

AFCEC, AFLCMC team up to support the warfighter

By the Air Force Civil Engineer Center Readiness Directorate

After a year of discussions and planning, Air Force Civil Engineer Center Commander Maj. Gen.-select John Allen, and Agile Combat Support Program Executive Officer, Col. Lea Kirkwood, signed a Memorandum of Agreement in January to establish an Integrated Product Team. This IPT represents a partnership between AFCEC and the ACS Directorate of the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center to provide a consistent and professional level of life cycle management for selected civil engineer acquisitions, ensuring the CE community receives properly supported equipment and technologies.

AFCEC procures, fields and sustains many CE-unique equipment items, but is not a cataloging activity and cannot assign National Stock Numbers to its fielded equipment. The result is difficulties getting CE equipment into Unit Type Codes and into the Time-Phased Force and Deployment Data that flows manpower and equipment in time of war. Without NSNs, CE equipment is not captured in approved Tables of Allowance, hampering the tracking, maintenance, sustainment, and resupply of these items. The partnership with the ACS Directorate is intended to help address these issues, providing life cycle management throughout the lifetime of CE-fielded equipment.

With the signing of the MOA, the IPT held its first quarterly meeting in March via TEAMS, with representatives from AFCEC's Readiness Directorate and the ACS Directorate's Support Equipment and Vehicles Division. WNZ has a long partnership with AFCEC, providing professional support for Base Expeditionary Airfield Resource assets for many years. At the inaugural meeting initial CE equipment to be supported under the MOA was identified, including the Water and Fuel Expedient Repair System and the Expedient and Expeditionary Airfield Damage Repair program. We also discussed equipment in the pipeline as the earlier life cycle issues are addressed in the development of new technologies, the lower the costs and the better the sustainment over the life of the equipment.

While not a panacea for all sustainment issues, the AFCEC-AFLCMC/WN IPT represent a major step forward in ensuring our warfighters have what they need, when they need it!