

US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Far East District

# EAST GATE EDITION

VOL. 29, NO. 12  
FALL 2020



## The Business of the FED: Turning an Idea into a Building

Story on page 4



# Inside EAST GATE EDITION



**03**

DAVID CHAI SELECTED AS USACE PROGRAM MANAGER OF THE YEAR

**04**

THE BUSINESS OF THE FED: TURNING AN IDEA INTO A BUILDING

**10**

FED PROVIDES TECHNICAL SUPPORT DURING CONSTRUCTION OF REPUBLIC OF KOREA FA-35 FACILITIES

**12**

KOREA RELOCATION PROGRAM UPDATE

**13**

FED PREPARES TO WELCOME NEW WATER WELL DRILL RIG TO FLEET

**14**

GET IN OVER YOUR HEAD: A CONVERSATION WITH CHIEF OF ENGINEERING PAM LOVASZ

**15**

CONREP TOM McDONALD RECOGNIZED AS FAR EAST HARD HAT OF THE YEAR

**16**

HARDENED AIRCRAFT SHELTERS CONSTRUCTED AT KUNSAN

**18**

ENFIRE TECHNOLOGY USED IN REAL-TIME WORLD ENVIRONMENT TO CONDUCT DISTRICT'S LATEST TRAINING

**22**

데이빗 채 올해의 미 육군 공병대 사업 관리자로 선정



US Army Corps of Engineers®  
Far East District

The **EAST GATE EDITION** is an authorized publication for members of the Far East District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Contents of this publication are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, DoD, DA, or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It is published monthly by the Public Affairs Office, Far East District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, APO AP 96271-5546.

Telephone: 755-6149

E-mail:

DLL-CEPOF-WEB-PA@usace.army.mil

**District Commander**

Col. Christopher W. Crary

**Public Affairs Officer**

Stephen Satkowski

**Public Affairs Staff**

Edwyna W. Brooks

Kim Chong-yun

Seukhwan Son

Yi Yong-un

Check out the Far East District web site at

[www.pof.usace.army.mil](http://www.pof.usace.army.mil)

**On the cover**



Safety on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers sites is paramount. Crew members are seen here recording the removal of job site tower cranes to meet construction requirements. (FED file photo)

[www.pof.usace.army.mil](http://www.pof.usace.army.mil)

## David Chai selected as USACE Program Manager of the Year

By Antwaun J. Parrish

FED Public Affairs

**D**avid Chai, Chief of Security Operations Branch in the Programs & Projects Management Division (PPMD) for the Far East District was selected as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) 2020 Program Manager of the Year.

As the supervisory program manager and chief of the Security Operations Branch, responsible for nine employees, and a \$2.3 billion program in Korea, Chai works on some of the most complex and secure facilities in the world.

The majority of projects in his portfolio tend to carry with them a degree of operational significance and helps to better support the warfighter, which in turn helps strengthen the ROK/U.S. alliance. Chai and his team also have been active in spreading the knowledge they have gained to our partners throughout USACE.

"My team and I have worked tirelessly to better support the enterprise by offering and lending our experience out to our sister Districts in Honolulu, Japan, Fort Worth, Middle East, and ERDC," said Chai.

Chai said his selection as program manager of the year came as a bit of a shock.

"I was absolutely floored when I got the call on my selection," said Chai. "The gesture for the nomination alone was humbling, but to actually receive the award is just a whole other level. Being named USACE Program Manager of the Year is really indicative of the challenging programs we run as a district. This is a team sport and requires a lot of the good folks in this district to work as a single unit to deliver the program."

Chai said when he first joined the district, it was an eye-opening experience how much emphasis the organization put on career-development and training. He said this emphasis helped paved the way for individuals to earn credentials and in turn perform better at their job.

"This place is special and it makes folks want to grow both professionally and personally," said Chai. "I feel I've done that and I'm grateful for all the opportunities afforded to me."

Chai said the district is a second home to him, adding that the relationships developed here helped him succeed in delivering the program and being awarded the honor of PMP of the year.



David D. Chai, Chief of Security Operations Branch in the Programs & Projects Management Division for the Far East District was selected as the USACE 2020 Program Manager of the Year. (FED file photo)

"I see this more as a group achievement rather than an individual one," said Chai. "My success has truly been a reflection of those around me. I may be getting much of the acclaim, but I know that the heavy lifting and credit belongs to those that I work with here. If anyone seeing this were to take away anything, it'd be that if you take care of your people, they'll take care of you!"

For FED, this is the second year in a row that one of our program managers has been honored with this distinction. Last year Jennifer Moore, Chief of the Air Force program branch, won the award.

"I think that's compelling and says a lot about our mission," said Chai. "I'm blessed with a great team and a command that really puts people first. I'll carry these experiences throughout the rest of my career."

Chai said he wanted to thank the Commander, Col. Christopher Crary, deputy district engineer, Rich Byrd and fellow chiefs and peers as well as his team and the PPMD family.

The USACE 2020 Program Manager of the Year Award will be presented to Chai at the USACE 2020 National Awards Ceremony on July 30, at USACE headquarters.



**"Like" us on Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/USACE.FED.Korea](http://www.facebook.com/USACE.FED.Korea)





# The Business of the FED: Turning an Idea into a Building

By Edwyna W. Brooks  
FED Public Affairs

**T**he U.S. Army Corps Engineers (USACE) Far East District (FED) operates on the Korean peninsula, an area about the size of Indiana. With 339 current projects and project amounts totaling 6.9 billion dollars, the FED is the paramount engineering solution in South Korea for multiple stakeholders.

The Far East District's team of multidisciplinary professionals have a synergistic workflow that empowers collaborative accountability from each of its divisions. Conversely, each division must rely on its respective branches to complete the individual tasks required to push a project from cradle to grave and deliver a quality product to customers and stakeholders.

## The Business of the Program and Management Division

"We become advisors to our customers on what is in the realm of possibility and we take them through the steps to get to that building, parking lot, or final product," says Richard Byrd, Deputy District Engineer and Chief of the Program and Project Management Division.

