A new, safer, quicker and cleaner way to mold concrete walls and floors is being used on Far East District construction projects.

A new barracks at Camp Carroll will be the first in the Far East District to use a new metal form system called down slab to mold concrete walls and floors. Traditionally, in Korea, plywood is the preferred material.

“This one is unique. The way the form system is dismantled makes this safer and cleaner than plywood or other forms,” said Jared McCormick, project engineer at the southern resident office. “When you strip the formwork (the mold that shapes the concrete) with the metal form, you have less safety hazards to worry about,” said McCormick.

The shoring for the floor slab formwork has built in jacks. Once the concrete obtains the desired strength to slab, formwork is lowered by the jacks. The formwork is lowered to just above the workers heads for an easier and safer dismantling.

“Normally the workers will have to use ladders or scaffolding to climb up to strip the plywood formwork,” said McCormick. “This is both messy and dangerous when working that high up while using things like hammers and chisels to loosen up and remove the slab formwork.”

The system is not only safer it also helps quicken the construction process. “This form of formwork is most cost effective when used on repetitive features like this eight-story barracks,” said McCormick.

To go along with the formwork, a self operating machine, which operates through a vent duct in the building during construction, is used to lift the formwork from one level to the next.

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Far East District Helpdesk

By Jun S. Kang
FED Information Management

The Information Management Office Helpdesk is a community of technical personnel that provide support and solutions for all IT (hardware/software) related problems or requests for services in the Far East District. The IM helpdesk is located in building S-15 on FED compound.

The Helpdesk hours of operation are from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with the lunch hour from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. You can call or email the helpdesk at 721-7059 or Helpdesk.pof@usace.army.mil to request support.

The district’s IMO helpdesk is divided into nine major functions: in and out processing, configuration management, videoteleconferencing/teleconference/movie, automated information systems, warranty service, enterprise e-mail, system updates, classified information processing, and life-cycle management. Each of the major functions has two people that are responsible for management of the assigned area. One person provides primary support while the secondary person provides support in the event of an emergency.

Our helpdesk technicians are certified in compliance with Department of Defense instruction 8570.1M which is the standard for administering all DoD systems. All staffs are cross trained, subject matter experts for each functional area and are highly valued within the district. They communicate effectively and expedite the resolution of problems to meet the needs of the district.

Customer satisfaction is a priority and we measure that customer satisfaction based on feedback. If you have any suggestions or comments to improve our services, please visit our interactive customer evaluation site at http://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=site&site_id=1088&dep=DoD.

The IMO helpdesk will continue to make every effort to further enhance our services in our continuous pursuit for service excellence so support the district in building strong!
Building Strong in Korea!

Camp Carroll facility includes unique concrete mold construction method

Continued from Page 1

“It releases form grease that keeps the concrete from sticking to the panels,” said McCormick. “You don’t need a rigger for strappings and connections to a crane. There’s no large loads suspended in the air providing a safer work environment.”

Form oil essentially helps prevent the concrete from bonding to the formwork so that it is easier and safer to dismantle.

As a result of the new formwork the construction project workers are safer, time is saved and the end product will be that much better.

“This is going to be a higher quality finish. The formwork looks better and is easier to use,” said McCormick.

Other benefits include less construction waste as well as increased labor productivity over the entire course of the project.

Three-hundred-and-two Soldiers from the 501st Sustainment Brigade are scheduled to move in to the barracks when it’s finished. The district is working with Samsung Construction & Trading to complete the facility by the fall of 2015.
Student tour opens eyes to life as an engineer

By Stephen Satkowski
FED Public Affairs

Seventh- and eighth-grade students from Camp Casey elementary school on U.S. Army Garrison Red Cloud toured the Far East District compound Friday, May 16, to see what a day in the life of an engineer is all about. District engineers gave students an overview in geotechnical, environmental and sustainability engineering, as well as a tour of the materials testing laboratory and surveying technology.

