



The Bullet'n



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"Supporting the Warfighter"

December 2008

Mortar Fire Control System team wins top Defense Award



U.S. Army photo

The towed Dismounted Mortar Fire Control System contains a fire control computer, portable battery supply, electronics rack and other equipment that make it easier and more accurate to fire.

Picatinny Public Affairs Release

PICATINNY ARSENAL, N.J. -- A Picatinny weapons-development team recently received the prestigious "Top Five Department of Defense Program Award" for its work on the 120 mm Dismounted Mortar Fire Control System, or MFCS-D, during the National Defense Industrial Association's Systems Engineering Conference in San Diego Oct. 23.

The award goes to technology programs that best exemplify system-engineering and program-management principles, practices and results.

The programs recognized are considered models for meeting cost, schedule and performance requirements.

During the ceremony, Gordon M. Kranz, director of the Systems and Software Engineering for the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Ac-

quisition, Technology and Logistics, presented the award to representatives of the MFCS-D development team.

The MFCS-D is a new fire control system that will be integrated into the 120 mm mortar to make the weapon fire more easily and accurately, said Ron Tatusch, Dismounted Mortar System team lead.

It combines a highly accurate weapon-pointing device, inertial navigation and position system and digital-communications capability, all embedded in the fire-control computer.

The MFCS-D will make the weapon system three times more accurate and allow mortar crews to send and receive digital call-for-fire messages, calculate ballistic solutions, determine the position of the gun and accurately point the weapon.

It also will provide a link to other digital fire-control network assets and allow the gun to operate as a fire

direction center, which will allow the mortar section to execute dispersed operations, he explained.

All these advantages increase the survivability and responsiveness for towed 120 mm mortars on the future battlefield, Tatusch said.

Tatusch said the success of the program results from the employment of well-defined, proven processes to develop, manage and integrate the MFCS-D hardware and software with the dismounted 120 mm mortar system.

ARDEC's in-house software development and system integration was executed through an empowered integrated-product-team approach, he said.

In less than two years, the integrated product team took the program from an idea concept to "Type Classification Standard" in August 2008.

"ARDEC" continued on page 11

Commanding General

Season's Greetings

December's arrival has quickly focused our attention on the many seasonal activities and celebrations that occur annually during this final month of the year.

The universal spirit of kindness, generosity and goodness becomes more noticeable as we go about our daily schedules and prepare ourselves, our families and our homes for the upcoming holidays.

But as we plan our holiday festivities, let us also remember that many of our fellow Americans and their loved ones will again spend the holidays apart.

Most of our uniformed men and women who are deployed or assigned overseas will not be home with their families and friends this December. Instead, they will be performing the important mission of protecting our freedoms, and the freedoms of citizens of other countries, in lands vastly different from our own beloved country.

The holiday season is best known as a time when friends and family exchange gifts. We must not forget that our servicemen and women serving abroad give us a most precious



Brig. Gen. William N. Phillips

gift this holiday season -- peace and security at home. As we enjoy the holiday season, I urge you to express gratitude to our service members and their families for their sacrifice and service in the cause of freedom!

There are many ways to thank and remember the warfighters who sacrifice so much for us. Frequent flier miles can be donated to wounded warriors so their loved ones can visit them. Gift certificates to military exchanges can be purchased for deployed personnel. Through the Red

Cross, holiday cards can be mailed to military members recovering and rehabilitating in hospitals. Other ideas can be found at the Web site www.americasupportsyou.com.

As you are aware, in addition to the holidays, this last month of the year also brings with it the beginning of the winter months. With winter comes the likelihood of freshly falling snow and the risks that are inherent in slippery roads and frozen walkways. I caution you to be particularly careful this month as we await the challenges that winter can bring. Simple activities like driving, walking and shoveling snow all harbor hidden risks when we do things too quickly or exert ourselves too much. Please be careful!

I am very honored to serve with each of you, and extremely proud to witness the extraordinary work you do for our nation. Each of you has my sincerest appreciation for your service and sacrifice for our warfighters!