As the senior civilian in the Far East District, responsible to the Commander, Col. Christopher Crary, Mr. Byrd maintains complete project oversight to ensure his team of professionals deliver the program and meet customer requirements.



The Far East District Commander Col. Chris Crary and other dignitaries participate in the Camp Walker access control point groundbreaking ceremony. (FED file photo)

He oversees the planning, design, and construction of military, environmental and host nation funded construction programs in Korea.

The Far East District is renowned for its unparalleled engineering and construction capabilities. As such, it is responsible for taking a customer's idea or intent and turning that concept into a completed project. This seamless action has made the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers one of the most sought-after engineering firms in the world.

The Corps' sophisticated project vetting and approval processes set the organization apart from its would-be contenders. In fact, a project manager leads a methodical series of events anytime the District is consulted for services or presented with a new project. While the FED may be approached with the best of ideas, it begins its process by determining the viability of each request.

Mr. Byrd's Program and Project Management Division (PPMD) is adept in taking the customer's ideas and helping them define that scope into a deliverable project.

"A project manager is assigned to ascertain the customer needs and a Project Delivery Team (PDT) is assembled to refine the scope of the project and determine the best acquisition, design, and construction tools to execute the work in accordance with the stated time and financial requirements," said Byrd.

The PDT includes contracting specialists, design managers, project or resident engineers, and counsel that all work collaboratively with the project manager to help the customer with their final product.

"Clear and concise communication is the pillar of the District's Program and Project Management Division's processes," said Project Manager Eman Sundquist.

The subject matter experts who make up the PDT have essentially perfected their value-based business procedures, incorporating their customers in the design process the entire way. FED is equipped with the capability to complete their customer's designs internally. This in-house capability allows the Corps to trim down their total completion time by passing the viable idea along to their Engineering Division's Design, Geotechnical and Environmental, and Cost Engineering Branches for the design process.

## The Engineering and Design Process

"FED creates customer designs based on the customer intent in one of three ways. They solicit an external Architectural Engineering (A/E) firm, complete the design with the in-house staff in the District, or engage another U.S. Army Corps of Engineers district who may be the center of expertise and best suited to design the specific project," said Byrd.

The customer's concept comes alive in design after detailed planning and a civil layout of the structure is completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Design Branch or Architectural Engineering firm with support from the subject matter experts in the Technical Review Branch.

The geotechnical team uses the civil layout of the structure to begin their on-site research. The branch's geotechnical investigation starts with branch surveyors providing the lay of the land and drillers that sometimes drill as deep as 130 feet or more into the ground to investigate subsurface conditions needed to inform the designers.

This daunting task also falls within the Far East District's exceptional internal proficiencies as they are one of nine districts within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with this unique drilling and sampling capability.



FED is one of nine districts within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with this unique drilling and sampling capability. (FED file photo)

Continued on Page 6



# The Business of the FED: Turning an Idea into a Building

Continued from Page 5

The geotechnical professionals of the Far East District assess soil samples in the Materials Testing Lab (MTL) utilizing another unique district capability. Housed within Chief Pam Lovasz’s Engineering Division, the MTL is one of eight district labs within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The assessments from the hydrological and geological exploration at the proposed site are compiled into the branch’s comprehensive study.



Geotechnical Branch Chemist, Kim Kyong-ho reviews samples in the branch’s state of the art chemistry lab. (FED file photo)



Geotechnical Branch Chief Sarah Woo’s MTL is the only commercial lab in Korea to have met the ASTM (formerly American Society for Testing and Materials) validation standards. (FED file photo)

The geotechnical lead will use these results to begin their work with the project manager as the interdisciplinary design continues and their results are incorporated into the overall design process. This group of focused professionals will work with others from the Engineering Division to create the final computer-aided draft of the proposed structure.

The geotechnical engineer uses the results and analysis of their comprehensive investigation to create a foundation design and soil movement recommendations.

These reports along with others are used to refine the design the Engineering Division produces whether in-house or through an A/E firm. Once the design is completed, a set of plans and specifications are reviewed by the project manager and the Project Delivery Team before being handed off to the Office of Counsel for a legal review and then to the contracting office to award to a construction contractor.

Jon Cole, Business Process Manager, gives a simplified explanation of the Corps’ contracting process, “Our Contracting Division along with the rest of the Project Delivery Team (PDT) uses the scope of work and other associated documents to determine an acquisition strategy and then issues a Request for Proposal (RFP) to award a construction contract. The Contracting Division reviews the proposals to determine if they meet the necessary criteria. Once a contractor is deemed technically acceptable, their proposal is reviewed for proper cost estimates and the contract is awarded to the company who can provide the best value based on their written proposal.”

## The Construction Process

Chief of Construction, Chad McLeod explains his division’s entry into the project. “Up until this point the Corps’ Construction Division has limited involvement with the design other than reviews to make sure the project is constructible.

Once the design is approved, and the construction contract is awarded, the onsite work of building the structure begins.” He expounds on the process by explaining, “The FED’s Construction Division operates as the government’s representative on the worksite. The Construction Division Resident Office takes the lead during the construction process to provide quality assurance through its three-phase inspection process as they administer the construction contract.”

“Quality is essential to our Construction Division as they deliver best value to our customers. They ensure all phases of construction are within the specifications, plans, and requirements of the contract,” remarks Mr. Byrd.

“The Construction Division’s cyclical three-phase inspection process is the main driver behind the Corps’ reputation for high quality and is required for every feature of work,” says Chad McLeod.

## Phase One of Construction

The construction division team meets with the contractor’s staff to review the contract requirements in the preparatory phase of construction. They also discuss the contractor’s plan to meet those specifications.

“The preliminary phase identifies what we’re building and how we’re going to build it,” says McLeod. “It ensures the construction crews have a total understanding of the work to be performed and the way in which it must be completed to achieve the Corps’ quality standards.”



