

AEDC arc heater undergoing significant upgrades in support of advanced hypersonic systems

By Deidre Ortiz
ATA Public Affairs

In light of current and future Department of Defense testing needs for long-range strike and hypersonic vehicle materials development, a facility upgrade for the H2 arc heater at AEDC has been funded.

As part of the upgrade, a state-of-the-art segmented heater is being placed in the H2 arc tunnel to replace the vintage Huels heater from the 1960s.

The upgrade is necessary as hypersonic flight places extreme demands on vehicle structures and materials. Survivability testing of thermal protection system materials and structures for hypersonic environments requires high-temperature air flow

with gas temperatures between approximately 4,500 degrees and 17,500 degrees Fahrenheit.

Arc heaters meet this need by providing an efficient source for heating simulations, with realistic run times that are consistent with the time of many hypersonic flight missions.

The H2 arc tunnel was built from 1986 to 1988 as part of the Air Force consolidation of arc facilities at AEDC. It is one of three arc tunnels currently in use at the Complex.

“At the time H2 was built, AEDC was operating a similar Huels heater in atmospheric freejet mode, as well as the high performance H1 segmented heater which had been developed at AEDC and

See **UPGRADES**, page 4



These photographs show a before and after composite of the Arc Heater test facility H2 test cell. In addition to the heater upgrade and other improvements, a new coat of paint was applied to the test cell. (AEDC photos)

AEDC legal office receives AFMC award

By Deidre Ortiz
ATA Public Affairs

The AEDC Staff Judge Advocate's office was selected as the Air Force Materiel Command Small Legal Office of the Year for 2015.

This award was also presented to AEDC/JA for 2014.

AEDC/JA is made up of five staff members, at-

orneys Maj. Daniel Watson, Capt. Brett Johnson and Greg Porter; and paralegals Kim Pfender and Leslie McGowan.

Maj. Watson, the AEDC Staff Judge Advocate, stated he was honored to learn the team's hard work and dedication were recognized.

“The other legal offices we competed against

were also very deserving so it's definitely an honor to have been selected,” he said.

Capt. Johnson noted that AEDC/JA has played a large role in Arnold's numerous Source Selection activities, and in addition to supporting base acquisition efforts and providing ethics guidance to base personnel, the office offers

assistance with environmental law, labor law, military justice, and serves military members, dependents and retirees with their legal assistance needs. AEDC/JA also thanked its former office members, reservists, and interns who supported the legal office during multiple Source Selection efforts throughout 2015. This

includes attorneys Lt. Col. Aaron Woodward, retired Lt. Col. Matt Loughney, Lt. Col. Kris White, Lt. Col. Steve Kirkman, as well as interns Capt. Andrew Herzog and the late Will Sutton.

“The reserve and intern support we received helped our office greatly, and we definitely appreciate them,” Johnson said.

Revolutionary Change: Col. Todaro announces updates to TMAS contract award



Col. Rodney Todaro

AEDC Commander, Col. Rodney Todaro provided an update on AEDC's Source Selection efforts to the entire workforce via email on March 29. Additionally, messages and other information can be found online at www.arnold.af.mil/transition.

Team AEDC,

Tuesday [March 29] morning the TMAS [Test Management and Advisory Services] procuring contract officer at Eglin Air Force Base, informed us that the protest period has ended, and there has not been a protest filed on the award to QuantiTech, Inc.

To add to the good news, QuantiTech has agreed to accelerate their transition period to begin performance on the same schedule as National Aerospace Solutions (NAS). So, between now and July 1 we have our work cut out for us.

These two contracts directly impact our ability to conduct our mission to develop, test and evaluate weapon, propulsion, aerodynamic and space systems at realistic conditions for the nation. They are our core mission partners. Please welcome them to AEDC warmly and do your part to help transition your mission contributions to these new partners.

See **TMAS**, page 2

Composting at AEDC helps to decrease team members' environmental footprint

By Kraig Smith
ATA Mission Support Department

The compost program that began last year at AEDC through an Air Force grant is continuing to thrive and has achieved widespread participation helping to decrease team members' environmental footprint.

There have been 25 compost bins placed at 11 locations throughout AEDC. More than 40 active participants signed up for the compost program, but more are participating through food scrap collection in kitchens and common areas.

The bins, which measure 33 inches in diameter and 33 inches in height, can hold 80 gallons of compost.

Personnel are encouraged to dispose of compostable items in personal receptacles, such as plastic coffee canisters, and to take their composts to the compost



Green Team captains gather Feb. 6, 2015 at compost bins that are placed throughout the AEDC industrial area to receive instructions on taking care of the bins. The AEDC compost program began last year as part of an Air Force grant. By composting food scraps and hand towel wastes, AEDC will divert as much as six tons of material per year from being sent to the landfill. (U.S. Air Force photo/Jacqueline Cowan)

bin when they take their trash.

Currently personnel may take their composts to bins located at buildings 100, 430, 740, 877, 912, 938, 939, 1077, 1099, 1103, 1476 and 1477. Items to be com-

posted should be kitchen scraps (except for meat, fish, bones, fatty foods such as cheese, oils, etc.), coffee grounds and filters, tea bags, egg shells, fruits and vegetables, flowers, plants, bread, hair, napkins and paper

towels. Trash, chemicals, plastics, glass, metals and weeds-to-seeds should not be placed in the compost bins.

By composting food scraps and hand towel wastes, AEDC will di-

vert as much as six tons of material per year from being sent to the landfill. This translates into a cost saving for the Air Force and is environmentally beneficial.

See **FOOTPRINT**, page 5

In This Issue....

AEDC CGO Handy receives AFTC Annual Award

...Page 3

Propulsion Research Facility Control Room dedicated in memory of late engineer

...Page 3

HIGH MACH

Arnold Engineering Development Complex
An Air Force Test Center Test Complex

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Core Values

- Integrity first
- Service before self
- Excellence in all we do



Vision

"ATA will be a trusted partner in delivering best value warfighter support and assert stewardship to AEDC"

Core Values

- Be accountable for our own actions
- Ensure the safety of individuals and equipment
- Demonstrate the highest integrity and ethical standards
- Communicate clearly and openly
- Deliver professional and technical excellence
- Nurture, enable and treat people fairly
- Align with customer goals and objectives
 - Use disciplined and innovative processes
- Continually improve in all that we do

Event recognizes importance of wingmen all year #notjustApril

By Tech. Sgt. Bryan Franks

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs Command Information

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – Senior leaders kicked off the Air Force's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response #notjustApril campaign March 17 during an event at the Pentagon.

