



MESSAGE TO THE REGIMENT #63:

“The Engineer Blast”

26 February 2009

A. Overview: The Office of the Chief of Engineers is pleased to forward this 63rd version of **“The Engineer Blast”**.

Thanks for all you do and stay safe – enjoy the **“BLAST!!”** The **“Blast”** just turned 4.

NOTE: In order to further enhance communications from the major entities of the Engineer Regiment to the field, the Office, Chief of Engineers (OCE) is facilitating a process to spread Engineer knowledge from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), The United States Army Engineer School (USAES), Engineer Branch, other Engineer agencies, and our office in the Pentagon. All links should work for .mil computers.

Year of the NCO

B. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) provides the following information:
“Corps e-spondence” – Chief’s Blog

1. Please join me in congratulating our teammate, Dr. Kirankumar Topudurti, for his selection as the 2009 Federal Engineer of the Year! Dr. Topudurti was selected from a field of 23 engineers representing 12 different federal agencies.

Kirankumar serves as our deputy director of the Construction Engineering Research Laboratory for ERDC. Some of his many accomplishments include authoring 38 publications, presenting more than 50 national and international conference papers, and serving as environmental technology delegate to Russia and Ukraine, to name just a few.

He truly sets the standard for our profession and creates a positive impact within our Nation and in countries around the world through innovative research and development. His scientific contributions advanced the science behind E-beam technology, which uses a stream of high-energy electrons to destroy toxic organics and reduce the overall toxicity of contaminated groundwater. His important research also aided rapid, cost-effective cleanup of petroleum hydrocarbon contamination.

Kirankumar, on behalf of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, we celebrate this achievement with you, your wife Nandini, and your daughters Shilpa and Shruti. Thank you for your service to our Nation and for being a part of our Corps family as we continue to BUILD STRONG!

Best,
Van
BUILDING STRONG

2. **USACE Civil Works Execution of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Fact Sheet.**

3. If you are a looking for an Engineer position opportunity, check this link for availabilities. Some postings may not be with USACE. Listed positions are still valid requirements.

4. **Engineer Publications:** Engineer Memoirs: Lt Gen Carroll H. Dunn, U.S. Army

5. **The Gulf Region Division (GRD)** GRD provides the following articles.

Project	Release	People	Report (Click 'Title' to View Article)			
Type	Release Date	Title		Photos	Region	Author
Project	3/2/2009	Diwaniyah opens new secondary school for girls New		Hi-Res	GRS	Alicia Embrey
Project	3/2/2009	Basra's new courthouse bolsters Iraq's rule of law New		Hi-Res	GRS	A. Al Bahrani
Project	3/2/2009	Irbil facility to serve city's most vulnerable residents New		Hi-Res	GRN	Mike Scheck
Project	2/27/2009	New environmentally-engineered landfill in Kirkuk is first of its kind in Iraq		Hi-Res	GRN	Mike Scheck
Project	2/26/2009	Basra CSI forensic lab upgrade		Hi-Res	GRS	A. Al Bahrani
Release	2/26/2009	Video story: Women-owned business expands in Iraq		Hi-Res	GRD	Rick Haverinen
Project	2/25/2009	Umm Qasr residents get new medical facility		Hi-Res	GRS	A. Al Bahrani
People	2/19/2009	Deployed soldier's stateside co-workers send toys to Iraqi youngsters		Hi-Res	GRS	Norris Jones
Release	2/14/2009	Gulf Region Division reconstruction work in Iraq recognized		Hi-Res	GRD	Nicole Dalrymple
Project	2/12/2009	Iraqi Navy to have state-of-the-art pier facility; construction begins in March		Hi-Res	GRD	Nicole Dalrymple
People	2/11/2009	Father, son team-up in Iraq reconstruction efforts		Hi-Res	GRS	Norris Jones
People	2/11/2009	Diving specialist puts skills, passion to work in Iraq reconstruction		Hi-Res	GRD	Rick Haverinen
Project	2/4/2009	Partnership brings project in on time, on budget		Hi-Res	GRN	Mike Scheck
Release	2/3/2009	Developing Iraq's capability - generator operators learn safety, maintenance		Hi-Res	GRS	A. Al Bahrani