Continued on Page 8





# The Business of the FED: Turning an Idea Into a Building

Continued from Page 7

### Phase Two of Construction

The initial phase is the second step in the division’s inspection process. Here, the contractor completes a small sample of work and then calls for the initial inspection.  
“The Construction Division reviews the representative sample with the contractor and once any identified deficiencies are corrected, a consensus is reached, and the work will set the standard for all other areas of the project,” says Mr. Ricky Thomas, Construction Control Representative.

### Phase Three of Construction

After the initial phase is completed, the contractor and Construction Division representatives continually inspect the work to ensure that the standards continue to be met. These daily follow-up inspections are the third phase of the process.  
“We stand by the quality of what we build here,” says Resident Engineer Aaron Schuff. “I would gladly live in the buildings we build because of the way they are constructed. They are built to last. Our buildings stand and I am proud of our work.”  
Mr. Rich Byrd echoes, “Everything we build is governed by a specification. We use those specifications to guarantee quality. Our Construction Division ensures all phases of construction are within the specifications, plans, and requirements of the contract. This is how our team brings the best value synonymous with the Corps’ projects.”



Inspections are led by the Contractor’s Quality Control Staff and the FED’s Quality Assurance Representatives and Project Engineers. They assist during this process by conducting major milestone inspections at critical points in the project.  
This three-step process is a repeating one that guarantees quality levels of work throughout the varying features of the job and ultimately prepares the team for successful project completion via the Red Zone Process.  
“We make sure everything requested by contract is satisfied and simply, that everything we said we would do, is done and that the contractor has been paid properly. The red zone is a very involved process to make sure everything is wrapped up contractually,” said Byrd.  
Chad McLeod explains the red zone, “The red zone is an American football term that refers to the last 20 yards before a touchdown. It is oftentimes the hardest to complete. Similarly, the final activities of a construction project are often the most challenging to finish. As such, we normally execute the red zone process 60 days from completion to guarantee a timely and smooth turnover to the customer.”

This red zone meeting requires input from each of the project’s stakeholders and sets the conditions for the way the project will be completed. Co-chaired by the Project Manager and Resident Engineer, the final status, milestones, estimated completion dates, and all the actions necessary to complete the project are discussed, resulting in the schedule of events needed to meet project completion and financial closeout.

### A Value-based Organization Culture

This FED’s objective is to ensure that each project meets the quality requirements in the scope of work and is turned over within budget and on time.  
“This includes the quality assurance of each project component from the foundations up to the roof, all the interior work, and even landscaping,” said McLeod. “Once the contractor has completed the work, the Resident Office and stakeholders will conduct their final inspection. Then keys are turned over to the customer and the ribbon cutting is planned.”  
Customer value, quality performance and exceptional results are the foundation of the Far East District’s organizational culture.  
Allowing each division to operate within their robust and unique cross-sections of expertise has created a secret sauce few engineering providers have been able to mimic. As such, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have made a successful business of bringing diverse groups of construction and engineering professionals together to continue their longtime trend as the agency of choice in Korea.



Col. Christopher Crary visits AFH100 (Humphreys Family Housing Towers). The Commander is seen here with Project Engineer Steve Fowler to his left, Construction Representative Ricky Thomas, and Contract Quality Control Manager Kwak Ho. (FED file photo)



# FED provides technical support during construction of Republic of Korea FA-35 facilities

By Antwaun J. Parrish  
FED Public Affairs

**T**he U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Far East District (FED), provided unique support to the Republic of Korea (ROK) Joint Strike Fighter (F-35) bed down effort.

One of the main responsibilities for this project was for FED to serve as technical advisor to the Joint Strike Fighter Program Office (JPO) and ROK Defense Installations Agency (DIA) on the engineering design and construction of new facilities in support of the F-35 bed down.

The F-35 Lightning II fighter jet is a single-seat, single engine fighter aircraft designed for many missions with advanced, integrated sensors built into every aircraft. Missions that were traditionally performed by small numbers of

specialized aircraft, such as intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and electronic attack missions can now be executed by a squadron of F-35s, bringing new capabilities to many allied forces.

According to the Defense Security Cooperation Agency the F-35 provides the ROK with a credible defense capability to deter aggression in the region and ensure interoperability with U.S. Forces.

Ensuring that this mission critical aircraft has support facilities is key to the overall mission success of the US and ROK forces. This project falls in line with the district's mission to deliver engineering solutions in the Republic of Korea and to secure our allies and our nation. FED helped educate

the ROK on security issues and procedures, established and coordinated a design review process, and provided onsite reporting to JPO during the construction.

According to a Programs and Project Management Division (PPMD) representative this mission is unique in the fact that it's the first time USACE has supported the FMS process quite in this way before.

FED also served as JPO's forward presence for construction activities at Cheongju and ROKAF headquarters. FED provided two construction representatives five days a week, a project engineer once a week, and a resident engineer once a month. Other FED support includes a project manager, design manager, chief, and construction division and quality assurance branch personnel.

The contract amount is \$2.1 million and construction has taken place over a four-year period. Phase I of the project at Area 6 began Nov. 2016 and was completed in June 2018. Phase II began July 2018 and is scheduled to be completed by 2021.

The construction includes a total of 65 facilities. Some of the types of facilities constructed during this project include hangars, fuel parking lots, training center, storage facilities and squadron facilities.

Chi, YongChae, a Central Resident Office project engineer, is currently the project engineer responsible for the completion of this massive project. Chi went into further detail about the overall support the FED provided to the ROK Joint Strike Fighter F-35 bed down.

"We provided basic design and specification support to the Korea Design Company," said Chi. "The FED field team conducted quality assurance inspections at Area I and monitored the construction site and supported on site. We also attended weekly meetings with the ROKAF and construction management and monitored the status, provided support and advice and used the inspection tool from the U.S. Corps of Engineer inspection guide."