“My favorite part was surveying. I really like programming and I like the thought of programming without being inside stuck to a computer,” said Collyn Lindley, eighth-grade student at Casey elementary school. “They showed us engineers also make maps. The gadgets they used were interesting and maps are kind of fun.”

The variety of jobs on the district compound gave the students a perspective on the many career paths future engineers can choose.

“Engineering, I thought, they just build stuff and tear stuff down,” said Aspen Stafford, seventh-grade student at Casey elementary. “I learned that they do far more – civil engineering, technological engineering – they work a lot more with science than I thought.”

The field trip gave the students an opportunity to ask questions from real-life engineers and see how their classroom experience applies to jobs in the real world.

“Everyone always asks what I need algebra for?” said Valentina Ortega, Casey elementary school math teacher. “Why do I need to know these variables, polynomials and all these quadratic equations? Here they’re seeing why they need it in real life.”

The day concluded with the Far East District commander, Col. Bryan S. Green, answering questions and providing depth to what his life is like as the commander of the district.

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District softball team starts its season

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District softball team started its season May 10 with a preseason tournament at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys. Also, district employees Marc Holt (back left) Robert Slentz (3rd back right) and Adam Raucheon (2nd back right) participate on the U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys volleyball team where they won the Area III tournament. (FED file photos)

Ground broken for Consolidated Communications Squadron Facility at Kunsan

Lt. Col. Julie A. D’Annunzio, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District deputy commander (third from left) and Andy Rajala, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District Kunsan Resident Office resident engineer (far left), take part in a ceremonial groundbreaking for the consolidated communications squadron facility May 13 at Kunsan Air Base. (Photo by Stephen Satkowski)
“I love this job because every day is different,” said Green. “We have it all in the [U.S. Army] Corps of Engineers Far East District: chemical labs, geotechnical labs, asbestos labs, GIS (geographical information systems) experts who make our maps and do the surveys. “It is one of the coolest things to wake up every morning and have a new challenge to go solve,” said Green.

“It made me think a little deeper into what career path I’m going to choose,” said Lindley. “It definitely broadened my perspective.”

The presentation was part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Defense Schools Korea District education partnership agreement signed on March 7, 2013, at Seoul American High School. The partnership centers on support for the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics initiative.

Aspen Stafford, seventh-grade student at Camp Casey elementary, looks through a microscope as Kim Kyon-ho, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District environmental branch chemist, explains how to identify the cancer causing mineral asbestos. Stafford was part of a group of students who toured the district compound May 16 to help get a better appreciation of what life is like as an engineer. (Photo by Stephen Satkowski)

Lt. Col. Julie A. D’Annunzio, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District deputy commander (third from left) and Andy Rajala, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District Kunsan Resident Office resident engineer (far left), take part in a ceremonial groundbreaking for the consolidated security forces squadron facility May 13 at Kunsan Air Base, Korea. (Photo by Stephen Satkowski)
Students tests engineering skills in earthquake challenge

By Stephen Satkowski
FED Public Affairs

Shake, rattle and roll. No, it’s not the Elvis Presley song, it’s the way Far East District engineers graded students during an earthquake tower challenge at Seoul American Middle School.

“We are trying to introduce the students to engineering principles,” said Doug Bliss, chief of the geotechnical and environmental engineering branch. “In this case they’re doing dynamic loading of towers. They’re learning engineering at a rudimentary level."

The students’ towers were built out of straw, paper clips, string and straight pins and tested to see how much shaking the structures could withstand.

“These basic principles can be used for actual construction and can build into later careers and building actual structures,” said Bliss.

Students had the opportunity to test their structures and go back to the drawing board and re-design their towers, learning from their mistakes if their towers collapsed.

“I learned that symmetry helped make our building structurally sound,” said Jack Dillon, eighth-grade student at Seoul American Middle School. “You can’t have one side be stronger than the other, so it all needs to be in sync.”