Marilyn and I wish you and your family all the joy and happiness that the holiday season brings.

Brig. Gen. William N. Phillips



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Contributions to The Bullet'n are welcome; contact information follows.

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Radford breaks ground on new facility for making propellant

By Justine Barati

Joint Munitions Command Public Affairs

RADFORD, Va. -- The Joint Munitions Command recently celebrated the start of a project that will impact the future of propellant manufacturing in North America. On Dec. 4, members of the JMC and ATK Energetics Systems gathered at Radford Army Ammunition Plant to celebrate the groundbreaking for the plant's new Nitric Acid Concentrator/Sulfuric Acid Concentrator.

"The purpose of the NAC/SAC is to manufacture strong nitric and sulfuric acid, which is key to the production of Nitrocellulose. The NAC/SAC will cost \$103 million and is the first major modernization project to break ground at Radford," said Lt. Col. (P) Jon Drushal, Radford's commander.

"Think about the ammo in Afghanistan and Iraq, 99 percent of the small caliber ammo contains NC from this facility," said Kent Holiday, vice president and general manager of ATK, the contractor that operates Radford.

"Radford is the sole North American source for NC. NC is the key ingredient in the manufacture of all propellants, this project is supporting conventional small, medium and large caliber military munitions for the warfighter," said Drushal.

"Every Soldier, sailor, airman, and Marine needs to know that the round in their rifle or artillery is going to work. When it goes downrange and hits a target, that's the Joint Munitions Command message of ready and reliable ammunition. This facility will assist in this effort," said Jyuji Hewitt, deputy to the commander for JMC.

"The new facility will provide us with improvements in efficiency, safety, and reducing impacts to the environment. It also provides us with reliability. If we don't have the NAC/SAC, we don't have NC. If we don't have NC, then we don't have propellants and you don't have bullets without propellants," said Drushal.

"The current NAC/SAC acid plant is in bad shape. It is a corrosive environment that doesn't last forever. The facility is being eaten up by its own process," said Rob Davie, the chief of Operations Division for Radford.

"The facility is 31-years-old and was built for a useful life of 25 years. Technology has also improved in the last 25 years," said Holiday.



U.S. Army photo by Justine Barati

Jyuji Hewitt, deputy to the commander, JMC, (I) and Lt. Col. (P) Jon Drushal, Radford Army Ammunition Plant commander, shovel dirt during a ground-breaking ceremony Dec. 4, for the plant's new nitric acid concentrator/sulfuric acid concentrator.

The new NAC/SAC is scheduled to be completed in 15 months. According to Davie, it should save 240,000 pounds of steam, \$460,000 of natural gas, \$90,000 in labor, \$50,000 in maintenance, and \$64,000 in electrical usage per year.

"It comes down to the basics, it will be more cost efficient, and cost savings are important to our industrial base," said Hewitt.

"It will also allow us to recycle three to four percent

"New Plant" continued on page 11

Crane employee receives Air Force Combat Medal for Iraq Service



U.S. Army photo by Tom Peske

Crane Army explosives handler and Air National Guardsman Staff Sgt. Tyler Shields, seen here at work, received the Air Force Combat Action Medal for his actions in Iraq in 2004.

By Tom Peske
Crane Army Ammunition Activity
Public Affairs

CRANE, Ind. – A Crane Army Ammunition Activity employee hired in 2008 recently became one of the first Indiana Air National Guard Airmen to receive the Air Force Combat Action Medal for his heroic actions while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2004.

Air National Guard Staff Sgt. Tyler Shields, currently an explosive handler for Crane, received the medal for his actions in August 2004. Shields, from the 181st Fighter Wing, had been attached to the Army's 1058th Gun Truck Company in Iraq, where he helped to provide convoy security.

