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NewsBLAST

U.S. Army Contracting Command

"Providing global contracting support to war fighters."

Deployable Cadre Program relocating to Redstone Arsenal

By Ann Jensis-Dale
ACC Office of Public & Congressional Affairs

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. – The U.S. Army Contracting Command Contingency Support Center will relocate to ACC headquarters here effective July 15.

CSC previously reported to the ACC chief of staff but now will report to the ACC deputy chief of staff, G1 (Human Capital) here. The CSC serves as the focal point for ACC's Deployable Cadre Program providing skilled and experienced acquisition professionals to support missions beyond the scope of ACC's day-to-day mission. The CSC also recruits and maintains a standing roster of qualified civilian employees who have volunteered for deployment. Opportunities range from responding to natural disasters, emergencies and urgent requirements to augmenting Expeditionary Contracting Command mission operations.

The Deployable Cadre Program is committed and ready to serve and support the ultimate customer – the Soldier. If interested in joining the cadre, contact Sandra Merritt, G1, at sandra.d.merritt.civ@mail.mil. For additional information and requirements, visit www.armyhire.com/volunteers.



(Photos courtesy of MICC Public Affairs)

MICC leaders celebrate, honor patriots

Brig. Gen. Kirk Vollmecke and Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney Rhoades present a wreath during the Fourth of July Patriotic Ceremony in honor of those patriots who served this nation in previous conflicts. The wreath-laying ceremony was held at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas. Vollmecke is the commanding general of the Mission and Installation Contracting Command and Rhoades is the MICC command sergeant major.



Retired Army Sgt. John Gerard shares a moment with Vollmecke following the ceremony. Gerard is a veteran of both the Korean War and Vietnam Conflict.

Expeditionary

Responsive

Innovative

Spotlight on...

Contracting specialist provides war fighters language skills

Todd S. Bales is a contract specialist with the Mission and Installation Contracting Command at the Presidio of Monterey, Calif.

Describe your current position:

Currently, I create and manage contracts in support of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center at the Presidio of Monterey, Calif. As a part of a two-person team, I wrote almost 100 actions and \$48 million of contract awards in fiscal year 2011. In my two and a half years of contracting, I have been recognized by the U.S. Army Installation Management Command and

the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command with coins of excellence for procuring in a mission-critical environment.

Describe your professional/education background:

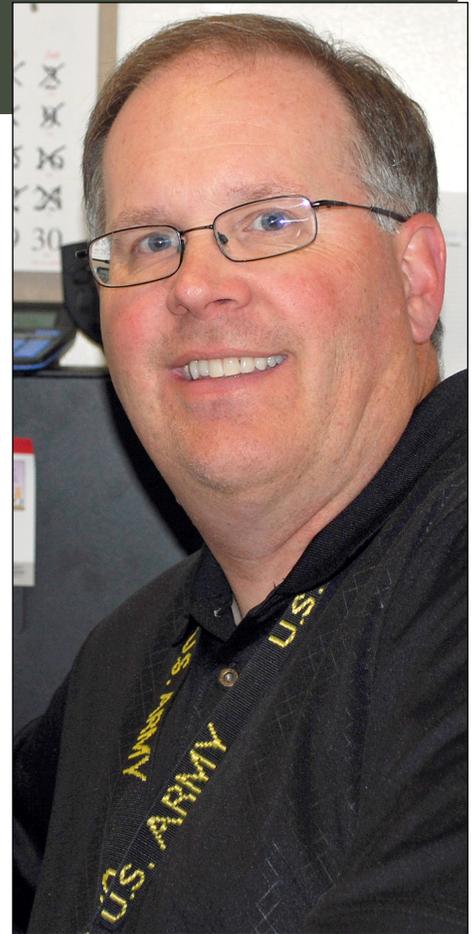
Prior to joining the MICC, I was employed as a director of training for an art publisher. As a part of those duties, I became a certified curriculum developer creating a wide range of online and traditional curriculum tools. When not creating training, I delivered classroom training in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and both U.S.-based Disney theme parks. When the economy tanked in 2008, our company was hit hard and I was laid off. This opportunity presented itself and I saw the career advancement opportunities. The rest is history.

As far as my schooling goes, I have a bachelor's degree in organizational communication from California State University, Chico, Calif.; and a master's degree in business administration from Oregon State University. I have also earned certification in curriculum design and a Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act Level II contract certification.

Where do you call home? Are you married? Children? Pets? What do you do in your spare time?

Monterey is home. My wife, Amy, and I have two children who are currently away at college. My son, Christopher, is a junior at the University of Arizona studying architecture and my daughter, Allison, is a sophomore at Biola University studying biblical counseling. My wife is a licensed vocational nurse and works for the Carmel Unified School District.

During my spare time, I enjoy photography and spending time with my



Todd S. Bales

wife exploring the California countryside.

How does your job support the Soldier?