During the initial phase of the project, from Dec. 2016 to Feb. 2017, FED was to provide technical assistance and advice to ROKAF for their construction project of a small SAP room and collateral security area in the ROKAF headquarters in Daejeon. The support requirement was for only two or three days at Daejeon.

Ensuring that the construction helps the ROK forces fulfill their mission was at the forefront of this construction project. Chi stated that the FED supports the basic design and specification, and USACE inspection tool.

"The contractor (Daewoo) and CM did outstanding projects and arrived FA-35 AT Area I on time," said Chi. "Area 2 is still under construction for taxiway and access road around hangars."

Chi went on to state that the ROK Air Force occupied security control buildings (SQ, L and AL facilities) on Jan 2020.

Providing direct support to the construction team is a part of Chi's responsibilities, and he explained some of the insight he provided when joining this project.

"I checked the project site, and took current construction photos and reported to JPO weekly, and I attended weekly meetings with ROKAF, the contractor and CM.

Chi was also tasked to provide technical advice to DIA and ROKAF during their preparation of required documentation (checklists, shop drawings, photographs, quality control management, and construction progress) for U.S. government certification and accreditation of SAPF areas.

Also, Chi and his team is responsible for providing limited construction surveillance technical advice to DIA and ROKAF for all other facilities (non SAPF and non-collateral secure areas) and provide a brief summary of findings/ recommendation to DIA, with a copy furnished to JPO.

In the initial draft memo, FED is assigned to provide a written report via e-mail to JPO on construction activities every two weeks.

Discussing pending issues with JPO was a large component within Chi's scope as he wanted to ensure that issues could be resolved and not cause a major delay in construction.

Chi described each support agency and their involvement with this four-year project.

"The DIA is the main customer and they coordinate with airfield contrail office security, site release and status control," said Chi. "They also control the CM directly."

He went on to state that JPO is the main operational office during construction, and that they check the construction status and check the high security inspection at SQ building and coordinate with Northrop Airplane Company.

The technical support which the district QAB provides after inspections, has helped improve other areas within various stages of the project.

"FED QAB team checked the entire construction inspection at Area I in 2019, based on the technical support, the improved construction electricity and arch work at Area 2," said Chi.

This project has kept the vision of the district to be the trusted engineers on the peninsula as focused professionals delivering quality, engineering excellence, and driven to exceed expectations.



*The F-35 Lightning II is a 5th Generation fighter, combining advanced stealth with fighter speed and agility, fully fused sensor information, network-enabled operations and advanced sustainment. Three variants of the F-35 will replace the A-10 and F-16 for the U.S. Air Force, the F/A-18 for the U.S. Navy, the F/A-18 and AV-8B Harrier for the U.S. Marine Corps, and a variety of fighters for at least ten other countries. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Isaac Johnson)*



# Korea Relocation Program

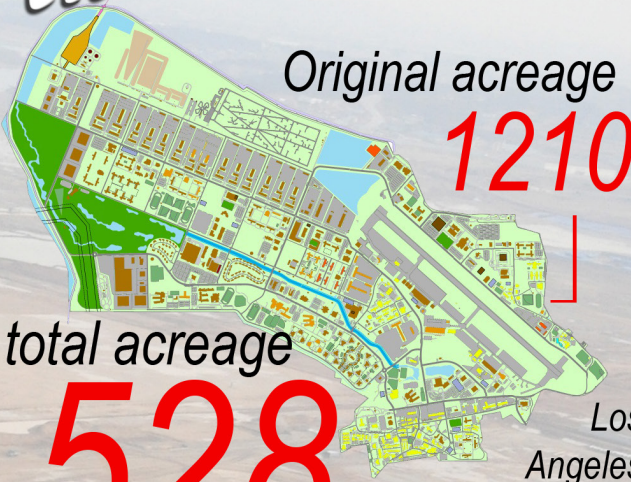
U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys



84

Percentage of completion for the entire program

By the Numbers



Original acreage 1210

New total acreage

3,528

Los Angeles International Airport is 103 acres smaller

655

buildings done, under construction or planned.

The number of buildings being demolished is

339

\$10.7

Billion total price tag

17.6

million cubic meters of

engineered fill already in place, raising the land by about 8 1/2 feet. High enough to keep out water from a

100

year flood.

More than 40 miles of water piping has been installed and tested in the new land. Another 40 miles of new roads will be built. Total miles of cabling installed is

988



Enough fill is in place to fill the old Yankees baseball stadium about 5 times over

## FED prepares to welcome new Water Well Drill Rig to fleet

By Antwaun J. Parrish  
FED Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Far East District (FED) will receive a new water well drill rig in July as part of the renewal of its fleet. The rig was funded by the Korean Ministry of National Defense and FED engineers are performing quality assurance testing to ensure its integrity.

The Far East District is recognized as one of only nine in-house drilling & subsurface exploration production centers (drilling production centers) and one of only eight in-house materials testing laboratories for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers providing professional services during design and construction. The water well unit, exploration unit and materials testing laboratory is part

of the geotechnical and environmental engineering branch in the engineering division of the district.

The district has one water well drill rig and three soil drill rigs. Drill rigs have been part of the district since 1959. Since the district's inception there have been 629 sites test drilled by our water well drill rigs and 310 sites have been used as supply wells for the distribution of water. The district is currently maintaining 120 water wells at 20 installations across the peninsula.

Song Hyon Pak, Chief, FED Geology and Hydrology Section, said the drill rigs test water deep in the earth and provide a security element for the installation and those who work here.

"Water is very important at Camp

Humphreys. We need to source our own water if there is some contingency or if the Pyeongtaek city water is compromised. We need it for drinking, firefighting. In a contingency the only source is groundwater," said Pak.

Much of the water used on Camp Humphreys comes from ground water wells. Water well locations pump out water and send to water treatment plants and then to water storage tanks on the installation. FED geotechnical and environmental engineering branch evaluates the water quantity and quality in house. Water well maintenance is typically conducted once a year by FED engineers, geologists and well crews and the district also provides support within 24 hours of an emergency.