“The foundation failed because we didn’t have enough paper clips so it fell over,” said Eric Byrd, eighth-grade student at Seoul American Middle School.

Student Steven Masley said getting out of the classroom and receiving hands-on experience from professional engineers was both educational and exciting.

Continued on the next page
Students tests engineering skills in earthquake challenge

“It’s not about who wins, it’s about having fun,” said Masley.

Sparking an interest in engineering at a young age can also help stem the slide of students who reject the field in college. In the 1970’s 40 percent of the world’s scientists and engineers resided in the U.S. Today that number has shrunk to about 15 percent.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, only five percent of U.S. workers are employed in fields related to science and engineering, yet they are responsible for more than 50 percent of our sustained economic expansion.

“These days the workforce is very technical so we want to get the students interested early so perhaps they’ll have more opportunities to compete in the global marketplace for jobs,” said Bliss. “The teachers and students are hungry for real life examples which we can give them because we do it every day.”

“They are being exposed to things scientists, chemists and geologists do,” said Bliss. “That exposure might help them to decide to choose this for a career.”

The tower competition is part of a science, technology, engineering and mathematics educational partnership between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers headquarters and Department of Defense Dependent Schools.

Daniel Meisenheimer, eight-grade student at Seoul American Middle School, adjusts his structure during the earthquake tower challenge at Seoul American Middle School May 19. (Photo by Stephen Satkowski)
What is this thing called ULDP?

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Leadership Development Program (ULDP) develops leaders at all levels of our organization, provides a consistent set of leadership tools throughout the region, and exposes individuals to leadership opportunities.

There are four levels of the ULDP—individual, local, regional, and national. All new employees are enrolled in level 1 to familiarize them with the Corps’ culture and values, strategic direction, business processes, and principles.

Level 2 is open to GS-12 and below employees and focuses on self and teams and the connection between the learning organization concepts, leadership and talent, and Corps business processes.

Level 3 is open to GS-13 and GS-14 employees and focuses on regional leadership to develop and expand their regional leadership perspectives, their ability to influence organizational effectiveness, to operate at a regional level, and to begin to interact at the national level with a regional and national perspective.

Level 4 is open to GS-14 and GS-15 employees and focuses on national leadership and participants enhance their ability to do the right things today to create our ideal Corps of Engineers’ future.

Thomas Kwiat from Korea Programs Relocation Office and I are currently enrolled in the Pacific Ocean Division Level 3 program with eight other employees from Japan, Alaska and Hawaii District and the division headquarters. For consideration we submitted an application to the district corporate board for nomination to headquarters. The division ULDP steering committee then reviewed all nominations for the final class of 10 students.

Our 24-month program began Oct. 1, 2012, and the curriculum include three week-long classes that focus on leading change, leading people, and results driven; mentoring principles and customer service; and business acumen, building coalitions, enterprise-wide perspective. During the program we’ve had several opportunities to meet with division leaders, Senior executive civilians, and senior staff to discuss their involvement and perspectives relating to topics of our training.

Continued on the next page
USACE Leadership Development Program

Continued from the previous page

Between April 7 and 11 we attended the Capitol Hill Workshop training week in Washington, D.C. with Level 3 members from South Pacific Division, Mississippi Valley Division, and North Atlantic Division. We attended four days of training by the Government Affairs Institute at Georgetown University to learn how the U.S. Congress works and observed congressional hearings and a day at the Corps of Engineers headquarters.

During the Government Affairs Institute training we talked with congressional personal and professional staff about their roles and responsibilities when the senator or congressman is in town or back in their home state.

We heard from political reporters and analysts about their perspectives on politics, as reinforced by their statistics and anecdotes. Representative for New York, Timothy H. Bishop, spoke to us about his interaction and appreciation of USACE. One classmate from North Atlantic Division has a project in Representative Bishop’s district so that generated some personal dialogue that all could relate to meeting any customer. Additionally, all class members were required to visit their Senator and Representative’s offices and several met with their elected official.