[GRD UPDATE \(unclassified, cleared for public release\) FEB 09](#)

[The Gulf Region South Newsletter: FEB 09](#)

6. [Afghanistan Engineer District \(AED\)](#)

Date	Title	Author
2/23/2009	AED hosts Industry Day for Contractors	Bruce J. Huffman

The Freedom Builder: The on-line Field Magazine of the Afghanistan Engineer District: [FEB 09](#), [MAR 09](#)

7. The following information is provided by the [412th ENCOM](#)—MAJ Forte

8. The following information is provided by the [416th ENCOM](#)—CSM Prater

The Gulf Region Division (GRD) provides engineer expertise, manages contract construction, develops partnerships with designated GoI Ministries, and builds engineering and construction capacity in the Iraq in order to advance sustainable security, reconciliation, economic development, rule of law, and GoI assumption of responsibility for its national infrastructure.

Deployable Command Post (DCP) and Theater Engineer Command-Iraq (TEC-I):

The 416th TEC has mobilized its first ever DCP from the US Army Reserve and assumed key command and control functions that were being accomplished by GRD HQ. This deployment is part of the Modular Engineer concept of the Theater Engineer Command. From the perspective of MNF-I, there will be no change in the support provided by GRD during this transition. In order to ensure a sustainable force structure for GRD, USACE is using Deployable Command Posts (DCP) from Theater Engineer Commands with USACE civilian personnel to man GRD's force structure throughout the theater of operations.

Transition in theater: GRD force structure will drawdown in conjunction with future expected workload decreases. Conditions in Iraq are expected to support the drawdown of GRD from a Division Headquarters with three subordinate Districts to a single District headquarters with subordinate Area Offices at some point in the future. The decision to drawdown GRD to a District headquarters will be executed in concurrence with the

MNF-I Commander and is situationally driven from theater. TAD will provide the USACE augmentation element that supplements Theater Engineer Command DCP in performing GRD's mission.

Iraqi Corps of Engineers Status and Update:

GRD is developing and assisting the Government of Iraq (GoI) engineering capacity on a limited basis and is developing a plan to transition engineering services to GoI. The next steps are to seek opportunities to fully empower local national engineers with the objective of integrating them into some form of a Corps model. Challenges are lack of project management training, systems/account access and no direct-hire authority. We are continuing development of action plans for a consistent way ahead by recommending an "approach" to GoI, a draft Strategic Communications plan and identifying the specific ministries in GoI to begin dialogue with. The goal is to develop organizational capacity within the GoI to build National Engineers with adequate knowledge, skills, and abilities for the future of Iraq.

Foreign Military Sales (FMS): The FMS program has 25 known and upcoming cases estimated at \$2.18 Billion dollars. Cases represent construction of infrastructure required to support the military hardware purchases of the Iraqi military and consist of the construction of battalion/brigade facilities, air bases, naval facilities, ports of entry and border security,. Currently there are 52.7 million dollars in awarded contracts to support this very important program as it is funded through Iraqi oil sales and represents the way ahead for their own funding processes.

Capacity Development/Operations and Maintenance Sustainment (CD/OMS) Program: Both programs provide support to the Iraq essential services infrastructure, which includes major electric power plants, water and wastewater plants, and selected health, transportation, and communication facilities. The purpose of the Technical Training program is primarily to train technician-level operators supporting essential services infrastructure. 40 projects are authorized, 36 have been completed. The purpose of the Operations & Maintenance Sustainment program is to assist Iraqis in sustaining U.S. investments in this infrastructure by providing in-plant services, consumables, and spare parts. 195 projects are authorized, 162 have been completed and 33 on-going. When implement on-the-job training projects with the Ministries of Health, Electricity, and Water will support development of the Iraqi Corps of Engineers and promote a sustainable operations & maintenance capacity at the ministerial level.