Far East District's only water well drill rig. In July, a brand new rig will join the fleet. (FED File Photo)



# Get in Over Your Head: A Conversation with Chief of Engineering Pam Lovasz

By Edwyna W. Brooks  
FED Public Affairs

From growing up as a little girl who loved earth science and collecting rocks to becoming Chief of the Far East District's Engineering Division, Pam Lovasz has made a career of doing what she loves and asking for what she wants.

Pam says she knew exactly what she wanted to do after attending her first Geology 101 lecture in college. Suddenly her love for everything under the ground was explained and her future defined. However, graduating as a geologist didn't send career opportunities knocking on her door. Instead her extensive job hunt required her to move to San Antonio, Texas where she worked under an engineer in the private sector.

Upon realizing the lack of professional credentialing available for geologists in Texas at the time, Pam returned to school where she obtained her Bachelor's in Civil Engineering specifically to take the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) Exam. This exam is required to become a professional engineer in the United States. Now, instead of facing an extensive job search, Pam was recruited straight from campus into the private sector where she would work for 11 years.

Lovasz would leave the warmth of California for the freezing temperatures in Alaska to obtain her first position within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers where surprisingly enough, the chief of engineering and construction was a woman. One of the interesting reasons for Pam's swift introduction

with her new chief was her request for superior qualifications within her GS-12 position, which allowed her to begin as a step seven instead of a step one. Her chief had to meet the woman who negotiated her salary with the government right away.

"When I was hired, I have to admit the Corps treated me very well," said Lovasz. "I just want to tell you that the first time I asked for a raise was when I was that geologist back in San Antonio, Texas. I came in early that day, pacing back and forth in front of my boss' office, and nervous – nervous to ask for more money but I wasn't going to take no for an answer and got a 22 percent raise."

This current chief of engineering says, "That is why I encourage everyone, especially women to always be brave enough to ask for what we need and what we want." She explains career growth and mobility as, "the willingness to accept new challenges. Get in over your head," she says. "You'll figure it out."

These words have seemingly guided Pam Lovasz's career. She also credits the men within the Far East District who have seen her work and taken a chance on her.

"We don't just do this on our own. It takes the men and the women to make a promotion possible," she says as she speaks of her promotions within the Corps. From GS-13 to GS-14 where she made the challenging move from the geo-tech branch to the design branch to the application that made her



**Pam Lovasz is Far East District Engineering Division Chief. (FED file photo)**

the first female chief of engineering in the FED's 62-year history, Pam Lovasz has followed her own advice.

"It's about having a good reputation and being active in your Community of Practice," said Lovasz. "Apply for those jobs that are challenging and pay attention to your selection official when you are interviewing for a position because you are also interviewing your boss. That's important to remember because when I look over my career, it's not always been sunshine and rainbows for me, but I think I've dealt with a little fewer of the issues because I've always been willing to get in over my head and ask for what I want."

# CONREP Tom McDonald Recognized as Far East Hard Hat of the Year

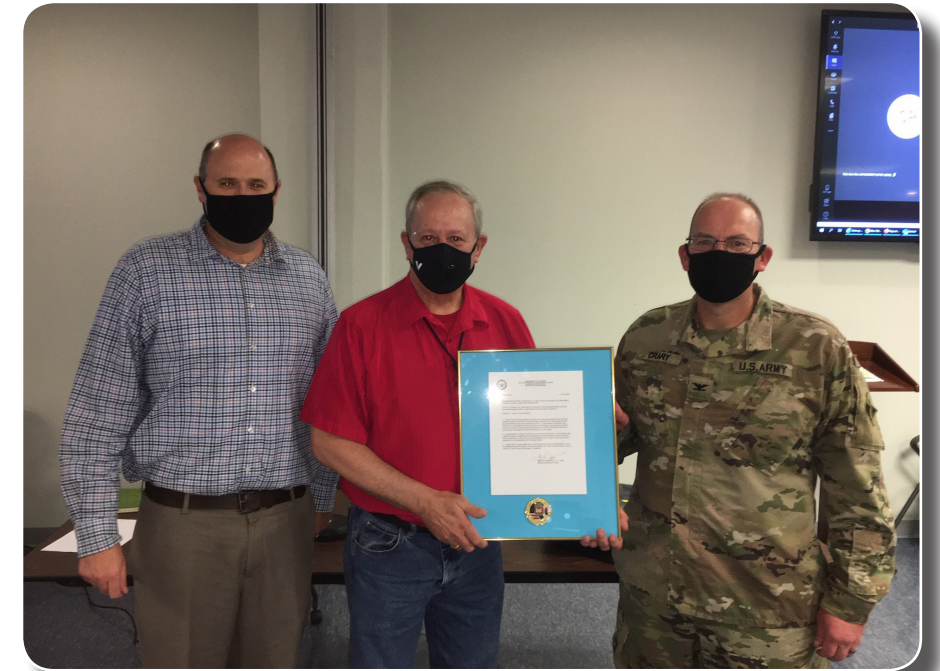
By Edwyna W. Brooks  
FED Public Affairs

Tom McDonald, Construction Representative was recognized as the Far East District Hard Hat of the Year Award Winner by the FED Chief of Construction Chad McLeod and FED Commander, Col. Christopher Crary. The Hard Hat of the Year Award is given to the most outstanding construction field office employee capable of best demonstrating successes in construction quality management, contributions and innovations.

McDonald's efforts have been instrumental in providing quality assurance and construction management for the USFK Operations Center, Camp Humphreys. This project is a critical part of the \$10.8B Yongsan Relocation Program, moving USFK out of the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area.

As one of the most experienced Construction Representatives (CONREP) in the Security Operations Resident Office (SORO), his team has benefited immensely from his knowledge and experience. According to his superiors, Tom has utilized, "his outstanding communication skills to share his knowledge and experience across cultural boundaries ensuring understanding with our Korean Government counterparts and contractors."