Most hearings of Congress are open to the public, and people came and went throughout the entire session. At the Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on Army military personnel appropriations I observed Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno, National Guard Bureau chief Gen. Frank Grass, and Army Reserve chief Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Talley defend the end strengths proposed in their budgets and discuss options and impacts to Army operations; whether military platforms were best suited in their budgets and discuss options and how they are progressing or handling challenges they encounter.

Some people think of the Capitol building when they think of Congress, but the expanse of our travels that week included the six other Senate and House office buildings. It was very interesting walking past people seen in the news; observing reporters, analysts, and others with vested interest in the hearings, testimony, and voting; but refreshing to see numerous groups of students and others attending these sessions to see and understand how the U.S. Congress operates.

Being with three other divisions provided insight into the similarities and differences in the ULDP program based upon a division’s leadership development goals and funding.

One division has an 18-month program. Another division has one week of leadership training while POD has three weeks. Several required participants to perform a 120-day detail assignment for professional development in lieu of other activities.

All conduct a project of some type that impacts their division and all had the Capitol Hill workshop.

On the afternoon of April 10 several groups arranged for a tour of the Capitol through their various senators’ or representatives’ offices.

I joined Monica Valesco, the lone student from Alaska District. Our tour guide was Aaron Gallagher, an intern Sen. Mark Begich’s office. We learned that Aaron is the son of Timothy Gallagher, a former Alaska District commander. Talk about a small world.

The tour was personal and Aaron was very knowledgeable of the Capitol building’s history.

On the morning of April 11 we went to USACE Headquarters and spoke with Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick; Deputy Chief of Engineers Maj. Gen. Todd Semonite; Deputy Commanding General for Military and International Operations Maj. Gen. Kendall Cox, and several other USACE senior leaders.

Unlike the town halls I’ve experienced, there were very interesting and candid discussions on topics ranging from personnel, programs and projects, funding issues, strategic planning, developing leaders, and the importance to manage one’s career. That afternoon we toured the Pentagon and National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial.

While this might sound like a travel report, the bottom line is that ULDP develops leaders. The training and experiences gained in this program have increased or reinforced my knowledge of leading employees and organizations, provided skills through the exercises and discussions with other leaders, and given me an opportunity I might not have had to better understand how Congress impacts the Department of Defense. The project provided an opportunity to learn how other districts operate and allows us to create an impact on how our division conducts its “onboarding” process for new employees.

Leaders take care of people, manage resources, accomplish missions and effect change. ULDP provides tools to assist leaders accomplish these tasks.

Additional information on the USACE Leadership Development Program can be found in Engineer Regulations 690-1-1214 or through the division’s ULDP intranet site at https://intra.poj.usace.army.mil/uldp/.
The motor pool area accommodated close to 1,500 Organization Day participants on June 1. A bright sunny day provided the proper atmosphere for a day of eating, drinking, game-playing and relaxing. After lunch, the crowd was treated to exhibitions of dancing, fire-eating and Tae-Kwon-Do. The children from Nam San Elementary School were especially entertaining in their demonstration of Tae-Kwon-Do.
Summer Vacation Safety Tips

The summer vacation season is upon us. That means fun in the sun and staying cool in the inviting waters of beaches, rivers, lakes, and pools.

Heat Safety  No matter where you go for your summer vacation, chances are, you’re going to encounter some level of excessive heat. Avoid heat exhaustion and other side effects by reviewing our heat safety tips.

Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water. Carry bottled water with you everywhere to make sure you are drinking enough, and if you’re unsure of the water safety, don’t drink the local water. Only drink bottled water.

Avoid drinks that contain caffeine, alcohol or large amounts of sugar because these can dehydrate you further.

If you’re vacationing in temperatures above 90 degrees, stay indoors in the air conditioning, if possible.

Wear light weight clothing and dress in layers.