GRD POC Contact email: cegrd.pao@usace.army.mil

9. The on-line edition of the October "Engineer Update" is now available at <http://www.usace.army.mil/cepa/engineerupdate/pages/home.aspx>

C. The US Army Engineer School (USAES) provides the following information:

Fellow Engineers –

ENFORCE 2009 (<http://www.wood.army.mil/enforce/>) is quickly approaching and our synchronization efforts are keeping pace. I'm pleased to announce that the Combined Arms Center Commanding General, LTG Caldwell, will be our key-note speaker on Day 4. Combined with our Chief of Engineers' address, the MANSCEN Commanding General's presentation, and appearances by the senior Engineer Officers of the Navy and Air Force, ENFORCE 2009 is shaping up to be a high powered event. Additionally, this year we are re-instating the Warfighter Council of Colonels (by invitation only) and the Council of CSMs on day 2

The Army Engineer Association has done a great job putting together Industry Displays, and has coordinated outstanding support for our other events to include the Sapper Leader Competition and our Engineer Awards. With no conference fee other than pay as you go Social events, participation in this year's ENFORCE should be huge. Plan on staying the whole week – you do not want to miss a single event. On-line registration will be opening soon. I encourage to attend and to start making your reservations for accommodations now.

To reinforce the message on nominating instructors to serve at Fort Leonard Wood, our Engineer Regiments needs our best and brightest to come to Fort Leonard Wood. It is critical to the success of our Regiment and the need exists level from the ECCC to OSUT and AIT. If you have an outstanding candidate, let's work together with HRC to bring those former Company Commander here to be SGIs and BOLC instructors, and your top performing NCOs to be instructors, AIT PSGs and Drill Sergeants. Your input into this process is key to ensuring high quality training for our Soldiers.

Essayons!
COL Robert Tipton
Commandant

1. Doctrine Update: FM 3-34, Engineer Operations, has been approved for publication. You can download the approved version via the Doctrine link on the Engineer School Knowledge Network now. It will be available to the Army at large in the next few months on the Army Digital Training Library website. ESKN - http://www.wood.army.mil/wood_cms/usaes.shtml .

2. JIIM Update: NATO and other allied interest in the CEHC's work on the counter-IED fight has increased significantly over the last few months. The British, Canadians, French, Dutch, Australians, and others have voiced interest in observing or participating in the courses being offered through CEHC. This week marks the start of French participation and the pilot R2C2 NATO course.

3. Request for Support: We are looking for 8"X10" hard copy or high resolution digital pictures of former STUGIS Award Winners, and other outstanding NCOs from your units or organizations (ACU or Combat Uniform preferred) for ENFORCE displays. Will need standard name line and a quick synopsis of their actions/contributions. Contact Dr Larry Roberts at larry.roberts1@us.army.mil for best delivery means.

[UNITED STATES ARMY ENGINEER SCHOOL REQUEST FOR INFORMATION SYSTEM](#)

D. The Engineer Enlisted Warrant Officer Branch provides the following information:

[21D Bottom Times Newsletter](#).

E. The Office of the Chief of Engineers provides the following information:

1. [ALARACT 044/2009](#) : THE YEAR OF THE NCO: THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY AND CHIEF OF STAFF ANNOUNCED AT THE 2008 ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY ANNUAL MEETING AND EXPOSITION THAT 2009 WILL BE DESIGNATED THE YEAR OF THE NCO. YEAR OF THE NCO WAS OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED ON 05 JANUARY 2009.