The secretary, chief of staff and chief master sgt. of the Air Force joined other Airmen to read testimonials from sexual assault survivors and discussed Airmen's roles in supporting sexual assault survivors and preventing this crime.

The event promoting the #notjustApril campaign came in front of the Defense Department's official recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April to highlight the importance of Airmen's engagement all year.

Using the Air Force core values as the foundation for her comments, Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James said integrity is imperative in this issue and the Air Force needs to look in the mirror and accept the fact that there is a problem.

"I think it's getting better," James said. "However, we need to look at ourselves and our shortcomings and identify ways we can continue to improve."

James went on to say that Airmen's "service before self" is not only answering the nation's call to serve, but also the call to serve each other.

"Survivors of sexual assault deserve the support of the institutional Air Force, but they also deserve the support of their peers and their wingmen," James said. "Wingmen play a vital role in building and restoring units' climate and in supporting victims in their recovery."

James challenged leaders from commanders to frontline supervisors to demonstrate excellence by setting a professional atmosphere, enforcing the standards of conduct, and being prepared to walk the walk.

Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III spoke about members of one Air Force – active duty, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve, officer, enlisted and civilian Airmen – who stand side by side and

TMAS from page 1

Lt. Col. Ancie Dotson, in the Test Operations Division, is leading the transition efforts for NAS and Lt. Col. Jason Armstrong, in Space and Missile Test Branch, is leading the



Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody shares a story that influenced him, both as a senior enlisted leader and the father of a college-aged daughter, during a Sexual Assault Awareness Month event at the Pentagon March 17. The event included participants who read actual testimonials of victims. (U.S. Air Force photo/Scott M. Ash)



Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James speaks about the wingman's role in sexual assault prevention during a special Sexual Assault Awareness Month event at the Pentagon March 17. The event included participants who read actual victims' testimonials. (U.S. Air Force photo/Scott M. Ash)

shoulder to shoulder to provide whatever is needed to prevent sexual assault.

"We have lots of numbers in the business, as we track different things," Welsh said. "I would offer to you that the only number that really matters is one. One victim, one criminal, one event, one life shattered, one family shattered, one unit forever affected ... now multiply that one person by all the lives that they touch and then multiply that number by 2,400. That's the impact."

Welsh also said that prevention starts with averting one sexual assault, and it must continue one by one until all are stopped.

"It's about one and the

only number more significant than that one is zero," Welsh said. "When we get there, we will celebrate and we will work harder the next day to make sure it stays there."

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody said that in his time as the highest ranking enlisted member in the Air Force, he has evolved how he looks at sexual assault prevention after hearing a friend's story.

His friend's daughter was excited about joining the Air Force, but as she was getting ready to leave home, she told her father she was afraid of being raped. When her father asked why, she confided

she had been sexually assaulted at a high school party after having a drink. Despite their great relationship, she had been ashamed to tell her father before because he had warned her not to drink and how to dress, and she blamed herself.

That's when Cody realized he had often said the same things to his daughter.

"I wasn't helping her be any safer," Cody said. "I was really just building up an environment where if something happened she couldn't feel she could come to me because I had already told her it was her fault every single time I watched her walk out that door."

Cody said the experience changed his dialogue with his daughter and helped him better understand prevention. They began talking about the wingmen she was going out with and who would have her back.

"You are going to go out, you are going to experience life," Cody said. "Our Airmen have to trust each other enough so they know we will always be there for each other. We're never ever going to blame them for something horrific that's happening. We are just going to be there to try and help them. We can never rewind the clock, but we can be there to support them."

Smoking Policy

1. The following revised AEDC smoking policy is effective immediately. Smoking is permitted solely in designated areas identified by a plastic "smoke genie." This receptacle is for the sole purpose of cigarette butt disposal. If there is no receptacle, smoking is not permitted in that area. It is the responsibility of all smokers to clean up the area surrounding the receptacles for any cigarette butts on the ground. Smoking in government-owned vehicles is strictly prohibited. Personnel are allowed to smoke in their personal vehicles at any time. Smoking areas will be held to the absolute minimum and will be located in low traffic, low visibility areas away from points of building ingress/egress and air intakes. A map of all authorized smoking areas is available on the Team AEDC SharePoint site. Smoking near a facility in an area not designated on the map is prohibited and any smoking receptacles located in areas not shown on the map will be removed. All "smoking permitted" and "no smoking" signs will be removed unless specifically required by OSHA.

The fact a person smokes has no bearing on the number of breaks they may take. Breaks should be taken in accordance with the company/agency personnel policies that apply to all employees.

Smoking, including the use of electronic cigarettes and smokeless tobacco, is prohibited in any area, at times when official business is being conducted with government clients, test customers, outside visitors and dignitaries, and where official business is being conducted including conference rooms, auditorium settings, business meetings, or in any other area where Air Force regulations specifically prohibit use. Containers of tobacco waste product, including sealed containers, must not be left unattended or disposed of in trash receptacles. Users of smokeless tobacco must flush tobacco waste down the toilet. Due to the nature, appearance, and safety concerns of electronic cigarettes (also known as "e-cigs"), the use of said products will abide by the same rules for tobacco products stated above and governed by AFI 40-102, *Tobacco Use in the Air Force*.

2. Supervisors at every level will ensure this policy is followed. Disciplinary action is appropriate for repeated violations.

3. Updates to this policy will be made in the future to further align with Air Force guidelines.

4. This policy remains effective until rescinded. (This policy is dated December 20, 2013)

Action Line

Team AEDC
I believe in free and open communications with our Team AEDC employees, and that's why we have the Action Line available. People can use the Action Line to clear up rumors, ask questions, suggest ideas on improvements, enter complaints or get other issues off their chests. They can access the Action Line in one of two ways: via the AEDC intranet home page, and by calling 454-6000.

Although the Action Line is always available, the best and fastest way to get things resolved is by using your chain of command or by contacting the organization directly involved. I encourage everyone to go that route first, then if the situation isn't made right, give us a chance.

Col. Rodney Todaro
AEDC Commander

and provide them what they need to help make these two transitions successful.

I encourage you to go to the respective websites, NAS - <http://nas-llc.us/>; and QuantiTech - www.quantitech.com, to learn more about each organization and what they bring to our mission.

I'm excited that we can see a period of sta-

bility in our future - let's work hard, but safe and secure to get there.