Shields was driving in a convoy between Tikrit and Baghdad when the tractor trailer in front of him activated

an improvised explosive device, followed immediately by small arms fire. Shields pulled his truck over to protect the disabled tractor trailer, exited his vehicle and returned fire with his M-16 rifle. He then climbed onto the back of the truck to provide cover fire, allowing the truck's gunner, Shield's best friend, Staff Sgt. Jerod Wright, to reload his weapon. Putting themselves in the line of fire to protect their fellow servicemen earned Shields and Wright the medal for their actions that day.

Being considered a hero though, is talk that a modest Shields shies away from in conversation. He explains, "For the recent medal that was awarded to Jerod and me, I was asked how I felt to be a hero. I don't consider myself a hero. I did my job to the best of my ability and tried to stay alive and hopefully made a difference in a land that desperately needed our support. I

trust and pray that we reached a few in Iraq and were an example to all. It is a privilege for me to wear the uniform and to do the job of a Soldier."

After returning to the U.S., Shields struggled with the transition to civilian life. He said that six weeks after his return, his oldest sister passed away at the age of 30. He explained that pressure from his feelings came to the surface and he began to realize he could not survive at home alone. He said that he then found strength in prayer and through his parents, whom he could never repay for their love and support. Tyler added that most importantly his wife Laurissa was his shelter during his recovery transition. He also said he found faith through his combat veteran friends at the Linton Indiana Veterans of Foreign Wars, and especially through Wright, whom he described as closer than any brother.

"Jerod and I were together every step of the tour in Iraq and he is employed here at Crane Navy," Shields said. "Now, with time, I have overcome many obstacles that face individuals in this situation. I pushed through and became stronger as a National Guardsman and civilian.

"I am proud of my service and of the accomplishments we had as a company in Iraq. I will keep learning each day and push forward with training each and every month to become the best in my unit in the event my country would call again. If called again, I am ready."

Shields said that since returning to Indiana, he has come to appreciate all the comforts he could not enjoy in Iraq.

"I am so thankful for the luxuries

AMC names Crane's Eaggleston Small Business Specialist of the Year



U.S. Army photo provided by Crane Army Ammunition Activity

By Tom Peske
Crane Army Public Affairs

CRANE, Ind. – The Army Materiel Command Small Business Specialist of the Year award for 2007 was presented to Crane Army Ammunition Activity Contracting Specialist Rachel Eaggleston at the 12th Annual Army Small Business Conference held in McLean, Va., Nov. 13, 2008.

Army Maj. Gen. James Pillsbury, AMC deputy chief of staff for operations and logistics (now Lt. Gen. Pillsbury and AMC deputy commanding general), personally thanked Eaggleston for her contributions as he presented her an engraved plaque during the conference and a four-star note from Gen. Benjamin Griffin, former AMC commanding general.

The award recognizes those specialists who have provided over and above support for the small business

community. By going the extra mile, these individuals greatly contribute to the success of the AMC Small Business Program.

“It felt great receiving the award, and to be honest, I'm still shocked that I had such an honor bestowed on me. I met so many professionals there; it was impressive. It was a great experience,” Eaggleston said. She attributed her success with reviewing the small business goals with Joint Munitions Command Small Business office and having an open door policy with meeting new contractors seeking business with the Department of Defense and Crane Army.

“I learned at the National Defense Industry Association conference that small businesses account for the lions' share of DoD federal dollars. So, it is important that small businesses do not get left out of federal DoD contract opportunities,” Eaggleston said. “We

have a hundred or more small businesses that the contracting office seeks to promote contracts with for recurring requirements. We continue to look for more than can meet our requirements and comply with our payment terms. Most companies do a fantastic job at meeting our needs. Local businesses, machine shops, and supply chains also stand ready to hear from us and quote on jobs, large or small. All of them are patriots and want to do their part in serving the nation. We salute them, because they make all the difference, and make my job a lot easier.”

Lt. Gen. James Pillsbury, AMC deputy commanding general, presents a four-star note from Gen. Benjamin Griffin, former AMC commanding general, to Crane Army's Contract Specialist Rachel Eaggleston for her hard work as AMC Small Business Specialist of the Year. (Editors Note: At the time this photo was taken, Pillsbury held the rank of major general.)



