... definitely will be doing well for herself in the next couple of years."

The AUAF Business Innovation Hub, which will take over the clients and work of the accelerator, officially opened Feb. 1. It is housed in the university's International Center for Afghan Women's Economic Development, though it works with both men and women to help mid-size companies, and its staff combines international and domestic private-sector experience.

To sustain its services, O'Donoghue said, the Business Innovation Hub provides consulting and coaching services for a small fee. It also offers creative long-term-relationship packages for growing businesses.

To lead the hub, he added, “we were lucky enough to get two senior managers from one of Afghanistan’s leading communications firms.” The telecommunications industry is arguably Afghanistan’s most successful, bringing cell phone usage in country from nearly zero to 18 million in the last decade. Both men have lived and worked in Kabul for more than a decade.

Huschke said developing strategic partners for the innovation hub is critical, and as part of that process the task force hosted the innovation hub’s new leaders in the United States for 10 days.

They met with officials from the Harvard Innovation Lab in Cambridge, Mass., and with officials at Dartmouth College’s Tuck School of Business in Hanover, N.H., at Babson College, a top-ranked school for business and entrepreneurship in Wellesley, Mass., and at the University of Maryland.

“I think those visits will yield fruitful partnerships if they haven’t already,” Huschke said, “and then we’ll continue to help foster and connect them to increasingly fruitful partnerships.”

Such institutions support one another in several ways, he added. Dartmouth, for example, has an exchange program that brings students to the United States from the American University of Kosovo for entrepreneurship training, and sends U.S. students to Kosovo to continue their education.

Huschke says a similar arrangement may be possible with the Business Innovation Hub, along with potential student exchanges with business schools in the United States.

The Business Innovation Hub also benefits from partnerships with international business organizations such as In-foDev, a multidonor trust fund within the World Bank that helps innovators test, shape, finance, make, and distribute their products.

The successes of small- to medium-size enterprises like those that participate in TFBSO’s Business Accelerator and the AUAF Business Innovation Hub, “present proof that Afghans can take advantage of real economic opportunities to improve their lives through education and determination,”



Dr. David Walker, deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for science, technology and engineering, prepares his notes prior to testifying on science and technology programs in the changing security environment before the House Armed Services Committee’s subcommittee on Intelligence, Emerging Threat and Capabilities, in Washington D.C., March 26, 2014.

O’Donoghue said. “This is a promise that is being fulfilled daily in Afghanistan, little by little.”

Air Force Looks to Cost-Effective Technologies to Sustain Future Operations

AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS AGENCY OPERATING LOCATION - PENTAGON (MARCH 27, 2014)

Staff Sgt. Torri Ingalsbe

WASHINGTON—Focused and balanced investments in science and technology programs across the services were at the center of discussions during a hearing before the House Armed Services Committee’s subcommittee on Intelligence, Emerging Threat and Capabilities on Capitol Hill, March 26.

Dr. David Walker, Air Force deputy assistant secretary of science, technology and engineering, stressed the importance of maintaining technological superiority, while also ensuring the proper management of funding for new and more cost-effective programs.

“Globalization and the proliferation of technology mean we face threats across a wide spectrum and competition

across all domains," he said. "The focused and balanced investments of the Air Force Fiscal Year 2015 [Science and Technology] program are hedges against the unpredictable future and provide pathways to a flexible, precise, and lethal force at a relatively low cost in relation to the return on investment."

Technological advancement and sustainment efforts were highlighted by Alan Shaffer, assistant secretary of defense, principal deputy for defense research and engineering. He noted some of the ways the DoD is creating technology surprise through innovative technologies and engineering.

"The department invests in a structured way to create surprise," Shaffer said. "Creation of surprise requires a robust basic research program coupled with a strong applied research. While it is not really possible to know where technology surprise will come from, there are several areas that highlight the possibility."

Walker emphasized the need for learning from the past, as well as focusing on the future, while addressing the highest priority needs of the Air Force across the near-, mid-, and far-term. By building and growing game-changing and enabling technologies, he is confident the Air Force's science and technology (S&T) strategy is poised to ensure technological superiority across air, space, and cyberspace.

"This flexible strategy provides us the technological agility to adapt our S&T [science and technology] program to dynamic strategic, budgetary, and technology environments, and will shape prioritized actionable S&T plans," he said.

Regardless of budget constraints, the commitment to supporting the warfighter and protecting this nation from any threat are top priorities, Walker said.