Rodney F. Todaro, Col., USAF
Commander, AEDC

AEDC Company Grade Officer Handy receives AFTC Annual Award



First Lt. Chris Handy, AEDC flight systems engineer, recently won the Air Force Test Center Annual Award for Company Grade Officer for 2015. Among his other duties, Handy is an active member of the AEDC Honor Guard. He is pictured here as a member of the detail which posted colors at a recent ceremony at the Arnold Lakeside Center. (U.S. Air Force photo/Holly Fowler)

By Deidre Ortiz
ATA Public Affairs

First Lt. Chris Handy, AEDC flight systems test engineer, was announced as an Air Force Test Center Annual Award winner, under the category of Company Grade Officer of the Year for 2015.

Maj. Gen. David Harris, commander of the Air Force Test Center, recently sent an announcement congratulating the winners of each category.

“It gives me great pleasure to announce the AFTC Annual Award winners for 2015,” he said. “Nominations were especially competitive this year and I want to congratulate the winners and also highlight the nominees within each category. Additionally, thank you to the supervisors who recognized the hard work, dedication and contributions of their personnel. Congratulations to our winners and best of luck at the MAJCOM level.”

Handy was one of four CGOs in the running for this award, the criteria for which includes job performance, community involvement and self-improvement.

“I am humbled to have received this award,” he said. “I feel that it’s a reflection of all the hard work that we do at AEDC.”

Handy was also a nominee for the AFMC Annual Excellence Awards.

Listed below are the categories and winners of the AFTC Annual Awards for 2015.

Military

Airman:

Senior Airman Raquel Caramanno – 412th Test Wing, Edwards AFB

Non-Commissioned Officer:

Tech. Sgt. Kristi Koch – 96th Test Wing, Eglin AFB

Senior Non-Commissioned Officer:

Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Wagner – 412th Test Wing, Edwards AFB

First Sergeant of the Year:

Master Sgt. Dyjuan Washington – 412th Test Wing, Edwards AFB

Company Grade Officer:

1st Lt. Christopher Handy

– AEDC, Arnold AFB

Field Grade Officer:

Maj. Richard Turner – 96th Test Wing, Eglin AFB

Individual Mobilization Augmentees

Senior Non-Commissioned Officer (IMA) – Master Sgt. Anh Tuan Dang – 412th Test Wing, Edwards AFB

Company Grade Officer (IMA) – Capt. Francisco Ochoa – 412th Test Wing, Edwards AFB

Field Grade Officer (IMA) – Maj. Maureen Marshall – 412th Test Wing, Edwards AFB

Civilian

Category 1 (GS 1-8):
Nancy Smith - GS-6 – 96th Test Wing, Eglin AFB

Category 2 (GS 9-12):
Eric Brickson - GS-12 – 96th Test Wing, Wright-Patterson AFB

Category 3 (GS 13-14):
James Cooley - GS-13 – 96th Test Wing, Nellis AFB

Propulsion Research Facility Control Room dedicated in memory of late engineer



During a dedication ceremony March 18 at the Propulsion Research Facility control room at University of Tennessee Space Institute, Col. Timothy West, AEDC Test Operations Division Chief, presents military coins to the family members of the late Gregg Beitel, ATA engineer. Beitel worked at AEDC more than 30 years. (U.S. Air Force photo/Deidre Ortiz)

By Deidre Ortiz
ATA Public Affairs

The Propulsion Research Facility control room at the University of Tennessee Space Institute was dedicated in memory of the late Gregg Beitel, a research and test engineer for Aerospace Testing Alliance at AEDC.

Beitel passed away Sept. 29, 2014. He worked at AEDC for more than 30 years.

The dedication ceremony March 18 was

attended by several family members, friends and former colleagues.

In honor of his work and dedication to AEDC, Col. Timothy West, AEDC Test Operations Division Chief, presented Beitel’s three children, Natalie, Hayley and Roscoe, and his father Robert with military coins.

Brad Winkleman, ATA engineer who had a close working relationship with Beitel, gave a presentation and provided comments re-

garding Beitel’s role in establishing the Propulsion Research Facility at UTSI. The facility, which consists of sea-level-static test stands located at the UTSI campus, was formed through a partnership of the AEDC instrumentation and diagnostics team and UTSI personnel. The test stands have served as technology development platforms using the J85-GE-5 turbojet engine.

Different metal rods used in the PRF test stand were laid out on a



At the dedication ceremony March 18 at UTSI, the Beitel Family pose with a plaque in honor of Gregg Beitel, ATA engineer who worked at AEDC for more than 30 years before his passing in September 2014. Beitel helped in spearheading the Propulsion Research Facility at UTSI. The control room for the facility has been named the Gregg Beitel Control Center in his honor and the plaque will be mounted at the entrance of the building. Pictured left to right: Gregg’s daughter Natalie, wife Myra, daughter Hayley and son Roscoe. (U.S. Air Force photo/Deidre Ortiz)

table in the control room and Winkleman picked up one of these, noting it was “sturdy, strong” just as Beitel had been.

“It was his determination that helped bring us this facility,” he said. “He imprinted upon us the vision for this. He was a wonderful colleague and a very good friend.”

Winkleman added

that Beitel, who worked on Intrusive Diagnostics for PRF, had created a super hero of sorts called Intrusive Diagnostics Man who helped solve different issues that often arise. He compared Beitel to the super hero, and ended by saying that it was the PRF team’s “hope and desire that one day, instead of being overwhelmed by prob-

lems, we will overwhelm them.”

The ceremony concluded with Beitel’s wife Myra leading the ribbon cutting and officially dedicating the control room in her husband’s memory. A plaque with the inscription “Gregg Beitel Control Center” will be mounted at the entrance of the PRF control room.



ATA makes a donation to the Family Counseling Center

The ATA Employee and Community Activities Committee recently made a donation to the Family Counseling Center which operates the Contact Lifeline of the Highland Rim, a free crisis hotline for residents of Bedford, Coffee, Franklin and Moore counties. Ellen Stowers (right), a program services coordinator with FCC, receives the donation from E&CAC Treasurer Kristi Martin that will be used to support the crisis line services and crisis intervention training for the volunteer staff. (U.S. Air Force photo/Holly Fowler)

UPGRADES from page 1



Above is a photograph from 2010 and another taken in February 2016 of the diffuser that connects the Arc Heater test facility H2 test cell to the exhaust system. The diffuser modifications were completed in the AEDC Model Shop, and installation of the new diffuser began in January. (AEDC photos)

is still in use today," said Mark Smith, an ATA facilities technology engineer with the AEDC Facilities Technology Branch. "Major components of the legacy 50-megawatt arc tunnel at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, such as nozzles and diffuser sections, were relocated from Ohio. The facility test cell, model positioner system and air cooler were new designs fabricated expressly for the H2 installation at AEDC. Those components continue to be used today and will be a part of the upgraded Mid-Pressure Arc Heater facility."