U.S. Army photo by Darryl Howlett

Lt. Col. Johnny Figueroa, Product Manager-Demil, listens to Cylde Hill, munitions operator, guided missiles supervisor for ANMC, concerning the recycling of Tube-launched, Optically-tracked, Wired-guided missiles.

Product Manager for Demil visits Anniston Munitions Center's Recycling Center

By Darryl Howlett
Joint Munitions Command Public Affairs

ANNISTON ARMY DEPOT, Ala. – One of the Army leaders responsible for demilitarization of ammunition visited the Anniston Munitions Center.

Lt. Col. Johnny Figueroa, Product Manager-Demil, toured Anniston's Missile Recycling Center Dec. 4.

"This is enlightening – big time," Figueroa remarked as he toured the center.

Among those who accompanied Figueroa on the tour was Lt. Col. Duncan MacMullen, Anniston Munitions Center's Commander, and Clyde Hill, munitions operator, guided missiles supervisor, for ANMC.

PM Demil is a subordinate of Project Manager for Joint Services, all underneath the leadership of Program Executive Office-Ammunition, which is led by Brig. Gen. William N. Phillips, who also serves as the commanding general of the Joint Munitions and Lethality Life Cycle Management Command, headquartered in Picatinny, N.J.

On this particular day, Figueroa had the opportunity to witness the demil of several Tube-launched, Optically-tracked, Wire-guided (TOW) missiles.

According to Anniston officials, 18 operators work to break down the missile into several recyclable parts includ-

ing copper, steel, and aluminum parts. It's been the worker's job since 2003.

"The aluminum that is recycled is a 90 percent aluminum grade. That's considered grade A, or high quality aluminum," said Hill.

The large, metal bin outside of the recycling center is filled within two or three days, according to Hill. The propellant that was once inside the missiles is also recovered and placed in storage for future use.

Figueroa left the recycling center impressed with its mission.

"This was great to see this operation from the beginning to the end. That's how life cycle works," he said. "The operations also show how much we care for the environment by reutilizing our resources. Overall, very good."

Lean Six Sigma also played an important role in how successful the recycling center works according to Figueroa.

"Even though the topic or word was not brought up, it is evident how they operate using Lean Six Sigma," he said.

“This is enlightening – big time.”

Lt. Col. Johnny Figueroa,
Product Manager-Demilitarization

MCAAP teams up with Air Force to resolve Item Unique ID issue

By Jason Semeski
McAlester AAP
Ammunition Operations
Process Division

MCALESTER, Okla. -- McAlester Army Ammunition Plant has always worked closely with customers in meeting requirements. IUID (Item Unique Identification) deployment is one example.

The Air Force was tasked to meet the Department of Defense's requirement to uniquely mark all items with a unit cost of \$5,000 or higher. The Air Force and MCAAP's Ammunition Operations Process Division together researched and tested many different marking systems/materials to determine the best method.

This effort involved many discussions and took months to complete. Freedom Technologies Corporation out of Brighton, Mich., was selected to implement their "error proof" system. This system allows MCAAP to scan an identification plate on the bomb, download the information and laser cut a label with the required information to apply to the bomb.

Not being explosive proof, the system proposed an initial challenge of where to deploy the system. The choice was made to place the system at one building and transport the labels down to another building to be applied to the bombs.

The labels getting to one particular building was a challenge in itself but was overcome by placing the labels in the fuze well and applying a plastic cap to keep them in place for the trip down the line.



U.S. Army photo by Mark Hughes

Jason Semeski, with McAlester's ammunition operations process division, shows how the hand-held Unique Identification scanner works. McAlester has labeled all BLU-109 2,000 pound penetrators and BLU-113 5,000 pound penetrators from October 2006 until present with IUID labels.

Once the system was up and running Ammunition Operations Process division spent several days training production workers on the "ins and outs" of the system. Work instructions were written by the Planning division so that each operator of the system understood how to run it correctly.

By using a team approach, issues were quickly resolved and the IUID deadline was met. MCAAP has labeled all BLU-109 penetrators and BLU-113's produced from October 2006 until now with IUID labels.