Additionally, his personal dedication to his team has been consistently exhibited in his willingness to successfully overcome intricate issues. He ensured that USACE quality standards are met despite the complexity of the facility. His work for the Corps has positively affected the project budget, schedule and relationships between all stakeholders; far exceeding the normal



**On August 12, Chief of Construction, Chad N. McLeod and Col. Christopher Crary recognize Tom McDonald (center) as Far East District Hard Hat of the Year Award Winner. (FED file photo)**

expectations of a Lead CONREP. In fact, McDonald has performed the duties of both Office and Project Engineer at times to provide project continuity and minimize delays.

His awareness of critical issues has allowed him to define and eliminate key risk factors that have saved both project time and cost savings.

Mr. McDonald is a wealth of knowledge who strongly supports the idea of mentorship and is always open to share his experiences with his fellow CONREPs and Project Engineers. His leadership shines past the job sites through his creations of presentations and training classes to mentor less experienced members of the team,

ensuring they understand USACE's requirements for successful mission completion. Seeking no credit for himself, McDonald remains focused on the best interest of the project and praising his team's efforts.

Tom McDonald's unwavering commitment to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Far East District have strengthened stakeholder relationships. He is also an active member of the community who spends his spare time helping local farmers with no children or family work on their land, reinforcing the bond between U.S. and Korean culture.



## Hardened aircraft shelters constructed at Kunsan

By Tech. Sgt. Will Bracy  
8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Col. Christopher “Wolf” Hammond, 8th Fighter Wing commander, along with leadership from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers of the Far East District (USACE of the FED), and Republic of Korea Air Force representatives conducted a ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the completion of construction of new hardened aircraft shelters (HAS) on Kunsan Air Base, July 31, 2020.

Thanks to the joint efforts, the aircraft units now have 20 new third generation HAS facilities.

“In addition to the normal ‘red tape’ and hurdles that come with a construction project of this magnitude, this

team had to work through the impact of COVID-19 and they rose to the challenge,” said Hammond. “A huge win not only when it comes to protecting our aircraft, but also for our maintainers who take care of them and the operators who fly them.”

Col. Christopher Crary, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District commander, also spoke at the ribbon cutting ceremony.

“This project and this team was selected as a Far East District Project Delivery Team of the Year,” Crary said. “With over 300-plus projects in the planning, design, or construction phase, that is a great accomplishment.”

The project was a \$125 million

ROK Funded Construction project that administered the Ministry of National Defense-Defense Installations Agency (MND-DIA) for 51 months.

“That’s not a small build,” said Crary. “This is a special project that signifies true excellence in mission execution.”

The HAS’s have ventilation and engine exhaust systems to allow aircraft engines to run inside the shelter with the hangar doors closed. It also has new fire prevention systems and improved storm drainage systems, along with other safety features. This provides an upgraded protection area for Kunsan’s fighters, and a safer working environment for Airmen.



Leaders from the 8th Fighter Wing, Hanwha Engineering and Construction, Far East District, and the Republic of Korea Ministry of National Defense, cut a ribbon inside a new hardened aircraft shelter on Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, July 31, 2020. The ribbon-cutting marks the completion of 20 new aircraft shelters built on Kunsan's flightline. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Will Bracy)

## Nursing and Engineering: A Surprisingly Unsurprising Pairing

By Tacy Surret  
FED Summer Hire

When I walked into the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District building on my first day as a summer hire, I felt some uncertainty and confusion as to how I, a nursing major, could contribute to the district. I had never taken an engineering class, nor had I even visited a construction site before. The confusion extended into the district employees as well, as they looked at me and asked, “nursing and engineering? I can’t see how those two have any relation.”

After several of these conversations, it became my mission to find out how engineering and nursing were related and how working at USACE would prepare me to be the best nurse possible.

The first lesson I learned had to do with occupational health and safety. This appeared to be the most obvious connection to nursing, as it relates to being safe, and therefore healthy, in the workplace. However, after comparing Accident Prevention Plans and Safety Plans, I realized that it means so much more than just wearing Personal Protective Equipment or following rules and guidelines (although those are extremely important). It’s about our mindset around safety and health, our values and where we spend our time and energy. I realized that embracing this mindset would help me to view patients as a holistic system, affected by each interaction they have with their world, including their workspace and career. Health does not start or stop at the door of the hospital/clinic, it encompasses every moment of our lives and follows us everywhere.

As I began talking to people and learning more about them, it reaffirmed my views on the importance of diversity and the value that it brings to society. I learned it’s important to take time to find out who people are so you can see where they are coming from in order to achieve their goals. Moreover, taking the time to learn about and do research on other people’s cultures is incredibly important not only for professional conversational skills, but also in order to understand

those you are working with every day on a deeper level. It was so inspiring to witness enriching professional relationships in this workplace, as I can now see how important that is for mental and occupational health.

I learned the importance of asking questions and offering your help on whatever task might be needed. Before working here, I did not understand that asking questions both conveys a sense of respect and curiosity, but also helps one figure out what they need and want to do and how to get there. I struggled to connect the dots at times, whether it was between A-E contracting or design analysis, but asking questions enabled me to form working relationships at the same time. I now imagine the charge nurse at my hospital listening to me ask them one thousand questions a minute wondering, “who taught her to be so curious my goodness,” and I’d say, “engineers, of course!”

While I only worked here for a short time during the summer, I watched as my professional skills began to grow and my ability to expand my horizons increased significantly.