The H2 arc tunnel has contributed greatly to testing at AEDC since 1988. Smith explained that the expanded flow, sub atmospheric exhaust configuration of H2 has provided a unique simulation capability within the flight regime from 80,000 to 160,000 feet altitude and velocity range from Mach 8 to 12. DOD programs supported by H2 have included the Intercon-

tinental Ballistic Missile, Navy Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) Hypersonic Technology Vehicle 2 and HTV-3, DARPA Materials Development for Platforms, the Air Force Hypersonic Technology (HyTECH) Scramjet, multiple Army missile programs and Missile Defense Agency hypersonic interceptor programs. Civil and NASA programs supported include the Crew Exploration Vehicle, Mars Science Lab, Heat Shield for Extreme Entry Environments and Orion/Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle.

"These tests could only have been conducted in the H2 test facility because of its unique capabilities," Smith said. "Since 2005, H2 has been one of the most active arc heater test facilities at AEDC, and to date has accrued the highest total number of arc-on minutes of any of the AEDC arcs."

The heater upgrade is

being carried out to address an existing deficiency in the test capabilities provided by the national arc heater assets at AEDC and NASA. The upgraded H2 will provide temperature test conditions up to three times higher than the legacy Huels heater. The upgrade will directly support development of future advanced hypersonic systems by providing improved aerothermal simulation environments for high-speed vehicle materials and structures.

The first phase of the upgrade, the Prototype, involves installation of the segmented arc heater in the H2 test cell, installation of the new diffuser and a facility calibration test series to demonstrate and document the new test conditions for customers.

"The Prototype will replace the older Huels heater with a higher-performance 70-megawatt segmented arc heater," Smith said. "The new [Mid-Pressure Arc Heater] segmented



heater will be based closely on the operational AEDC H3 segmented heater design and will operate in the H2 test cell to provide much higher temperature levels for testing."

In addition to the heater replacement, AEDC is funding fabrication of a new diffuser that connects the H2 test cell to the exhaust system that provides lower pressure in the test cell. The diffuser work was completed in the AEDC Model Shop, and installation of the new diffuser began in January. Further upgrades to the facility water systems and the power supply are expected as follow-on to further expand the facility test capability to larger test sizes and longer run times during subsequent years.

"The MPAH upgrade will greatly expand the total temperature regime for arc jet testing," Smith said.

"This means that better simulation of flight heating conditions will be available to all the nation's hypersonic vehicle systems developers than ever before. This will be a unique test asset for the DOD, and represent a significant new capability. The improved thermal simulation capability of the proposed MPAH facility is not available anywhere else in the world."

The Prototype heater upgrade is well into design phase, and material procurement and fabrication are ongoing at this time to support the various system interfaces. Expected completion for facility shake-down of the Prototype is fall of 2016, with initial test capability starting soon after.

The total cost of \$21 million for the upgrade effort is shared by AEDC and DOD. The project is being led by the AEDC Test Op-

erations Division with support from the AEDC Space and Missile test and maintenance groups. Test Operations is also providing planning for the expanded Central Test and Evaluation Investment Program upgrade of the water system and electric power supply supporting the full MPAH facility.

"The upgraded facility will be an essential tool supporting materials development and qualification for all next-generation and advanced hypersonic vehicles," Smith said. "This class of vehicles will be uniquely capable of executing many advanced strike missions. The ability to provide improved test and evaluation simulations for such missions will position our arc heaters as crucial enablers for all future programs having need of advanced thermal protection materials."

Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month 2016

#notjustApril

- Eliminating sexual assault in the Air Force requires Airmen at all levels to be engaged all year, not just during April.
- Airmen are expected to embody the Air Force Core Values every day, whether on or off duty, uniformed or civilian.
- The Air Force has more than 110 SARC's, 70 full time SAPR victim advocates, 30 special victims' counselors and 9 special victims' unit senior trial counselors who dedicate 365 days/year to supporting victims and seeking justice. The Air Force is also in the process of hiring 92 specialists for primary prevention of violence across the Air Force. These dedicated helping agents are supported and empowered every day by 600,000 Total Force Airmen and civilians and their families.
- Airmen are the Air Force's best asset in preventing sexual assault. Professional, dedicated Airmen who take care of their Wingmen every day of the year will help eliminate sexual assault from our ranks.
- Commanders are charged with setting a professional atmosphere and enforcing the standards of conduct that make the Air Force a professional service at all times.
- Survivors of sexual assault deserve the support of the Air Force and their Wingmen every day.

Know your part, Do your part

AFMC executive director reflects on career start, successes after 34 years

By **Monica D. Morales**
Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio – What began as uncertainty toward the possibility of an Air Force career transformed into a 34-year commitment for Air Force Materiel Command Executive Director Michael A. Gill, who retires April 1 after spending three years in the command’s top civilian post.

“We all talk about retirement, but you don’t realize just how quickly the time goes,” Gill said. “I can’t believe I’ve gotten to the end because I enjoyed the ride so much.”

More than three decades ago, the prospect of an Air Force job was

not foremost in the mind of a college-aged Gill, who grew up near Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, watching F-15s fly overhead and living with his mother who also had a successful Air Force career.

A stint in the Robins contracting office changed that mindset, however, and introduced Gill to a career field he said he equated with being a good steward of taxpayer dollars.

“Both my parents had worked for the Air Force and I had a comfort level and I knew the mission,” he said. “It just seemed like the right fit.”

That opportunity set the course for a diverse career that would eventually include three assignments at Headquarters

AFMC and jobs at three different bases in the command. As executive director, Gill now advises the AFMC commander in managing all aspects of the command’s mission, in addition to advising her on labor union relations and development of the civilian work force.

Gill’s most recent tenure here began as AFMC reached full operational capability of the then-newly established five-center construct. It was that climate of transition and focus on efficiency that would lay a foundation for what Gill regards as accomplishments on the job.

“I take a lot of pride in being a part of the planning, the implementation and the latter part of the five-center – and now six-



Michael A. Gill
Air Force Materiel Command Executive Director

center – construct,” Gill said.

Similarly, he pointed to a collaboration with small business that yielded “incredible” results within the command and the services portfolio he manages. This, Gill said, was yet another example of the command’s commitment to efficiency and small business.

“The command has exceeded its small business goals the last two years, and that’s the first time we’ve done that,” he said. “I think together we’ve broken the code on how we can best leverage our small business community.”