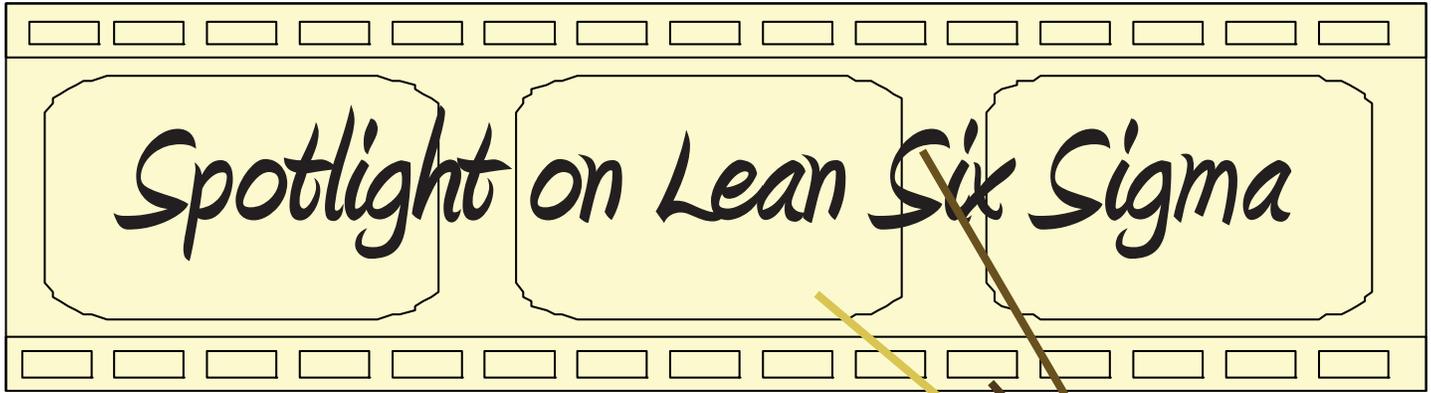
The path forward is to implement new software to batch upload all IUID information into the IUID registry.

The division is currently looking at IUID Registry-MT software from Freedom Technologies which will allow us to upload through Global Exchange to the IUID

Registry.

The Air Force will realize many benefits from IUID implementation such as item visibility regardless of platform or "owner;" lower item management costs, item data necessary for top-level logistics and engineering analysis and accurate sources for property and equipment valuation and accountability.

Other benefits include improved access to historical data for use during systems design and throughout the life of an item, better item intelligence for warfighters for operational planning, reduced workforce burden through increased productivity and efficiency, and improved inventory accuracy.



Subject matter experts' willingness to go 'above and beyond' sparks recognition. Nomination process in place for name submissions.



Joint Munitions Command headquarters finalizing preparations for Yellow Belt certifications

By Joint Munitions Command Lean Six Sigma Office

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, -- Ill. The Joint Munitions Command headquarters Lean Six Sigma Office will recognize Subject Matter Experts with a yellow belt certificate and coin for the contributions they make in bringing about the successful completion of a JMC headquarters green belt or black belt project. This is being implemented to recognize SME's who go "above and beyond" simply going to some of the team meetings, and therefore

play a vital role in the success of GB/BB projects.

A yellow belt nomination form has been loaded on the JMC Extranet Lean Six Sigma web site (under "C.I Tools" on the "Templates and Guides" dropdown list). For any JMC headquarters green belt or black belt project with a control tollgate approved in Power Steering, the project sponsor, with assistance from the project's lead green belt or black belt as needed, can use this form to nominate one or more project SME's, one SME per form. The form includes instructions for filling out and submitting it. Once the form is completed and processed and the certificate and coin

are prepared, presentation to the yellow belt will be scheduled, ex. at a JMC headquarters Town Hall meeting. A Swimlane Process Map of the certification process has also been loaded in the Templates and Guides list.

LSS Master Black Belt Steve Tutt is coordinating the implementation of this process.