"We recognize that fiscal challenges will not disappear tomorrow, and that is why we have continued to improve our processes to make better investment decisions and efficiently deliver capability to our warfighters."

Natick's 'Model' Employee

U.S. ARMY GARRISON - NATICK PUBLIC AFFAIRS (MARCH 31, 2014)

Bob Reinert

NATICK, Mass.—When Steve Smith was growing up in Wayland, Mass., he would go to a movie like "Star Wars," rush home, and try to replicate the technology he had seen using parts from models that he had already built.

All these years later, not much has changed for Smith, who works as a graphic designer in Strategic Communications at the Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center, or NSRDEC.

"This is the job I've been training to do all my life," said the 48-year-old Smith, who has been with NSRDEC as either a contractor or government employee for nearly two decades. "I had no clue that I was actually training for this job."

Just as in his youth, Smith spends a fair amount of time at NSRDEC StratComm making scale models. Now, however, he uses a 3D printer that uses liquid polymer exposed to ultraviolet light to turn out highly accurate, solid models of products researched and developed at Natick for soldiers.

"If I had had one of these things when I was a kid, you would have had to use dynamite and a crowbar to get me out of my room, you know?" Smith said. "I'd just be making things all day long, coming up with things for people. I've gone from the physical to the digital, and now I'm going from the digital to the physical again, actually creating physical models out of digital material, digital media."

Smith began working with 3D printing at Natick about a year and a half ago as a way of improving customer displays. Even he admits to being amazed with what this technology can produce.

"These solid objects pop out of basically digital commands, virtually from nowhere," Smith said. "Now we've got people building prosthetics with them. I feel pretty confident that there's going to be a merging of the materials people and biological people. Nature has designed so many things that we're looking for already that we should be taking advantage of that."

Smith added that as their costs come down, these printers have become more accessible.

"There are cottage industries springing up all around this kind of stuff—people creating artwork from mathematical models and things like that," Smith said. "Most of the work that I'm doing here is kind of illustrative, more than anything else."

This isn't the path Smith started down as an undergraduate at the University of Massachusetts, where he enrolled as a microbiology major.

"About halfway through, I realized that really wasn't what I wanted to do," said Smith, who earned his bachelor's degree

with an individual concentration in computer science and fine art.

After graduating in 1988, Smith did some video editing and worked at a sign shop before settling in at Natick as a government contractor. He came here in 1996, and never left.

“When I came over here, I was doing a lot of PowerPoint slides, that kind of thing,” Smith said. “Then we threw in some computer animation, illustration for tech manuals, field manuals, then for conceptual stuff. This is the kind of place where, if you want to wear a [different] hat, they’re glad to hand you another hat to wear.”

Smith has even applied moultage—mock injuries—to simulated victims in mass-casualty exercises at Natick.

“I really enjoy that,” Smith said. “That’s a lot of fun, but you talk about going back to an old skill set and revitalizing it and making it a part of what you do.

“So I get to do a lot of different things. There’s no other graphic artist that I know of who gets to do as many different things as I get to work with.”

He may have left microbiology in the past, but that doesn’t mean Smith doesn’t love interacting with Natick’s world-class scientists and engineers.

“And for the most part, I can keep up with the conversation,” Smith said. “A lot of what I do is taking what they are doing and trying to put it into some sort of visual communication form that the average person will look at, and be able to understand.

“It doesn’t get boring,” Smith continue. “Everything that we do now is a new challenge and has its own set of limitations or difficulties or challenges. I’m like a bulldog with that kind of stuff—I don’t let it go. I really enjoy solving problems.”



Steve Smith, with the Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center Strategic Communications department, uses a 3D printer to produce detailed objects that help tell Natick’s story.
U.S. Army photo

The way Smith sees it, 3D printing might be the answer to more and more problems in the future. He pointed out that one project he worked on with NSRDEC’s Technology, Systems and Program Integration Directorate took less than four weeks to be suitable for field evaluation and provisional patenting.

“That’s an unheard-of tempo,” Smith said. “It used to be three years, from research and development to fielding.”

Smith promised to continue probing the “limitations and possibilities” of 3D printing as he seeks to fully exploit the technology in his work at Natick.

“I just want to be able to continue to be able to use this kind of stuff to tell the stories,” Smith said. “It’s really what we’re doing is telling the customers’ stories so when they go out, they have a really good set of tools to explain themselves.”