Tacy Surret, 3rd from the right, is a Junior at the University of Maryland at Baltimore School of Nursing (UMSON) and an FED Summer Hire working at the Engineering Division. (FED file photo)

Continued on Page 19



# ENFIRE Technology used in real-world environment to conduct Far East District's latest training

By Edwyna W. Brooks  
FED Public Affairs

Last week, Chris Caywood, Chief of the FED's Design Branch and a group of seven Engineering Division engineers met with customers from Story Range to complete a site assessment on three of the complex's ranges. The event kickoff meeting and safety briefing immediately eliminated sites that would not be a fit for the needs of a contingency environment. The design team, Training Support Activity Korea, and the 2ID Abrams Master Gunner reviewed a number of sites to determine the feasibility of each range. This preliminary review determined the ranges that would be the best fit to meet the width and terrain

requirements for the contingency environment and was followed by a visit to all of the ranges within the Story Range complex to better visualize and understand the mission. After validating the range requirements, Woo Sang-yoon and Yi Min-u from the FED's Geomatics Branch along with Hyon Ku Choe from the Design Branch, provided ENFIRE training to the rest of team. Equipped with the knowledge to train their co-workers, these experts were able to utilize the range as a training ground to train-up the team on the ENFIRE Reconnaissance tool after attending a week-long ENFIRE train the trainer class. Choe Hyon-ku, Structural Engineer speaks on his train-

ing, "First, the ENFIRE training provided by the 11th Engineering Battalion was very helpful in regard to carrying out the Story Range Mission. Some of our team members were able to operate the ENFIRE equipment for the first time and I believe we performed our mission very well. We really enjoyed the exercise! I was impressed with every member's pro-active attitude as well as Mr. Chris Caywood's leadership."

The second day assessment included reconnaissance of the MK-19, Georgia, and Montana/Utah ranges using the ENFIRE system. Targets are required to be set at 800m, 1200m, and 1500m intervals. However, these metrics must be set relative to terrain, angle of fire from tank to future firing point, and available width of range. The team used the technology's range finder capabilities to determine the key variable ranges and the ENFIRE's handheld GPS to identify existing firing point locations and the camera to identify the current condition.

"The Story Range Mission provided our engineers a unique opportunity to test out the ENFIRE training equipment in a real-world scenario with real world deliverables. This experience was extremely beneficial for our FED engineers as it offered us a preview of what our mission would look like in a contingency environment," says Chris Caywood, Chief of the Design Branch.

Yi Min-u from the FED's Geomatics and Support



ENFIRE is a rapid data collecting tool kit designed to help improve mission safety and efficiency. (FED file photo)

Section remarked, "I was very happy to share information about the ENFIRE equipment with my co-workers. This was a great chance to optimize our skills in the use of the technology."

This assessment created a contingency solution for the KSC that meets their live-firing accuracy screening test (LFAST) requirements for the range. Caywood's design team will meet with the customers again in the upcoming weeks to confirm the proposed scope and finalized project deliverables in a summary report that will detail the new proposed layouts.

## Nursing and Engineering: A Surprisingly Unsurprising Pairing

Continued from Page 17

I can now look at a building and know that it took the effort of so many hardworking individuals to plan, create, build, and budget that very building, from the HVAC to fire-protection. This is similar to the ways in which my patients will be a result of their interactions, experiences, environment, and genetics, and are not simply a single entity that just appeared with the ailment they have at the time.

I have learned the importance of paying attention to detail while also seeing the big-picture, as it could mean life or death in the sense of a building staying structurally sound

or a human being treated properly.

Finally, I saw how both engineering and nursing value the needs of others and put those first, whether that be in constructing a gymnasium to harness the equipment necessary for a beneficial exercise environment or adopting a patient-first philosophy in practice.

I am grateful to those I interacted with and learned from and am excited to apply my new skills and lessons to the healthcare field in my future.



Design branch and FED Engineering division conduct recon at Story ranges using ENFIRE with Training Support Activity Korea. (Fed file photo)



# The District participates in job fair

By Edwyna W. Brooks  
FED Public Affairs

The Far East District supported Camp Humphreys' Job Fair at The Morning Calm Aug. 5. The district employs more than 450 individuals in 120 job titles and is the largest public engineering design and construction management agency in the world.

With current openings for the positions of Interdisciplinary Engineer/Architect, Project Manager, and Civil Engineer, many job seekers were surprised by the Corps' need to hire educated and experienced professionals outside the obvious categories of engineer or carpenter.

In fact, one of the most interest-

ing obstacles recruiters for the US Army Corps of Engineers encounter is making the public at large aware of the wide array of career opportunities available within the organization. Job fair attendees tended to not consider the huge number of support positions needed to complete any one piece of major construction.

The Corps offers both technical and administrative careers in the United States and abroad but contrary to popular belief, it is not just an organization for people who enjoy working outdoors. From lawyers and accountants to administrative assistants and project managers, the organization

encompasses nearly every possible career choice there is, evident by their over 32,000 civilian employees who help deliver engineering services and support to over 90 countries all over the globe.

These types of undertakings make it essential for recruiters and hiring managers to have access to the best talent, trained with the critical skills needed to meet the programmatic demands of the Corps. Commitment to delivering projects on time and according to specification are parts of an essential skill set for someone looking to establish a career with the Army Corps of Engineers.

In order to create a workforce ready to meet the agency's current and future needs, recruiters must acquire employees who are ready to share from their knowledge bank to help the Corps deliver the innovative and sustainable solutions they are known for worldwide.

In addition to the wide array of job opportunities, applicants with the Corps also have access to a number of hiring initiatives and being a part of Humphreys' job fair was an optimal opportunity to share information with job seekers about the diverse types of careers veterans and military spouses can pursue with the team.

Some of the US Army Corps of Engineers special hiring initiatives include:

- Federal Career Intern Program. Students accepted into this program can work part-time or full time with flexible hours, while earning benefits such as vacation and sick leave, as well as public transportation subsidies.
- Internships. Interns that complete this program may be offered permanent positions.
- The Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP). STEP provides part-time and full-time employment opportunities to students during the school year or summer.

- The Student Career Experience Program (SCEP). SCEP provides cooperative education opportunities to students as they relate to their majors and could result in a permanent position.
- The Student Educational Employment Program (SEEP). SEEP provides students with year-round employment with flexible work schedules and assignments.

Check out the available job openings with US Army Corps of Engineers' today on USAJOBS. For more information on the Far East District, visit <https://www.pof.usace.army.mil/>.