Questions or suggestions:
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or anyone else in the JMC HQ LSS Office



Tollgate: Usually reviewed by a higher authority, such as the Master Black Belt for a Black Belt, or a Business Quality Council it adds oversight to a project. Only when the person leading the project has satisfactorily accomplished the previous phase may they pass the tollgate and move to the next phase.



Photo Illustration courtesy of Intermec

New hand-held scanners help depots, plants

By Darryl Howlett
JMC Public Affairs

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill. – In an attempt to modernize ammunition depot operations, the Joint Munitions Command has begun to deploy the next generation of hand-held scanners.

According to Justin Farrell, a special-

ist with JMC's ammunition depot automation program management office, the entire fleet of hand-held scanners is being upgraded at JMC installations.

The new generation of scanners is the CK61 series.

"Scanner continued on page 12"

DAC partners with local college to develop degree program

By Jaime Thompson
Defense Ammunition Center
Public Affairs

MCALESTER, Okla. -- Defense Ammunition Center strives to provide additional opportunities for ammunition interns to help progress their careers.

The Oklahoma State Regents approved a new associate degree at Eastern Oklahoma State College in Ammunition Management and Safety. This program represents a partnership between EOSC and DAC to provide college degree opportunities to DAC interns.

"Many of our DAC interns enter the training program without college degrees. This partnership

affords them the opportunity to increase their academic knowledge at the same time they are receiving highly specialized career training. That's a powerful combination for leveraging their civilian career opportunities," said Dr. Upton Shimp, Chief of Knowledge Management for the DAC training directorate.

The special degree program for interns in the Ammunition Management and Quality Assurance Specialist (Ammunition Surveillance) career programs will be offered for the first time during the spring 2009 semester. To complete the degree program,

students must complete 31 hours of general education from EOSC and 30 hours of major field courses from DAC. After completion of the intern training program, students are required to complete a one-year on-the-job training.

"Department of the Army interns entering the DAC training programs are the future leaders of two Army ammunition career programs. The collaboration of EOSC toward their development is greatly appreciated," said Mr. Gary Carney, DAC Director.



U.S. Army photo by Gerald Thompson

Dr. Karen Harrison, vice president of academic affairs at Eastern Oklahoma State College, discusses the new ammunition degree program with prospective students.

Radford's housing program a hit



U.S. Army photo by Justine Barati

Betty Roop, Radford's ACO staff housing specialist, and Dan McGlothlin, one of Radford's ACO staff civil engineers, discuss future Staff Village bathroom remodeling efforts in front of one of the housing units.

By Justine Barati
JMC Public Affairs

RADFORD, Va. -- One of Radford Army Ammunition Plant's best kept secrets is its family housing complex, referred to locally as Staff Village. It offers 20 housing units to military members from all services. Residents include recruiters, ROTC, the installation commander, and service members seeking higher education degrees at the numerous colleges and universities surrounding Radford.

"The cost of living is very, very high in the area, an E-5 couldn't survive in this economy without this housing," said Betty Roop, Radford's Administrative Contracting Office staff housing specialist.

"The next closest military housing complex is at least four hours away," said Dan McGlothlin, one of Radford's ACO staff civil engineers.

Staff Village was built in 1941 when the plant was first constructed. Demolition of the homes was discussed, but

the Army realized the value of Staff Village and instead began investing in it.

"In Fiscal Year 07, we began remodeling the quarters. No remodeling had been done in 23 years. We replaced windows, roofs and gutters. We moved oil tanks out of the basements and to the outside. We did chimney work and began remodeling the kitchens," said Roop.

Under Lt. Col. (P) Jon Drushal, Radford's commander, the repairs and updates have continued, said Roop. "The commander is focused on family housing. He has brought things up to standards and expects them to be kept up to standards."

Work continues on modernizing kitchens and McGlothlin coordinates closely with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to ensure that the new areas meet Radford's stringent standards. "We are trying constantly to make it more modernized," said Roop.

