



**US Army Corps  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Corps of Engineers holds Annual Workshop**

**By Joseph Bonfiglio, Honolulu District Public Affairs**

**(HONOLULU - NR14-10)** Approximately 250 local architects, engineers, construction contractors and others in related fields attended the 15th Annual U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Workshop May 20 at the Hale Koa 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 *Are You Ready for the Challenge?*

Opening Remarks were delivered by Charles Kaneshiro A.I.A, president of the American Institute of Architects Honolulu Chapter and Todd Barnes P.E., chief of the District's Engineering & Construction Division. Barnes introduced Steve Cayetano, the District's Programs and Project Management Division deputy chief.

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## **Workshop 2/2/2/2**

After discussing the overall mission of the Honolulu District and workshop goals, Cayetano gave a presentation that focused on projected future construction work and how construction work comes to the Corps.

Information presented during the 2010 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, according to Cayetano.

The luncheon speaker was Ross Roley, who represented Senior Executive George Ka'iiliwai III of the U.S. Pacific Command. Roley gave a presentation about sustainable energy initiatives spearheaded by PACOM, in particular how they are cooperating with the state of Hawaii to develop strategies and solutions to harness clean, efficient, secure, renewable and sustainable energy for the benefit of the people of Hawaii and the Asia Pacific Region.

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.

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### **Workshop 3/3/3/3**

Corps and other functional area specialists gave a wide variety of presentations during breakout sessions including:

A – Technicalities II by Kevin Araki, Russell Leong, Bruce Chun, Brandi Jim On

B – LEAD with LEED by Jon Yoshinaga & Paul Kai

C – Challenges Working with the Corps panel discussion led by Todd Barnes

D – You Be the Judge by Steven Proctor, Robyn Au & Jonathan Swanson

E – Be Safe or Be Sorry by Jeff Cochran & Gary Nip

F – Storm Water Permits Demystified by James Rice & Russell Leong

G – I Won a Construction Contract, Now What Do I Do? by Dennis Chung

H – The BIG Story on Small Business by Cathy Yoza

I – BIM? Why Don't You Guys Listen To Me? by James Sherman

According to Kaneshiro, this year's workshop had the most attendees ever at approximately 250. He believed that the slow local construction economy probably prompted the high attendance as local firms seek out Army contracts which Kaneshiro said are always reliable.

The Corps and in particular, Corps organizer Gary Nip A.I.A. were especially proactive in getting the word out to industry, according to Kaneshiro.

“The workshop is a great opportunity to network with the Corps and for people from the design side meeting up with our clientele and those who are managing these projects. There's a tremendous offering of different seminars besides just the networking opportunities so you can also gain knowledge,” he said.

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## **Workshop 4/4/4/4**

In discussing the workshop's theme of *Are You Ready for the Challenge?* Kaneshiro noted, "... in the challenging environment we're in, it really takes collaboration. In an environment of stewardship, we need everybody to be on board. It's not only the job of the designer; it's the job of the engineers, the job of the client and the job of the contractor to pull these projects off."

"Unless we're all talking and continuing to communicate together, it's going to be very difficult to achieve the goals of the Corps and the goals of these projects," he said.

"We working in collaboration with the people who are actually building the project to make it a better product and deliver it on time and on budget and so the need to be able to sit down at a table with everyone is critical for the success of the project and events like this promote that," Kaneshiro said.

David Vasquez of Vasquez Marshall Architects echoed those sentiments.

According to Vasquez, "I come for the latest information and networking opportunities. I was especially interested in the future works briefing."

Gary Nip A.I.A., chief of the Honolulu District's Design Branch said, "this workshop is a great opportunity for the Corps to partner with our industry counterparts to discuss relevant issues and topics. We received feedback from last year's workshop to add more time for networking. Thus we added longer breaks to this year's workshop resulting in many powerful conversations."

In addition to information sharing, the Corps honored many contractors for their demonstrated excellence in the areas of quality and safety on Corps' projects.

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## **Workshop 5/5/5/5**

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.

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.

The workshop presentations can be downloaded from: [www.aiahonolulu.org](http://www.aiahonolulu.org)