Gill also cites as a success the partnership between AFMC and American Federation of Government Employees Council 214, which has brought the Voluntary Protection Program, flexible work schedules and fitness programs to the command’s largely civil-

ian workforce.

“I consider that a success from the standpoint that I think we’ve done some things with the partnership that highlight what good we can do for our people while supporting the mission – and that really is the ultimate goal,” Gill said.

That partnership has also most recently included work related to the command’s transition to Acquisition Demonstration, a personnel system that Gill said will “give more latitude over personnel processes related to assigning and moving employees and compensating them for their contributions.”

With these accomplishments now nearly a part of his career past, Gill said that his post-

AFMC plans are gradually becoming clearer. While not all of those plans are solidified, Gill is quick to point out where his attention will be re-directed.

“Family, friends, hobbies and probably doing some things my schedule just doesn’t permit me to do today,” he said.

When reflecting on career highlights, Gill said that successes are memorable but the team dynamics and relationships that accompany them are unforgettable.

“I will have a lot of fond memories of all the great things we’ve done,” Gill said, “Of it all, though, I will miss the camaraderie of what comes with being a member of the Air Force family ... because it is a family.”

FOOTPRINT from page 1

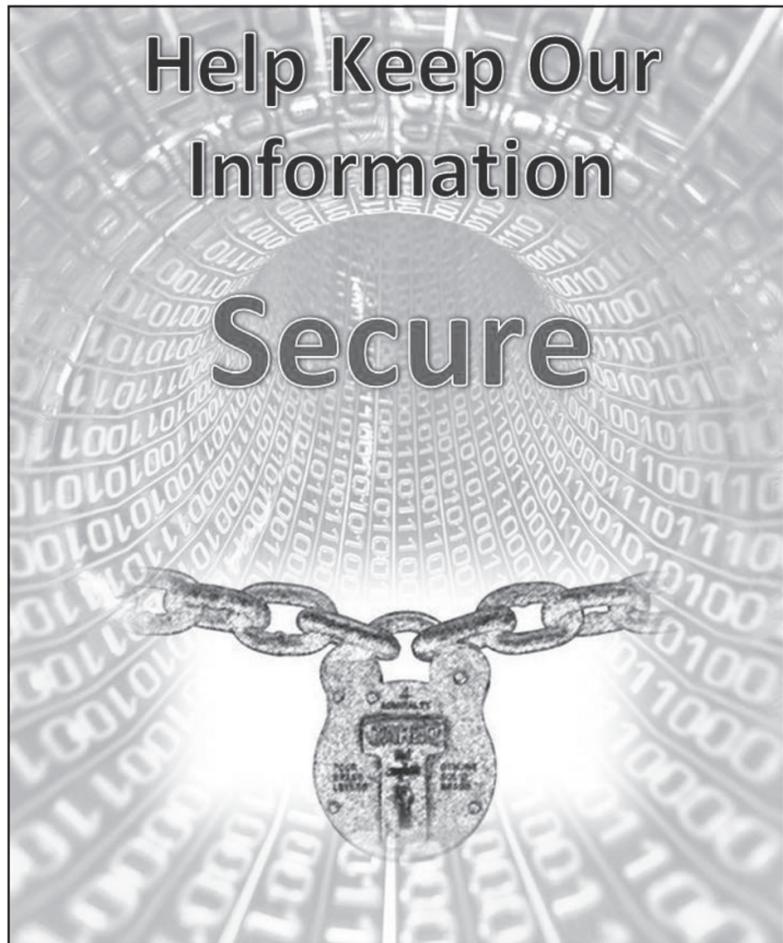


Green Team members received informational composting bags when they volunteered to be captains in the AEDC composting program. The program began last year as part of an Air Force grant. There have been 25 compost bins placed at 11 locations throughout AEDC. (U.S. Air Force photo/Jacqueline Cowan)

This innovative program has no operating costs to the Air Force beyond the initial monetary grant to buy the composting equipment. The labor of scrap collection is done on a volunteer basis by dedicated employees, and the compost generated from the process has been used to improve the soil in participant’s home gardens and landscaping projects.

If anyone wishes to participate in the program and does not currently have a bin, they are still available and can be set up at a convenient location.

Call 454-4284 with questions about the composting program.



Project Management Institute presents 'What do Great Leaders Do?'

By Douglas Brown
ATA Performance Management

The Project Management Institute Southern Middle Tennessee Branch is holding a luncheon meeting at the University of Tennessee Space Institute on April 21.

Join local project management professionals for a time of networking and learning from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be Dr. Lisa Burke-Smalley, a professor of management at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. She will be discussing "What do Great Leaders Do?"

Burke-Smalley was awarded the UTC College of Business Teaching Award in 2014, a UTC Think-Achieve Award in 2013 for using experiential learning methods in the classroom, and was nominated for the National Society of Collegiate Scholars' 2012 Inspire Integrity Award. She earned the 2005 HR Educator of the Year Award in the Southwestern United States, is a prior recipient of the Professional Trainer of the Year Award from North Louisiana Association for Talent Development and is a member of Who's Who Among America's Teachers.

A former student also anonymously created a recurring national scholarship in Burke-Smalley's name through the National Society for Human Resource Management Foundation, which is awarded each year to a deserving student in the U.S.

Burke-Smalley won the 2015 College of Business Research Award and in 2012 was inducted into the UTC Council of Scholars, the University's highest recognition for those who research, publish and have national and international reputations in their fields.

The Project Management Institute is the

world's leading not-for-profit professional membership association for the project, program and portfolio management profession. PMI advances careers, improves organizational success and further matures the profession of project management through its globally recognized standards, certifications, resources, tools, academic research, publications, professional development courses and networking opportunities.

Call 454-5407 for additional information about joining the local branch or to make a reservation for the luncheon.



Dr. Lisa Burke-Smalley

Stop the spread of germs at work

By AEDC Safety

Illnesses like the flu and colds are caused by viruses. These viruses spread from person to person by way of coughing, sneezing or simply talking.

Droplets from an infected person get into the air and are inhaled by people nearby. Anyone within three feet can easily be infected. Viruses can also spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches their eyes, nose or mouth. Flu and cold viruses can live for hours on surfaces like doorknobs, vending machines, desks and tables.

Take these precautions even if you don't feel sick. You could be infected and able to spread germs 24 hours before your symptoms begin.

- **Maintain your health.** Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food. The healthier you are, the stronger your immune system will be. Get a flu shot if you haven't already done so.