The next wave of improvements includes convert-

New plant continued from page 3

more of the acid. This means that 98 percent of the acids used will now be recycled. Environmentally speaking, this is a significant improvement; there will be less waste water to be treated. Anytime we get less waste streams is a great day," Drushal said.

Radford is a government-owned, contractor-operated facility that manufactures a diverse range of propellants in support of small, medium, and large caliber military munitions for the warfighter. Radford also creates ammo that goes directly to theater.

"A key product produced at Radford is the M789 medium caliber round that is shot out of the Apache. Within weeks of the rounds coming off the line, they are in a gun in Iraq or Afghanistan," said Drushal.



U.S. Army photo by John Stephens

An computer/artist rendition of Radford's future nitric acid concentrator/sulfuric acid concentrator.

Hero continued from page 4

face individuals in this situation. I pushed through and became stronger as a National Guardsman and civilian. I am proud of my service and of the accomplishments we had as a company in Iraq. I will keep learning each day and push forward with training each and every month to become the best in my unit in the event my country would call again. If called again, I am ready."

Shields said that since returning to Indiana, he has come to appreciate all the comforts he could not enjoy in Iraq. "I am so thankful for the luxuries we have here in the United States; I am grateful for the freedom and comfort. We, as a company, would go days without access to running water or warm food. When you slept you were never secure in your mind for your very safety, the same when traveling. How thankful I am to know I am here alive in the greatest land. I pray I never take for granted of all the privileges I have had available to me. Privileges that millions worldwide would beg to have. I am proud to represent the United States Armed Forces, and my state of Indiana."

ARDEC continued from page 1

Type classification signifies the successful transition of a weapon system's research-and-development efforts into production. The IPT is comprised of Product Manager for Mortars and ARDEC employees as well as other government and contractor workers.

Using tools such as Capability Maturity Model Integrated Level 5 software development processes for software quality enhancement, user verification and validation, and stress testing, the MFCS-D and other current software-intensive system developments undertaken at ARDEC are

providing Soldiers critically needed, well-engineered and well-tested products developed in a short amount of time.

Since the creation of the Top 5 program award in 2004, Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center's Fire Control Systems and Technology Directorate teams have won the award three times.

Previous winners include the M32 Lightweight Hand-held Mortar Ballistic Computer and the M152 Portable Excalibur Fire Control System.

Houses *continued from page 10*

ing two-bedroom duplexes into four-bedroom houses and modernizing bathrooms. "Since many service members have more than one child, this will increase our occupancy rates," said Roop.

"These houses are really nice. It's a quiet neighborhood atmosphere. I know I wouldn't mind living there," said McGlothlin. "They are very, very nice two story houses," said Roop.

Staff Village also contains a new playground constructed within the last few years.

There is a strong sense of community within the village. Neighborhood activities include an annual Christmas decoration contest, potluck parties, a Christmas-tree lighting ceremony, and other events throughout the year.

"We have had Army, Marines, Air Force, Navy, and National Guard members staying here. We keep these houses up so that our service members will not have to bear the additional expense in an area with a very high cost of living," said Roop.



U.S. Army photo by Justine Barati

Roop and McGlothlin said the Staff Village homes have won rave reviews from the housing residents.

To learn more about Radford's Staff Village, visit the Web site online at www.onestop.army.mil.

Scanner *continued from page 9*

"The CK61 series scanners offer improvements in scan range, scan speed and low-light scanning while moving us a step in the direction of operating in a wireless environment," Farrell said. "This new piece of hardware will address future (Information Assurance) requirements for data-at-rest encryption, antivirus, personal firewall, and (Common-Access Card) authentication and intrusion detection."

When depot employees walk into an ammunition igloo, they use the scanner to read barcodes, helping to identify such things as: content of pallet, stock number, lot number, serial number, quality, hazard identification code and how the ammunition should be managed.

JMC has successfully worked in conjunction with Product Manager Joint-Automatic Information Technology to complete this hardware upgrade for its installations, said Farrell.

Shipment of the scanners took place in September with production deployment beginning on November 1, once production software was modified to fit the new platform.