The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center mission is to equip military personnel with language skills. I purchase some supplies, but mostly professional services like test item writing and instructor services to further this mission.

I came from a sales organization before I joined the MICC at the Presidio of Monterey. I understand the need for regulations and procedures but at the same time I also recognize that the client may not. My goal is to train and inform clients on the most efficient way to meet their needs in a timely manner. As the mission is critical to the success of the military abroad, it is equally critical that I give great customer service to our clients so that the job gets done right, on budget and within the timeframe needed.



U.S. Army Contracting Command

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The *NewsBlast* is a weekly newsletter authorized and produced by the U.S. Army Contracting Command's Office of Public and Congressional Affairs editorial staff in accordance with AR 360-1 (The Army Public Affairs Program) to inform, educate and entertain the ACC community on people, policies, operations, technical developments, trends and ideas of and about the Department of Defense, the Department of the Army and this command.

The views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the U.S. Army or this command.

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413th Contracting Support Brigade welcomes new commander

By Staff Sgt. Crista Mary Mack,
 311th Signal Command Public Affairs
 Fort Shafter, Hawaii

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii – Hawaiian tradewinds blew favorably across the deck of the USS Missouri here June 28 as Col. Michael D. Hoskin relinquished command to Col. Martin A. Zybura at the first 413th Contracting Support Brigade change of command ceremony.

“The brigade has flourished under its leadership and tremendously improved the contracting capability that today supports the U.S. Army, Pacific, U.S. Pacific Command and military units all across the Pacific,” said keynote speaker Brig. Gen. Theodore Harrison, commanding general, U.S. Army Expeditionary Contracting Command, Redstone Arsenal, Ala..

The 413th CSB was activated in 2009 under ECC, a subordinate unit of the Army Contracting Command in support of the USPACOM and USARPAC. Although it is the first change of command since the unit’s activation, the 413th’s lineage may extend as far back as 1898 when the U.S. Army first entered Hawaiian waters. More recently, the contracting brigade’s responsibility was manifested in 1979 through the establishment of the principal assistant responsible for contracting under the USARPAC.

“Contracting is a hand-to-hand process, and therefore it’s a team sport,” said Harrison. “The 413th could not be successful without the support of the entire acquisition team, of operational planners, research managers, logisticians, quality assurance professionals, contracting officer representatives and most of all, senior leaders. So thank you to the USARPAC team and supporting units... for providing world class contracting support for our war fighters across the PACOM area of operations.”

In its three years, the 413th CSB has deployed 26 contingency contracting officers across Asia and the Pacific to complete contracting missions. These missions included 12 joint exercises and eight humanitarian assistance missions in 14 different countries, and, according to



(Photo by Liana Mayo, 311th Signal Command)

Brig. Gen. Theodore Harrison, commanding general, U.S. Army Expeditionary Contracting Command, (right) hands the 413th Contracting Support Brigade guidon to Col. Martin Zybura, incoming commander, at the unit’s first change of command.

Harrison, that was punctuated by support in Japanese tsunami relief efforts in 2011 with Operation Tomodachi.

“While the 413th is saying goodbye to an outstanding leader, the command is fortunate to welcome another superb leader in Col. Martin Zybura,” said Harrison. “As a former member of the director of the Enterprise Systems Integrations Center, with is part of the Armaments Research and Developmental Command, he is technically astute, and he brings a broad level of understanding and purpose to the command... he understands the demands of the war fighter and the importance of cultivating relationships with Army combatant commands. I look forward to working with him.”

Zybura now has the responsibility of leading the organization as it supports war fighters on the battlefield by providing contingency contracting.

“The 413th Contracting support Brigade has a dynamic and challenging mission,” said Zybura. “These first three years, they’ve accomplished some phenomenal work supporting contracting

operations across the Pacific. I am blessed to be taking command of this brigade and look forward to working with our partners across the area of responsibility. This is a great responsibility and as we look to the future, there will surely be new challenges and opportunities and we stand ready to take them on.”

Army contracting during World War II

July 25, 1944 marks the American breakout of the Normandy beachhead, the drive on Paris and eventually Germany. Over the next ten months thousands of troops and millions of tons of supplies moved across Europe.

During this time, Army contracting officers in Europe negotiated hundreds of contracts with liberated French and Belgian factories. These contracts included overhauling tank engines, repairing tiers, producing batteries, manufacturing typewriters and many other services and products to help the war effort and free valuable space on ships and planes coming from the United States.

Acquisition corps offers NCOs career opportunity

By Maj. Douglas N. Ralph
639th Contingency Contracting Team
Mission Contracting Office-Fort Bragg, N.C.

FORT BRAGG, N.C. – As the Army reduces in size, reclassification into the acquisition corps may be an option for qualified Soldiers to stay in the Army.

While the rest of the Army is shrinking, ... the acquisition corps is growing and providing bonuses, promotion opportunities, advanced civilian schooling, degree completion and training with industry.