- **Cover your mouth and nose when you sneeze or cough.** Cough or sneeze into a tissue, not into your hand or into the air. If you don't have a tissue handy, your

upper sleeve will do. If possible, clean your hands after you cough or sneeze.

- **Clean your hands often.** When available, wash with soap and warm water then rub your hands vigorously together and scrub all surfaces. Wash for 15 to 20 seconds. The soap combined with the scrubbing action helps dislodge and remove germs. When soap and water are not available, alcohol-based hand wipes or gel sanitizers may be used.

- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.** Germs are often spread when a person touches something contaminated with germs and

then touches his eyes, nose, or mouth. Some germs can live for a long time on surfaces like doorknobs, desks, and tables.

- **Don't share utensils or drinks.** In cafeteria settings, it's not uncommon for people to casually share utensils or take a sip from someone else's drink.

This should be completely avoided if there is any risk of a flu pandemic.

- **Stay home if you are sick; see a health care provider when needed.** When you are sick or have flu symptoms, stay home, rest, and check with a health care provider as needed. Remember: Keep-

ing your distance from others may protect them from getting sick.

- **Know the symptoms.** Common symptoms of the flu include fever (usually high), headache, extreme tiredness, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle aches, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea

MY STRENGTH IS FOR DEFENDING

AEDC Victim Advocates Hotline:

(931) 581-7494

Preventing Sexual Assault is part of our duty

Visit: MyDuty.mil

READINESS
= RESPECT

AEDC Advocates 'Serving Victims, Building Trust, Restoring Hope'

By Leslie McGowan
AEDC Judge Advocate
Legal Office

April 10 begins National Crime Victims' Rights Week, a time to honor crime victims and our nation's progress in advancing their rights.

Every year in April, Office of Justice Programs (OVC) helps lead communities throughout the country in their annual observances of National Crime Victims' Rights Week. NCVRW is an opportunity to highlight challenges faced by crime victims and emphasize the ongoing struggle to establish victims' rights.

This year's theme – *Serving Victims, Building Trust, Restoring Hope* – underscores the importance of early intervention and victim services in establishing trust with victims, which in turn begins to restore their hope for healing

and recovery. Meeting victims where they are takes resources, dedication, and persistence to establish a welcoming, compassionate, and supportive environment for all victims to share their stories.

"If victims are to trust that the criminal justice system will work for them, we must meet them where they are physically, culturally and emotionally," said Joye E. Frost, director of the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), U.S. Department of Justice. "When we take the time to focus on the victim in the aftermath of crime to address their needs for safety and justice, we can begin to build trust and restore the hope of those victims and their communities. We all play a role in helping victims as they rebuild their lives."

National Crime Victims' Rights Week hon-



Leslie McGowan

ors and celebrates the achievements of the past thirty years in securing rights, protections and services for victims. The bipartisan Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), passed by Congress in 1984, created a national fund to ease victims' suffering. Financed by fines and penalties paid by offenders, the Crime Victims Fund supports services for victims of all types of crime, including assistance for

homicide survivors, survivors of child sexual abuse and victims of human trafficking as well as rape crisis centers and domestic violence programs among others. VOCA also finds victim compensation programs that pay victims' out-of-pocket expenses such as counseling, funeral expenses and lost wages.

The Tennessee Department of Treasury, Division of Claims Administration, administers the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund. The purpose of this program is to assist victims of crimes or in the case of victims' death, their dependent relatives up to \$30,000. Payments made under the this program are intended to defray the costs of medical services, loss of earnings, burial costs, and other financial losses incurred as a direct result of personal injuries sustained by a criminal

offense. Eligible crimes generally include, but are not limited to, homicide, aggravated assault, sexual assault, robbery by force and drunk driving. In 2007, the General Assembly amended the Act to provide payment for services related to sexual assault forensic examinations.

April 10-16 is National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Let's commemorate this important week by getting to know our neighbors. Take the time to listen, explore, and value differences. We must work together to end violence by confronting and refusing to tolerate or engage in activities that single out certain populations as "less than." Let's empower our community by reaching out and creating relationships, recognizing that we all have a role to play. The community cannot heal until we

begin building trust and restoring hope to those devastated by crime. Together we can stop the violence.

OVC encourages widespread participation in the week's events and in other victim-related observances through the year. The U.S. Department of Justice will host OVC's annual Service Awards Ceremony on April 12, in Washington, D.C., to honor outstanding individuals and programs that serve victims of crime. For additional information about this year's National Crime Victims' Rights Week and how to assist in your community, please contact the Victim Witness Assistance Program (VWAP) Coordinator at 454-4657. For additional ideas on how to support victims of crime, visit the Office for Victims of Crime website, www.ovc.gov.

Two UTSI graduate students win presentation competition

By Barbara Birdsong
University of Tennessee
Space Institute Office of
Public Relations

TULLAHOMA, Tenn. – Two travel award winners of the first annual Susan and Jimmy Wu Student Presentation Competition were announced at the University of Tennessee Space Institute March 4.

Julie King won in the PhD category and received a \$2,000 travel award and Stefan Lindorfer won in the Master's category and received a \$1,000 travel award.

King is from Mount Airy, North Carolina. Her presentation was entitled, "Metallic iron nanoparticles for biomedical applications."

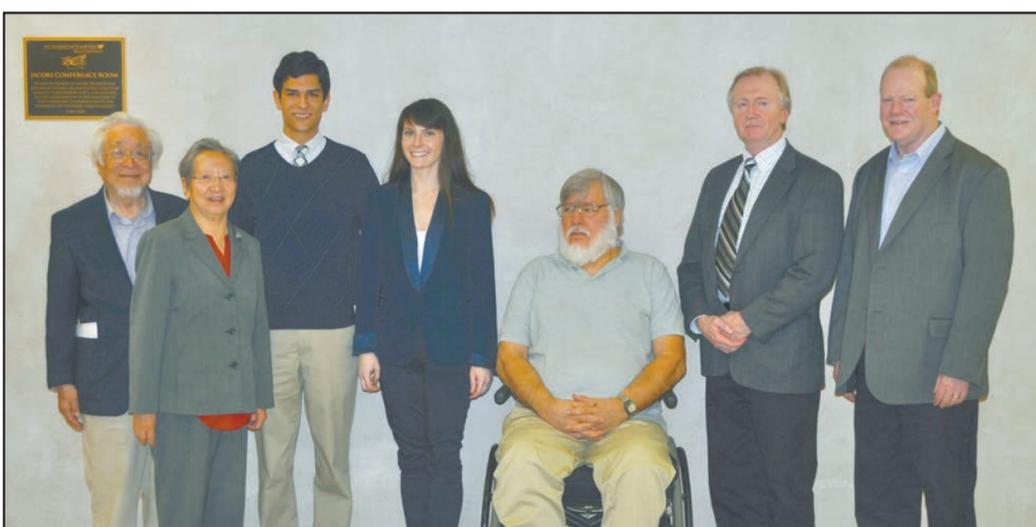
She received a Bachelor of Science degree in physics and mathematics from King College, Bristol, Tenn. in 2012 and a Master of Science degree

in biomedical engineering from The University of Tennessee in 2015. King is currently pursuing a PhD in biomedical engineering at The University of Tennessee Space Institute under the direction of Dr. Jackie Johnson.

