



**US Army Corps
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 19, 2008

Engineers Help Test Oahu “Mathletes”

By Honolulu District Public Affairs

(HONOLULU NR 03-08) Twelve Honolulu District employees spent a Saturday morning in early February providing outreach to more than 200 students from 30 public and private schools on Oahu who competed in the Oahu Chapter’s 25th annual MATHCOUNTS Competition at Kamehameha Schools.

Corps employees served as moderator, proctors and scorers for the competition, running the competition, assisting in distribution and collection of test materials, monitoring student activities during the competition, and grading the completed tests.

“The Honolulu District has actively supported this outreach activity for the past 12 years and those who have previously participated found the competition to be a rewarding experience and an excellent opportunity to maintain the visibility of the Corps of Engineers in the engineering community,” said District MATHCOUNTS coordinator, the Oahu MATHCOUNTS moderator and Chief, Construction Branch Louis Muzzarini.

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2-2-2 MATHCOUNTS CORPS

The program began with “mathletes” competing in a series of brisk “rounds” as a team or as individuals, with the top 12 challengers later facing off in a countdown match. An awards ceremony concluded the event.

The Hawaii state competition will be held March 8, with the top four individuals and coach representing the state at the national finals in Denver in May.

The MATHCOUNTS Program is sponsored by the National Society of Professional Engineers to emphasize the importance of mathematical skills in the development of future technology and encourage students to excel in these areas.

MATHCOUNTS builds skills, promotes strategic problem solving and challenges students to sharpen their analytical abilities by bringing together sixth, seventh and eighth grade students in a lively exchange of mathematical ideas through competition. Similar to a school sporting event, students are coached throughout the year at the school level to participate as individuals and as teams in a series of written and oral competitions at the chapter, state and national levels.

Each February four students are selected to represent their school at a local chapter MATHCOUNTS competition. The winners of this competition progress to the state level competition in March for a chance to represent the State of Hawaii at the national finals.

Eleven Honolulu District personnel will serve as moderator, proctors and scorers at the Hawaii state competition in March.

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