If we fail to keep not merely abreast but ahead of technological development, we need not bother to train any force, and we need not make plans for an emergency expansion; we will be totally defeated before any expansion could take place.

...This is expensive, of course, but I wish to assure you as earnestly and forcefully as I can that it is one expense that we must not now, or ever, skimp or stint. It is the price of security and the price of peace.

General Henry “Hap” Arnold
August 17, 1945
AEDC’s Mission

Conduct developmental test and evaluation for the Nation through modeling, simulation, ground and flight test.

Commander’s Statement

As part of AEDC’s 2015 Strategic Plan, we initiated a transformation of AEDC to ensure we maintain the core national capabilities to test and evaluate today and tomorrow through innovative structural and process changes. The transformation is nearly complete and is bringing us closer to Air Force leadership’s strategic imperative of being more agile, while remaining the Nation’s best value ground test and analysis source.

We have transitioned from one service contractor to six - working with a Combined Test Force structure. We have become a “Wing Equivalent” - adding the Test Group at Holloman and other vital test capabilities under AEDC. We have been given financial resources to recapitalize many of our aging facilities and equipment. These changes will lead to a substantial increase in capabilities, agility and efficiencies; however, there is much more to be done as we face an extraordinary amount of test engineering and developmental work vital to the security of our Nation.

We are part of the greatest Air Force this world has ever known, and the Nation is counting on each of us to accomplish our critical mission as it has since the creation of the Air Force after WWII. We must continue to work together as one team, focus on mission execution, seek to continuously improve, ensure we remain compliant and take care of our valued workforce.

- Col Rodney Todaro, AEDC Commander

Our Vision

Be the Nation’s best value ground test and analysis source for aerospace and defense systems.

Our Strategic Goals

1: Mission ready

...today and tomorrow

◊ Ensure AEDC readiness to support the test needs of current & next generation DOD systems
◊ Advance Digital Thread (DT) application to developmental testing
◊ Meet test requirements for Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center (AFNWC) programs

2: Prioritize resources for best value and agility

◊ Ensure internal processes are aligned with the new wing and contract structures
◊ Optimize use of available wing manpower and financial resources
◊ Ensure efficient use/execution of all new investment dollars
◊ Enhance energy efficiency through better management of peak and load factor
◊ Ensure AEDC achieves Financial Improvement Audit Readiness (FIAR) compliance by deadline
◊ Evolve our business systems for future workload

3: Foster technical excellence, compliance, innovation and agility

◊ Encourage & reward innovation & agility
◊ Expand the AEDC/AFRL partnership
◊ Expand the AEDC/NAVAIR partnership
◊ Develop & deploy Continuous Process Improvement (CPI) into our daily operations
◊ Expand & create partnerships with academia

4: Develop and support our people and teams

◊ Deliberately grow & develop the workforce to meet future requirements and employee aspirations
◊ Empower the workforce by delegating, training, equipping and removing barriers to safe, efficient and effective operations
◊ Support our people and enhance work–life balance by including family considerations in our planning and activities

Summary

The goals and objectives in this strategic plan will serve as an effective framework for key decisions that must be made to guide our path toward achieving our vision for AEDC.

We must be diligent and disciplined in our efforts to transform the way we do business. We must be willing to leave our comfort zone, daring to be innovative and bold in meeting the needs of our customers. In doing so, we will become more valuable to our customers and our Nation.

BLU-Fuze penetrator ready for sled test
Holloman AFB, New Mexico