



Air Force Installation & Mission Support Center

Combat Support Training Ranges

Current as of 25 Oct 2024

AFIMSC is developing Air Force Combat Support Training Ranges (CSTR) to fill gaps in current expeditionary training capabilities for installation and mission support Airmen to meet unit needs for training the tactics, techniques and procedures required for the high-end fight. The ranges will provide commanders with the platforms and equipment to conduct unit-led expeditionary training events tailored to their unique mission requirements, helping them maintain readiness and ensuring Airmen are prepared to deploy and win future wars.

Objectives

- Develop readiness through the first three phases of the AFFORGEN cycle by providing access to training assets/capabilities not available at home station to support functional training requirements and cross-functional integration.
- Enable cost-effective, readily-accessible platforms that can deliver realistic, austere and timely training opportunities for multiple Air Force specialties.
- Support unit-led expeditionary training tailored for installation and mission support Airmen.
- Provide robust training platforms featuring access to low-density, high-demand training equipment, vehicles and infrastructure.
- Provide opportunities for units to conduct training sets and repetitions to develop team cohesion and core task proficiency needed to fight and win in contested environments.

Capabilities

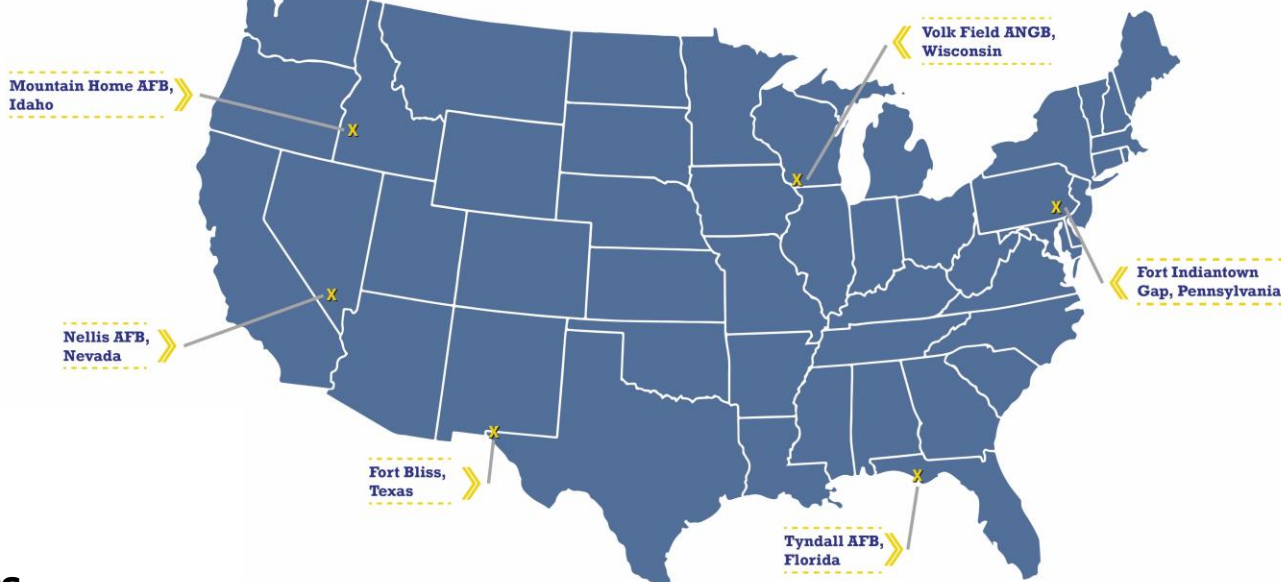
- AFIMSC is establishing six CSTR sites that will accommodate training for combat support and combat service support forces aligned to CONUS-based deployable combat wings, combat air base squadrons and capability enhancement teams.
- CSTRs will offer austere training environments and be equipped with low-density, high-demand training assets, such as rapid airfield damage repair equipment, tactical vehicles and bare-base beddown assets.
- CSTRs are platforms for unit-led training. They will not have standardized curriculum or a robust cadre to provide instruction like at a traditional training site, but they will have staff to assist with scheduling, event coordination, site access, equipment and facilities maintenance.
- CSTRs enable training for combat support/combat service support functions to include services, civil engineer, security forces, communications, logistics, contracting, finance, public affairs, chaplain services, operations support, medical, legal, intelligence, and command and control.



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CSTR Sites



FAQs

What is the current status of CSTR development?

All CSTRs have training capability today, but the types of training and capacity vary. The CSTR Program Office is actively coordinating with host installations and commands, preparing site development plans, procuring equipment, and establishing operational capability for each site.

With current CSTR capacity, AFIMSC is primarily focused on supporting training and certifications events for ATFs in FY2025 and DCWs in FY2026. AFIMSC is also developing processes and courses to help units plan, prepare and execute unit-led events on CSTR sites.

When will the sites be fully operational?

AFIMSC expects all six sites will be fully operational within 1 to 4 years.

How will Combat Support Training Ranges work when they are fully operational?

Units will determine training needs and coordinate with a CSTR POC to schedule site time. Units will arrive, pick up the keys to the site, equipment and facilities. After completing unit-led training, units will restore all equipment to received condition and return the keys.

How does CSTR support AFFORGEN?

CSTR supports AFFORGEN by providing access to high-demand, low-density equipment and allowing for larger units and more complex events at higher training levels. The sites become essential at the 200 and 300 level as units need access to the high-demand, low-density equipment that isn't practical for the Air Force to put at every home station.

Will the sites support Air Task Forces?

Yes, AFIMSC is designing the sites so Airmen assigned to ATFs can improve their expeditionary skills as they team, train and deploy together during their AFFORGEN cycle. ATF training events at CSTR will start in Fall 2024 and will demonstrate the effectiveness of the sites for future training.

Why aren't there more CSTR sites or sites available OCONUS?

AFIMSC is initially prioritizing resources toward fully developing sites that can support CONUS-based ATFs as they prepare to deploy as units of action in the coming years. Once the initial six sites are fully operationally capable, the development plan includes options for investment that can be scaled up for down depending on funding and training requirements.

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