2. [ALARACT 038/2009](#) - THE ARMY RESERVE COMPONENTS (RC) REENLISTMENT BONUS - DEPLOYED/LOCATION PROGRAM: EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2009 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2009 UNLESS SOONER SUPERSEDED, THIS MESSAGE AUTHORIZES SOLDIERS QUALIFIED TO REENLIST UNDER PROVISIONS (UP) AR 140-111, CHAPTER 2 (USAR) AND NGR 600-200, CHAPTER 7 (ARNG) TO RECEIVE BONUSES AUTHORIZED UNDER THE SELECTED RESERVE INCENTIVE PROGRAM IAW 37 U.S.C., SEC 308B OR SELECTIVE REENLISTMENT BONUS (SRB) (FOR AGR SOLDIERS) IAW 37 U.S.C. SEC 308.

3. [Operation Denali moves forward](#). [Mammoth mission](#), By Amy Schenck , Alaska Star

***** Engineers in the National Capitol Region:** Each month the Office of the Chief of Engineers hosts an Engineer Round-up at the Crystal City Gateway Marriot Bin 1700 Lounge commencing at 1700 on the last Thursday of the month, excluding November and December. Engineers and those who support Engineers are more than welcome to attend. It is a great opportunity to catch up on what's going on in the Engineer Community from a broad spectrum of perspectives. If you do not get an invitation now, please notify me so that I can add you to the specific distribution list. Click here to be added to the email list [DAEN-ZC](#) .

You can always find all the Messages to the Regiment at our AKO site are linked at the bottom of this document —AKO Login is required. For those having a hard time getting to the files that require an AKO logon, here is a [screenshot](#) to show where the files are physically located.

F: Topics of Interest: The Iraq Project and Contracting Office (PCO)

The Iraq Project and Contracting Office serves the people of Iraq by contracting for and delivering services, supplies and infrastructure through the Congressional appropriation titled the Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund (IRRF).

The PCO's role as a temporary organization is to design, construct, and commission, and hand over completed infrastructure facilities to the Iraqis. The PCO is committed to the successful completion of its role, and understand that Capacity Development is critical to providing the foundation for a smooth transfer of day to day responsibility for completed projects to Iraqi management. Training strengthens the ability of Iraqi workers to assume control and is the best method for ensuring sustainable infrastructure.

The mission of the Project and Contracting Office is to serve the people of the United States and Iraq by contracting for and delivering services, supplies, and infrastructure identified within the Iraqi Relief and Reconstruction Fund, a total \$18.4 billion in resources allocated by the U.S. Congress on behalf of the American taxpayers for rebuilding Iraq.

The people of the United States helping Iraqis rebuild their country and progress toward a strong and successful future for Iraq.

- Employment for hundreds of thousands of Iraqis, resulting in economic security, occupational training, and professional mastery of new skills

- Higher quality of life and enhanced internal security for Iraqis. -The building of the Iraqi industries required to sustain and further improve the basic infrastructure services required for a modern nation.

For additional information, contact:
The Iraq Project and Contracting Office
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1475
Arlington, VA 22209

www.rebuilding-iraq.net

G. Engineer Unit Highlight: [35th Engineer Battalion](#)

Need some units to step up and provide their unit info to update this section.

This feature provides a venue for Engineer Units/Activities to post unit information. If you are an OIC/NCOIC

of an Engineer Unit/Activity and would like your organization mentioned here, download the template and email back to me. All entries will be consolidated on a master page as they come in.

Engineer Unit Highlight: [Former Submissions](#)

H. Recurring Links: [Engineer School News](#); [Engineer Casualties](#) ; [PASSAGES](#)

[The Engineer Lifelong Learning Portal](#) [USACE Organizations](#) ; [The Engineer Update](#) ; [Military OneSource](#)

[Essays Forward](#) ; [The Engineer Magazine](#); [Current PERSCOM Messages](#). ; [412th ENCOM](#) ;

[The West Point Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering](#) ; [USMA Basecamp](#) ; .

[The USACE Installation Support Community of Practice Portal](#), [Engineering Knowledge Online](#) ;

[Topographic Engineering Center](#) ; [United States Army Engineer Research and Development Center](#);

[The West Point Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering: ADSO Incentives Program](#)

[ENGINEER UNIT REGIMENTAL LINKS](#) [Joint Task Force North](#) ; [Engineer Museum Reference Library](#).