Lindorfer was raised in Gütersloh, Germany, and moved to Plano, Texas, during high school. His presentation was entitled, "TALon Mach 4 Ludwig Tube Design Advancements and Flow Quality Investigation through CFD."

Lindorfer earned his Bachelor of Science degree in aeronautical and astronautical engineering from Purdue University in May 2014. He is currently a graduate research assistant pursuing a master's degree in aerospace engineering at the University of Tennessee Space Institute under the direction of Dr. John Schmisser.

Lindorfer's research



Pictured here at the University of Tennessee Space Institute during the award presentation for the Susan and Jimmy Wu Student Presentation Competition is (left to right) Dr. Jimmy Wu and Dr. Susan Wu; competition winners Stefan Lindorfer and Julie King; and Judges Dr. Stan Powell, Dr. Pat Murphy and Scott Bartlett. (Courtesy photo)

interests are high-speed CFD and applied aerodynamics. As part of his research he is working on the design of a Mach 4 Ludwig Tube by means of CFD simulations. The main focus of this involves flow quality analyses and mitigation of the effects of poor diaphragm bursts.

The competition was made possible by a donation from one of UTSI's graduate alumni who wishes to remain anonymous.

The competition was open to all full- and part-time MS and PhD graduate students currently enrolled at UTSI.

The objective behind starting the competition was to help students develop presentation skills while also learning about numerous fields of research. The competition was an open forum where graduate students presented their research in a competition-based format. The best presentations,

as determined by a panel of judges, were awarded travel grants.

Eight graduate students participated in the competition. Each participant gave a 10 minute presentation followed by a five minute question and answer session.

The judges, Dr. Stan Powell, Dr. Pat Murphy and Mr. Scott Bartlett, also gave feedback to each participant on their presentation so the students could sharpen their

skills to become better presenters.

The competition was named after Susan and Jimmy Wu who were the first husband and wife team hired as faculty members at the Space Institute in 1965. During their more than nearly fifty-five years of combined service to the UTSI and the aerospace community, they both contributed significant academic, scientific and community accomplishments.

Milestones

35 YEARS

Brian Roebuck, ATA

30 YEARS

Ellen Neal, ATA

20 YEARS

Marshall Long, ATA
Crawford Parrish, AF

15 YEARS

Kenneth Bloom, ATA
William Lock, ATA

10 YEARS

Nathan Campbell, ATA
Clayton Crawford, ATA
Douglas Darden, ATA
Vickie Seals, ASO
Melissa Warren, AF

5 YEARS

Tommy Lowe, ATA
Terri Rigney, ASO

INBOUND MILITARY

1st Lt. Jonathan Dias

OUTBOUND MILITARY

1st Lt. Joseph Achenbach

RETIREMENTS

Eric Bjorn, AF
B. Keith Carnley, AF
Deborah Jackson, ATA
Richard Schueren, AF
Kate Tedford, AF
Deborah Wisner, ATA

NEW HIRES

Katherine Arnold, NAF
David Barrera, ASO
Chris Brown, ASO
Dr. Kristin Busa, AF
Joseph Caldwell, AF
Malisa Ford, AF
Taurean Gray, AF
Casey Holland, OBXtek
Jon Jackson, OBXtek
Jeremy Kidd, NAF
Michael McMillen, NAF
Gerald Montgomery, AF
Rachel Napier, AF
Tommie Norwood, OBXtek
Daniel Ogg, AF
Amanda Presley, NAF
Timothy Sanders, ASO
Troy Smiddy, OBXtek
Barclay Stacy, ASO
Bobby Webb, AF
Joseph Wehrmeyer, AF

PROMOTIONS

Robert Painter, ATA

Fall prevention video challenge

By Air Force Safety Center Public Affairs

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. (AFNS) – Air Force Occupational Safety invites Airmen to challenge their creativity and participate in a safety video challenge to help promote the prevention of

mishaps due to falls.

The videos that best communicate fall prevention will be posted on the Air Force Safety Center website and available for use Air Force wide, and included in occupational safety resources to highlight and promote Fall Protection Weeks, May

2-13.

A few simple rules apply:

- Videos should involve no dangerous activities
- No one gets injured in the video process
- Length is no more than 30 seconds. Videos may be produced with the help

of local public affairs – if resources are available – or created solely by the Airmen entering the video challenge.

Submit videos to af-sec.pa@us.af.mil, or call 505-846-0468 for submission instructions. Deadline for entries is April 1.



Air Force IT Conference returns with 'cyberpower' addition

By Phil Berube,
42nd Air Base Wing Public
Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. (AFNS) -- The Air Force Information Technology Conference held annually in Montgomery, Alabama, which has been canceled since 2012 due to budget constraints, is returning to the state capital this year with an emphasis on cyberpower.

The rebranded Air Force Information Technology and Cyberpower Conference will be held at the Renaissance Montgomery Hotel and Spa at the Convention Center, Aug. 29-31. The theme for the conference is "America: Living Free, Secure and Productive in a Cyber World."

Historically, the con-

ference was sponsored by the Air Force Program Executive Office-Business Enterprise Systems, an Air Force Life Cycle Management Center unit on Maxwell's Gunter Annex.

The rebranded conference is now sponsored by Air University, the Air Force's accredited education system that provides professional military and professional continuing education.

"Given the advances in technology and cyber operations in the years since the last conference, the commander of Air University decided to reinstate it and include strong cyber and academic elements," said Col. Michael Anderson, AFITC chair.

The conference is one of the primary tools for keeping Air Force and private industry cyber leaders

and experts current on the latest concepts, strategies, technologies and capabilities in both the military and civilian sectors. Attendees will get firsthand insights from leading government and industry experts on what challenges America is facing in the defense of the United States.