# Ground is broken for Camp Walker Access Control Point



EEO Manager, Steve Brown engages a Humphreys Job Fair attendee on the positions available with the Corps. (FED file photo)



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District Commander Col. Chris Crary and other dignitaries participate in the Camp Walker access control point groundbreaking ceremony on Sept. 25. (FED file photo)



# 데이빗 채 올해의 미 육군 공병대 사업 관리자로 선정

글 안트완 패리쉬 극동공병단 공보관  
번역 이영은 극동공병단 통역관

미 육군 극동공병단 사업관리부(PPMD) 보안 작전 팀장 데이빗 채가 2020년 미 육군 공병대 (USACE) 사업 관리자로 선정되었다.

선임 사업 관리자 및 보안 작전 팀장으로서 그는 9명의 팀원을 이끌고 있고 한국에서 23억 달러 규모의 사업을 운영하고 있으며 그가 맡은 사업 중에는 세계적으로 가장 복잡한 보안 시설이 포함되어 있다.

그가 관리했던 다수의 공사 이력을 들여다보면 모두 작전 수행에 중요한 시설들이었고 이런 시설들이 군을 지원함으로써 한미 동맹 강화에 도움을 주었다. 또한 데이빗과 그의 팀원들은 그들이 경험을 통해 얻은 지식을 미 육군 공병대 파트너들에게 적극적으로 전달했다.

“저와 제 팀원들은 미 육군 공병대를 지원하기 위해 지속적으로 호놀룰루, 일본, 포트 워스, 중동 지역 그리고 공병대 연구개발센터에 저희가 경험을 통해 얻은 정보들을 공유하고 있습니다.”라고 그는 말했다. 그는 자신이 올해의 사업 관리자로 선정되었다고 들었을 때 놀라지 않을 수 없었다고 한다.

“처음 제가 선정되었다고 들었을 때 몹시 당황스러웠습니다. 후보로 올려졌다는 사실만으로도 겸손해지는데 선정되어 상을 받게 될까라고는 전혀 예상하지 못했습니다. 제가 올해의 USACE 사업 관리자로 선정된 것이 우리 공병단이 얼마나 어려운 사업을 운영하는지를 잘 설명해주는 것 같습니다. 모든 것은 협동심이 중요하며 우리 공병단의 좋은 분들이 많아 하나의 팀으로 합심해 사업을 성공적으로 마무리할 수 있었습니다.”

데이빗은 공병단에 근무하기 시작했을 때 조직이 경력개발과 교육의 중요성을 강조하는 것을 보고 놀랐다고 했다. 그는 이렇게 경력개발과 교육이 강조되었기 때문에 직원들이 필요한 자격증을 따는데 도움을 주었고 그로 인해 업무능력이 향상되었다고 했다.

“극동공병단은 뭔가 특별해 직원들이 전문적으로 그리고 개인적으로 성장하고 싶게 만드는 것 같습니다. 저는 그렇게 성장한 것 같고 저에게 주어진 모든 기회에 감사드립니다.”라고 말했다.



미 육군 극동공병단 사업관리부 보안 작전 팀장 데이빗 채가 2020년 미 육군 공병대 사업 관리자로 선정되었다. (극동공병단사진)

데이빗은 공병단이 자신의 제2의 고향이며 공병단에서 맺은 관계를 바탕으로 사업을 성공적으로 이끌 수 있었고 올해의 사업 관리자로 선정될 수 있었다고 했다.

“저는 제 개인적인 성공보다는 팀의 성공이라고 생각합니다. 제가 성공할 수 있었던 것은 제 주변에 있는 사람들 때문입니다. 제가 많은 칭찬을 받고 있지만 실질적으로 인정받아야 하는 사람은 제가 아니라 저의 팀원들이란 것을 저는 알고 있습니다. 제가 기사를 통해 전하고 싶은 말은 여러분이 팀원들을 챙기면 그들 또한 여러분을 챙길 것이라는 것입니다.”라고 말했다.

영광스럽게도 극동공병단 직원들이 2년 연속으로 사업 관리자로 선정되었다. 작년에는 공군사업부서장 제니퍼 모어가 선정되었다.

“굉장히 흥미롭고 우리의 임무를 잘 설명해 주는 것 같습니다. 좋은 팀원들 그리고 사람을 우선시하는 사령부에게 감사드립니다. 저는 제 경험들이 앞으로 남은 저의 경력에 잘 활용되도록 할 것입니다.”라고 데이빗은 말했다.

데이빗은 극동공병단 사령관 크리스토퍼 크래리 대령, 부단장 리치 버드, 팀장들, 동료들, 팀원들 그리고 사업관리부서 가족들에게 감사 인사를 전했다.

2020년 USACE 사업 관리자 상은 7월 30일 미 육군 공병대 본부에서 있을 2020년 USACE 국가 시상식에서 데이빗에게 수여될 것이다.

Social media

Be part of  
the big picture

The Internet has changed the way the world communicates. People are increasingly looking to the Web as their primary sources of news and information. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District has connected with the community through social media. Check out our sites below to stay informed with the latest and greatest from the Far East District.

Scan me to connect with the Far East District's social media sites!



facebook

You Tube



flickr



US Army Corps of Engineers  
Far East District



Have a question?  
Have some feedback?  
Want to share your ideas?

Please visit our Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) website at [www.pof.usace.army.mil/home/ice](http://www.pof.usace.army.mil/home/ice) and share your thoughts with us.

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District, wants to hear from you.
- We value our customers and employees so we are always looking for more innovative ways to improve our business processes and services.
- As a customer you can provide feedback or ask a question to any of our divisions and offices.
- We will follow-up on your comments within five business days or sooner.





US Army Corps  
Of Engineer®  
Far East District

# FED OFFICE



 **Seoul Project Office**

**Central Resident Office**



**FED HQ**



**Pyongtaek Resident Office**



**Family Housing Resident Office**



**Security Operations Resident Office**

**Humphreys Area Office**



**Kunsan Resident Office**



**Southern Resident Office**



**Busan Project Office**