

# CEWEEKLY

THE AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER

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While the nature of warfare remains constant, the character of warfare is changing. The question is: can we look beyond the technology and focus on the highway we need to build for the future? [Check out this video](#) to hear from Gen David Goldfein, Air Force Chief of Staff, on the Air Force's shift towards new actors and complex threats.

## CE TOP **THREE**

Your Weekly Update on USAF Civil Engineer News

-1-

### Train the Way We Fight

Civil Engineers are required to complete Silver Flag training every four years to maintain currency of practices and certifications. When personnel from the 128 CES packed up their gear and headed overseas to Ramstein AB's Silver Flag site for training, they simultaneously replicated the physical and mental fatigue of long distance travel not usually experienced at CONUS training sites.

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-2-

## Serve, Save, Survive

Vandenberg AFB is positioned along 43 miles of Pacific Ocean coastline. Firefighters at the base have acquired a broad set of first-responder skills to better serve their populace along the coastline and in the water. "Every rescue presents its own challenges," said Nate Ogan, 30 CES firefighter and water rescue program lead. "We are constantly having to innovate better ways of doing things."

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-3-

## Response to PFAS

Since 2017, the Air Force has aggressively sampled and responded to PFAS contamination at the former Reese AFB located near Lubbock, Texas. The Air Force Civil Engineer Center is taking the next steps in its response by initiating a base-wide investigation to further identify contamination source areas, characterize geology and hydrogeology, and determine the nature and extent of the contamination.

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## Did You Know?



Each year, the Commander-in-Chief's (CINC) Installation Excellence Award (IEA) is given to the best installation in the United States Air Force. This award, created by the President of the United States in 1985, was established to recognize the outstanding efforts of the people who operate and maintain Department of Defense installations. The award encourages commanders to create an environment that promotes innovative ways to enhance base-level services, facilities, and quality-of-life. Each Major Command (MAJCOM) is encouraged to nominate one installation to compete for the Installation Excellence Award.

Congratulations to **Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK** and **Joint Base San**

Antonio, TX for being selected as the 2020 CINC IEA finalists! Both installations will be evaluated in January 2020 during in-person visits to determine the Air Force's winning installation.

## HOT TOPICS

Air Force Matters and Beyond

### All in a Day's Work

Safety is no laughing matter, especially at deployed locations. Occupational safety NCO SSGT Courtney Muhl and her team at Ali Al Salem AB are working to minimize risk and instill a culture of safety. The results are already tangible— the number of safety mishaps has decreased by 43% in comparison to the first six months of 2019.

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### Innovation Rodeo

The Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center continues to accept Innovation Rodeo ideas through 15 Dec 2019. Eight finalist ideas will be presented in San Antonio during February 2020. Each finalist team will have the chance to convince a board of senior Air Force installation and mission support leaders that their innovative idea deserves the funding and resources to be brought to life

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### Housing Helpline

Since its launch in May 2019, the 24-hour "Housing Helpline" has connected Air Force housing residents to the appropriate channel of assistance for concerns regarding privatized and government housing. Col Michael Beach, Air Force Housing Privatization chief, said "Our focus with the helpline has been to provide a tool to residents that assists them in raising their concerns in a way that they feel their issue is being addressed and resolved in a timely manner."

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## REVITALIZE CE SQUADRONS



Brig Gen John Allen, Director of Civil Engineers, has officially announced the dates of the 2020 Requirements Development Workshop! **The workshop will take**

place 28-30 January 2020 in Crystal City (Arlington), Virginia.

Each installation shall select two representatives to attend the workshop: one R&O Chief, and one Programming Chief. Timely registration is critical as seats are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Keep an eye out for an email with more information on the event's target audience and instructions on how to register!

To learn more about the workshop and its role in Revitalizing CE Squadrons, [visit this link](#).

## WANT TO CONTRIBUTE?

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