Pool Safety  Whether you’re having a “staycation” at home, going to a theme park resort or just at a hotel, summer vacations aren’t complete without a trip to the pool.

Have fun, but don’t dive in without checking out our pool safety tips first:

Never leave your child alone in or near the pool.

Be aware of the local emergency and/or rescue contact information in your cell phone in case of accidents or emergencies.

Don’t allow toddlers to swim without a life vest or swimming aids.

Sun Safety Tips  If you’re going to a destination where you expect to experience a lot of direct sunlight, read our sun safety tips to prepare for having fun in the sun – without getting scorched.

If possible, avoid being outside between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., if possible.

Wear sunscreen rated SPF 15 or higher all of the time.

Reapply sunscreen often.

Wear a hat that protects as much of your face and head as possible.

Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes.

If you are taking medication, check with your doctor to see if you need to take extra precautions.

By: Mark Daniels, FED Safety
Building Strong in Korea!

UNION SPOTLIGHT

We are sorry. We will never forget.

In commemoration of the Sewol ferry victims

On April 16, students at Danwon High School located near Seoul were excited to be going on a field trip to Jeju Island. Because of the fog it seemed hard for the ship to set sail due to the poor weather condition, but it eventually set sail. While on their way to Jeju with 339 students and teachers and 137 crew members and other passengers a tragedy occurred near Jeollanamdo Jindo that caused the sinking of the ferry.

Although many including the marines, coast guard, and private organizations participated in the rescue mission, 300 ferry passengers died.

As an adult, not being able to do anything while those young high school students, most of whom were just 18 years old, died while waiting for help inside the dark ship filled with cold water, leaves us feeling powerless, shameful, and filled with sorrow. We will never forget you. As adults, we will think about the question you have left us in the midst of your despair.

Not just victims of family members are saddened by the incident, but the whole country is mourning for the victims. A wave of yellow ribbon is flowing all throughout the country in commemoration and hope for a safe return of those who are missing due to the Sewol ferry incident. We hope the scars that are left in the hearts of the family members heal soon, and also for the all of the victims to return to their families.

As a member of this society, a citizen, a head of a household, and as parents we are sorry for not being able to protect your young souls.

The Sewol ferry incident is unfortunate and angers us because it is a man-made disaster which makes us look back at how important safety education is. We sincerely hope that a disaster like this will never repeat itself.
From the commander:

*Thank you for doing GREAT things:*

Congratulations to these employees who were recognized for their hard work and dedication!

Stephen Satkowski
Public Affairs
Employee of the month of February

Ko Min-sok
Logistics Management
Employee of the month of March

Jin (Johnny) Kim
Contracting
Achievement Award

Kim Tok-kyong
Contracting
Achievement Award

Ronald Lim
Contracting
Achievement Award

Heather McBride
Construction
5 Years of Service Award

Pak Son-hui
Korea Program Relocation
15 Years of Service Award
Chong Chong-su  
Engineering  
Came from Camp Humphreys

Joann Thomas  
Construction  
Came from Savannah District

Kwak Sang-hun  
Information Management  
Came from Camp Carroll

Paul Ryan  
Construction  
Came from Alaska

Shawn Murphy  
Construction  
Came from LA District

Richard Norris  
Information Management  
Transferred to Fort Lee, Va.

Risty Thompson  
Information Management  
Transferred to Defense Finance and Accounting Service

Sgt. 1st Class Ernestine Smith  
Workforce Management  
Demobilized

Maj. Sarah Solli  
Executive Office  
Transferred to Yongsan

Welcome to FED

See You Again...

East Gate Edition
Walk Away
& Walk Away
Alert Today, Alive Tomorrow!

Never assume drivers can see you or will stop for you.

Remember to make eye contact with drivers to ensure they see you. Don’t take a walk signal, a green traffic light, or a driver for granted. Crossing safely is your responsibility. Remember, it's up to you.