While the rest of the Army is cutting back, the contracting career field, acquisition noncommissioned officer military occupational specialty 51 charlie, is expected to grow by almost 50 percent of its current population by the end of fiscal year 2013. The career field needs more officers and NCOs, said Master Sgt. Jason Pitts, senior enlisted advisor, U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center.

To capitalize on the situation, the U.S. Army's Expeditionary Contracting Command maintains a partnership with ASC to participate in the active recruiting of future acquisition noncommissioned

officers at Fort Bragg, N.C. The installation has almost 60,000 Soldiers and is a prime location for highly qualified candidates according to Lt. Col. Dennis McGowan, director, Mission Contracting Office-Fort Bragg.

During a two-day symposium in March, Soldiers were briefed, given detailed information on the acquisition corps and what it means to be a member.

Pitts and Sgt. Maj. Leatrice Person, MCO - Fort Bragg



Lt. Col. Dennis McGowan, director, Mission Contracting Office-Fort Bragg, N.C., briefs local Soldiers on the rolls and responsibilities of acquisition corps Soldiers.

sergeant major, led the effort to pull the Fort Bragg units together for the recruitment effort. The senior NCOs gained support from Fort Bragg's garrison, 82nd Airborne Division, and the XVIII Airborne Corps command sergeants major, all of whom pledged to support recruiting for the military occupational specialty.

According to Person, ECC pursued multiple avenues to conduct the recruitment. Once the senior leadership was on board, the ECC established contact with all the retention NCOs to get the word out. They distributed flyers and arranged for an article in the post newspaper.

While the rest of the Army is shrinking, as are retention benefits, the acquisition corps is growing and providing bonuses, excellent promotion opportunities, advanced civilian schooling, degree completion, and training with industry.

For more information, visit the website at: <http://live.usaasc.info/career-development/military-nco/career-planning-steps> or call (703) 805-1048.

Acquisition corps selects 44 NCOs for 51 Charlie reclass

The U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center convened a 51C noncommissioned officer reclassification board May 22-23 at Fort Belvoir, Va. It was administered by the 51C Proponent Office.

The reclassification board consisted of members from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Army Contracting Command. The board was comprised of two lieutenant colonel battalion commanders, two command sergeants major and one master sergeant. A total of 44 candidates were selected for reclassification.

The purpose of the board was to ensure the best qualified NCOs were selected for reclassification into military

occupational specialty 51C (acquisition, logistics and technology contracting NCO), which is part of the Army Acquisition, Logistics and Technology workforce. The 51C NCOs primary mission is to deploy as contingency contracting officers and serve as members of the early entry module contingency contracting team. When not deployed, selected NCO's will serve as contingency contracting officers in support of headquarters, principal assistant responsible for contracting, contracting support brigades, contingency contracting battalions or installation contracting offices for training and mission support.

For the complete list of selectees, [click here](#).



ACC in the News

These articles mention Army Contracting Command.

Presidential Rank Awards presented to four AMC professionals

By AMC Staff Report
(Published June 28, 2012)

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. – June 28, 2012 – Under Secretary of the Army the Honorable Joseph Westphal presents the 2011 Presidential Rank Awards to four Army Materiel Command professionals during an official ceremony at the Pentagon, Thursday.

Each year, the President recognizes and celebrates a small group of career Senior Executives and senior career employees with the Presidential Rank Award.

Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody, AMC Commanding General attended as a sponsor for the AMC recipients. There were a total of twelve awards, but the following represent AMC.

http://www.army.mil/article/82822/Presidential_Rank_Awards_presented_to_four_AMC_professionals/

Army sergeant and associate convicted on all counts for roles in bribery and money laundering scheme related to defense contracts to support Iraq war

(Posted on the Tribune Weekly Chronicle June 26, 2012)

WASHINGTON – A federal jury in Elkins, W. Va., convicted Richard Evick, a U.S. Army Sergeant First Class and Non-Commissioned Officer in charge of contracting at a U.S. military base in Kuwait, and his associate, Crystal Martin, of all counts with which they were charged in connection with a bribery and money laundering scheme related to defense contracts awarded in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, announced Assistant Attorney General Lanny A. Breuer of the Justice Department's Criminal Division and U.S. Attorney William J. Ihlenfeld II for the Northern District of West Virginia.

<http://tribwekchron.com/2012/06/army-sergeant-and-associate-convicted-on-all-counts-for-roles-in-bribery-and-money-laundering-scheme-related-to-defense-contracts-to-support-iraq-war/>

Radio interview features ACC chief information officer

(Aired July 2, 2012 on Federal News Radio)

Typically, business transformation comes from two main sources, new technology or budget pressures. In the 1990s, the draw down from the cold war ushered in the task order, multiple award contract era where agencies tried to move toward buying products and services more like their commercial counterparts. In the 2000s, the online or web revolution started the government to move from pushing information to citizens to creating a more transaction or two-way relationship.

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/?sid=2922606&nid=989>