[Maneuver Support Center of Excellence](#) [Check your entire Official Military Personnel File \(OMPF\)](#)

[Check and certify the file that the board will use \(My Board\)](#), [Check your current ORB \(My ORB\)](#)

[Submit your online Assignment Preference \(AIM\)](#) , [Certify your new official photo \(DAPMIS\)](#)

[Submit your Command / CFD / SSC Preference Online](#) , [Check your Senior Rater Profile \(Dash 2\)](#)

[Check to see if HRC has received your OER \(IWRS\)](#) , [USACE Historical Vignettes](#) , **[Video Engineer Update](#)**

The staff of the Engineer Professional Bulletin not only maintains the mailing list for the bulletin but also is responsible for keeping the Engineer Unit Directory updated. They can only do that with your help. Please take time to look at the directory [Web site](#) at and check your unit to see if the information is correct. If it isn't, e-mail the bulletin staff at engineer@wood.army.mil with corrections.

I. Engineers Supporting Engineers—Professional Organizations Links:

“The appearance of external hyperlinks does not constitute endorsement by the U.S. Army of this Web site or the information, products, or services contained therein. For other than authorized activities such as military exchanges and MWR sites, the U.S. Army does not exercise any editorial control over the information you may find at these locations. Such links are provided consistent with the stated purpose of this Web site.”

1. **[Army Engineer Association](#)** : [AEA News](#); [Army Engineer Association Programs](#); [Membership](#).

a. AEA has new member benefits –including random awards each year –top random awards are round-trip air fares for 2 , and 48 other prizes. Every engineer soldier and USACE civilian can benefit from AEA membership –Join AEA.

b. AEA has a web page dedicated to Industry support to the Warfighter

c. JOBS...after the Army: AEA has a complete online Career Center. You can learn about civilian opportunities autonomously. Research or survey the commercial job market with FREE (ANONYMOUS)

resume post at the AEA CareerCenter online.

d. Hot JOBS! A well known International company is looking for a Senior Director of Construction Management in DC area. Email Jack O'Neill at xd@armyengineer.com for details.

2. **[Society of American Military Engineers](#)** : [The Military Engineer Online](#) : [Membership SAME Current eNEWS](#)

a. "The Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) is currently undertaking a grass roots effort to reach out to aspiring engineering and architects at local universities. SAME membership is FREE for students and also provides them opportunities for leadership, mentorship and potential internships or first jobs. To learn more about the SAME college outreach program and how to help set up a chapter at your university or a university near you, please visit www.same.org/college or send the Ben Matthews an email at samecollegeoutreach@gmail.com.

b. The Society of American Military Engineers, SAME offers **free memberships to students of the [Engineer Career Captains Course](#) and the [Engineer Advanced Noncommissioned Officers Course](#)**. (Active, Reserve, National Guard – any phase)

c. **Deployed Engineering Team:** Get *The Military Engineer and SAME News* delivered directly to you! Complete our [temporary deployment form](#) and we will send your SAME materials to you onsite while serving in your area of operational responsibility (AOR). This free service is just one of the many ways SAME salutes our members. [Click here to provide your temporary AOR contact information.](#)

d. **Transitioning from military service?** Retiring from the Federal Government? Looking for a new and exciting position in the A/E/C industry? If the answer to any of these questions is YES, place your resume on the [SAME Job Center](#) web site. *The service is free for SAME members.* The site has been or is being utilized by over 300 companies that through their placement of job announcements have access to your resume

3. **TEOCSA (The Engineer OCS Association)** [Website coming soon](#)

4. **[Army Engineer Officer Wives' Club](#):** AEOWC is a worldwide organization with members located wherever Army Engineers are stationed, or have retired. [Become a member](#)

Visit our website at <http://www.AEOWC.com>.

Alternate response email address is DAEN-ZC@hqda.army.mil

V/R

William R. Arthur

William R. Arthur

Executive Officer

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"To the Core; for the Corps"

Former "Messages to the Regiment"

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