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2008 Corps of Engineers Workshop Enhances "A Green Future in the Pacific"

By Honolulu District Public Affairs

(HONOLULU - NR-18-08) More than 150 local architects, engineers, construction contractors and others in related fields attended the 13th Annual U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Workshop April 23 at the Ala Moana Hotel in Honolulu.

The workshop provided local design and construction representatives the latest information on the Honolulu District's project workload, technical information and administrative procedures that affect how to do business with the Corps.

This year's workshop theme was, "A Green Future in the Pacific."

Sid Char, president of the American Institute of Architects' Honolulu Chapter, co-organizers of the workshop with the Corps, gave the opening remarks and introduced Tony Paresa, the District's deputy District Engineer for Programs & Project Management.

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2-2-2 CORPS WORKSHOP

"The Workshop's goal is to emphasize how important it is for the Corps and all our partners to work together to successfully execute our projects while protecting the environment," said Paresa.

After discussing Workshop goals, Paresa gave a presentation that focused on projected future construction work and how construction work comes to the Corps.

Information presented during the 2008 workshop will allow participants to better understand contracting methods and procedures, to be aware of new standards and codes affecting military projects, to learn about design, construction and legal implications of working with the Honolulu District.

The luncheon speakers were Dr. Robert H. Richmond, Ph.D. of the University of Hawaii (UH) and Mr. Gerald Davis of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). They talked about the important partnership of the Corps, local industry and local stakeholders in protecting Hawaii's fragile reefs.

In their presentation, Richmond and Davis discussed the mountains to the sea concept of protecting the environment by controlling how much sediment and fresh water enter the sea in order to protect local reefs.

Richmond and Davis also discussed how the Corps's Civil Works and Regulatory divisions are partnering with NOAA, UH and Malama Maunalua to help study the effects of sediment runoff in Maunalua Bay and exploring ways to mitigate it.

3-3-3 CORPS WORKSHOP

The workshop and breakout sessions also provided opportunity for industry partners from the American Institute of Architects (Honolulu Chapter), American Council of Engineering Companies of Hawaii, General Contractors Association of Hawaii, Building Industry Association of Hawaii and the Associated Builders & Contractors of Hawaii to discuss issues one-on-one with Corps' employees in the spirit of partnership.

Corps and other functional area specialists gave a wide variety of presentations during breakout sessions, covering everything from Design and Construction Lessons Learned to the future of Military Construction Transformation. Breakout sessions included:

- LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) What Works by David Bylund, Architects Hawaii
- Industry Concerns on Design Build Panel Discussion by Timothy Phillips -Honolulu District
- BIM (Building Information Model) in Detail by Deborah Solis Honolulu District
- Design and Construction Lessons Learned by Erick Kozuma HED HVAC Commissioning by Ed Yago - Honolulu District
- Corps Permits for Projects on Water by George Young Honolulu District
- Future of Military Construction (MILCON) Transformation by Andrew Kohashi -Honolulu District
- Hawaii Environmental Compliance Assessment Training & Tracking by Russell Leong - Honolulu District

4-4-4 CORPS WORKSHOP

Military Munitions Response Program by Chuck Streck - Honolulu District
 According to Tad Ono of Parsons Brinckerhoff, the panel discussion about

 Industry Concerns on Design Build was the best breakout session he had participated in during the 13 years he'd attended the HED Workshops.

"There was good give and take and a real discussion of the issues," said Ono.

"This kind of frank discussion helps constructors and designers come to a better understanding of each other."

Louis Muzzarini, chief of HED's Construction Branch and Workshop emcee said, "this workshop is a great opportunity for the Corps to partner with our industry counterparts to discuss relevant issues and topics. We received a lot of positive feedback about the Design Build panel, which provided an insight into what works in private industry and what government can learn from it. This Workshop reflects well on the hard work of both the Corps and our industry partners in setting this up."

The first annual Honolulu District Workshop was in 1996 at the Pagoda Hotel with the Consulting Engineers Council of Hawaii. Since then, they have changed their name to the American Council of Engineering Companies of Hawaii. In 1998 the workshop expanded to include the American Institute of Architects. In 2000, it again expanded to include the General Contractors Association, the Building Industry Association and the Associated Builders and Contractors Association.

5-5-5 CORPS WORKSHOP

This year's workshop was co-sponsored by the American Institute of Architects, Honolulu Chapter (AIA), American Council of Engineering Companies of Hawaii (ACECH), General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA), Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA) and the Associated Builders and Contractors of Hawaii (ABC) in conjunction with Honolulu District.

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