The new Air Force Cyber College at Air University will lead the conference academic tracks that will jointly evolve the collaboration, concepts, methods, IT applications and strategies to ensure national security and economic vitality for America.

The college will lead collaborative focus groups with the aim of building a network of professionals for public-private action to foster trusted partnerships between government and industry to drive the devel-

opment of a plan geared toward policy changes to strengthen the country's national and economic security.

"The purpose of the groups is to continue the cyber dialogue we began at the Cyberpower Conference series in 2011 and 2012 at Air University," said Dr. Pano Yannakogeorgos, dean of the Air Force Cyber College. "AFITC offers a platform to reinvigorate this network. Cyber College will serve as the steward of a trusted collaborative process to identify problems, discover solutions and design strategies to inform recommendations to decision leaders."

The cyber and academic elements will bring together cyber professionals, decision makers, commercial businesses, Air Force

professionals and Air University students and academicians with the common goal of advancing the effectiveness, thought and discussion of the nation's and Air Force's approach to the cyber domain.

Air University understands that success in national cyber security requires an improved and robust digital relationship with private industry to combat the sophisticated cyber threats present today. Ideally, this conference will generate the "whole of nation" strategies and processes aimed at overcoming challenges and ambiguities of an increasing digital world.

"A major goal will be to help forge a path for future cyber strategies and initiatives that will help maintain the nation's leadership in this critical

domain," said Col. Ronald Banks, the vice commander of Air War College and faculty member of Cyber College.

The Air Force Program Executive Office-Business Enterprise Systems will offer tracks on information and operational technology, cyberspace defense, agile acquisition and continuing education.

AFITC 2016 is expected to attract more than 150 vendors and more than 2,000 attendees.

Registration is open to Defense Department personnel, military retirees, government contractors and local and state employees. The conference will also hold an education day for high school students focusing on science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM, education.



45th Space Wing supports successful Atlas V OA-6 launch

The 45th Space Wing supported NASA's successful launch of Orbital ATK's Cygnus spacecraft aboard a United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket from Space Launch Complex 41 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla., March 22. The rocket carrying Cygnus cargo vessel OA-6 is a resupply mission to the International Space Station supporting NASA's Commercial Resupply Services program. (Courtesy photo/United Launch Alliance)

Airmen look ahead after historic GPS satellite mission

By Sean Kimmons,
Air Force News Service

CAPE CANAVERAL AIR FORCE STATION, Fla. (AFNS) – Capt. Trung Nguyen was born the year the first of the latest series of GPS satellites was blasted into space.

Twenty-seven years later, the Airman helped process the final GPS IIF satellite, worth about \$131 million, before it was launched on an Atlas V rocket in early February.

“All your work leads up to that point when the rocket is launched and the satellite is in orbit,” said Nguyen, the 45th Launch Support Squadron’s GPS IIF field program manager. “It’s very gratifying work.”

The next round of Air Force-owned GPS satellites, Block III, is now in production by Lockheed Martin, which is expected to launch the first of its 32 satellites in late 2017.

Global influence

GPS satellites offer countless civilian and military uses. From getting cash out of an ATM or sharing a trip on social media to tracking combat troops or dropping precision bombs, the Air Force’s Navstar GPS constellation of 24 satellites is there.

“You have the same capability that the military does as far as accuracy,” said 1st Lt. Olivia Kinney, a 45th LSS responsible engineer who has worked on several of the satellites.

Since 1989, when the GPS program’s second generation began, 62 satellites have been launched. As satellites degraded over the years, new ones have taken their place providing better accuracy. This has increased position accuracy to only 5 feet, while the next GPS satellites aim to further narrow it to about 2 feet.



The last GPS IIF satellite is encapsulated inside a payload fairing at a processing facility before it was launched aboard an Atlas V rocket Feb. 5 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla. The mission ended a 27-year legacy of processing second generation GPS satellites for the 45th Space Wing. (Courtesy photo/United Launch Alliance)

“GPS will be here when you need it,” said Col. Steve Whitney, the director of the Space and Missile Systems Center’s GPS Directorate at Los Angeles Air Force Base. “Our goal is to deliver sustained, reliable GPS capabilities to users around the world.”

Before a GPS satellite is shot out 11,000 miles above Earth, an Airmen-led team oversees its preparation inside two facilities nestled among the ruins of past space missions at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.

“We’re working on hal- lowed ground here,” Nguyen said.

Although it can be a tedious three-month operation of extensive fuel and electrical systems testing, processing is vital to ensure a satel-

lite can work in space. If it cannot, the GPS constellation may face serious flaws.

If the GPS system were fully disrupted, for example, it could cost roughly \$96 billion per year to GPS users and manufacturers, according to a 2011 study by the NDP Consulting Group, a Washington, D.C.-based economic consulting firm.

“You’re really the last person to work on them,” Kinney said of the years of work that goes into each satellite. “We’re just here at the end of the process.”

The final GPS IIF mission capped off a hectic time for Airmen who saw seven of the satellites in 21 months, on top of other satellite missions, during one of the most aggressive launch campaigns in de-

ca- des.

“We had overlapped missions,” said Nguyen, who helped on six GPS launches. “One satellite was going up, another was coming in. There were a lot of moving parts.”

Lifting a curse

The most recent GPS mission was also riddled with snags leaving Airmen and contractors on high alert. The satellite was jokingly called the “Beetlejuice curse” since it had been delayed for delivery three times.

“(The satellite) had problems at the factory with processing and it got pushed out of line,” said Staff Sgt. David Jeetan, a 45th LSS mission assurance technician.

More issues surfaced

later when it arrived at the squadron’s facilities due to it being out of the processing flow.

“When it came to the Cape, there were extra eyes on it,” said Jeetan, who served as the satellite’s lead MAT. “We were able to catch all the anomalies.”

GPS satellites may belong to the Air Force, but contractors are the only ones who physically handle them. Airmen make sure tools are calibrated correctly, testing systems run properly, and procedures are followed.

When a mishap does arise, mission assurance technicians link up with the squadron’s responsible engineers to share their thoughts on how to solve the issue.

“That’s a big help in anomaly resolution,” Kinney said of her enlisted counterparts who come from the missileer career field.

While MATs are more mechanically minded from their experience with inter-continental ballistic missiles, the role of responsible engineers is to look at data and give a risk assessment before the contractor sends a satellite to space.

Once the first GPS III satellite rolls in next year, Airmen will again add it to their list of processing duties.

“At the end of the day, the Air Force still owns the satellite,” Kinney said. “It’s our baby so we want to make sure it’s processed properly.”