Kathy George-Reading, director of JMC's Logistics Integrated Directorate, said the new scanners ultimately support the warfighter.

"Relative to our bar-coding requirements, we took into consideration three areas – lessons learned from past versions of our scanners, comments and reviews from the user community, and the advent of new technology – and combined those into a truly value added tool for gaining

efficiencies in our inventory processes," she said. "It's difficult to put a value on the importance of knowing how much ammo we have and where it's located, but our continued ability to fill the warfighters' requirements with the right ammo at the right time is a testament to the success of this program."

Rickey Peer, Chief, Ammunition Depot Automation Program Management Office, said the command is always looking to improve the ammunition enterprise.

"We are always looking for areas to insert new technology to increase efficiencies in our operational processes," he said. "These new scanners are providing those efficiencies and addressing those specific areas that our depots have requested improved performance."

Peer said the best testimonial concerning the new scanners come from the users themselves:

"So far it's working great," said Shannon L. Jones, an inventory specialist at the Blue Grass Army Depot in Richmond, Ky. "I was able to scan barcodes the other scanner would not scan because they had been on the material for so long. I got through the racks in the next bay faster than I normally would. So I am really impressed with this new scanner."

Gloralyn Rath, a site manger at Hawthorne Army Depot in Hawthorne, Nev., agreed with Jones.

"Our Inventory crews LOVE the new CK61 scanners," she said. "I have a hard time getting them to take out a CK31 with them. The biggest asset is the speed of reading a label."

JM&L LCMC's Safety Spot Check

Service safety leaders discuss best practices

Driving Safety



Driving in the winter means snow, sleet and ice that can lead to slower traffic, hazardous road conditions impatience and unforeseen dangers. Whether you're driving a government vehicle, POV or motorcycle, use the Three P's For Safe Winter Driving:

- Prepare (maintenance checks)for the trip
- Protect yourself (buckle up & use child safety seats)
- Prevent (be alert, drive slower & avoid fatigue) crashes on the road.

Other Winter Driving Safety Tips:

- ◆ Check your tire pressure and tread monthly and before long trips. Don't forget about the spare.
- ◆ Check and/or replace wipers, belts & hoses.
- ◆ Check your car fluids, oil ,wiper-washer fluids, and anti-freeze. Keep additional quantities in your trunk.
- ◆ Make sure your headlights, tail lights and turn signals are all working properly.
- ◆ Never warm up a vehicle in an enclosed area, such as a garage
- ◆ Do not use cruise control when driving on any slippery surface (wet, ice, sand).
- ◆ Always wear a seatbelt and never drink and drive! Never get into a car if the driver's been drinking. Always have a designated driver.

Common sense along with the basics of safe driving can help you travel safely in the winter.

Winter Holidays brings lots of fun, family and feasting.

- ◇ Decorate only with flame retardant or noncombustible materials.
- ◇ Place the tree away from heat sources and exits, and water it daily. For artificial trees, be sure it is labeled as fire retardant.
- ◇ Take care when burning candles. Keep them away from decorations or other combustible materials.

Home Safety

Get your home ready for winter with these safety tips:

- ◆ Space out space heaters. Leave at least three feet of space around your heater. Unplug it when it's not being used.
- ◆ Re-install/Test your home carbon monoxide and smoke detectors.
- ◆ Get your central heating system cleaned, inspected and serviced by a certified HVAC contractor every year.
- ◆ Replace expired fire extinguishers.
- ◆ Get your chimney inspected each year before firing it up.
- ◆ Burn only seasoned hardwood - not trash, cardboard boxes, or Christmas trees.
- ◆ Locate and mark your main water shut-off valve with paint or a visible tag. Test the valve in advance.
- ◆ Stock up on batteries, flashlights, portable radios, canned foods, manual can openers, bottled water and blankets.
- ◆ Prevent frozen pipes. Wrap electric heat tape around any pipes that have previously frozen.
- ◆ Find a trusted plumber and electrician; keep their names and phone numbers handy.

