CH2M HILL builds on firm’s long-term relationship with U.S. Air Force

CH2M HILL Constructors, Inc., is one of 14 contractors selected by the U.S. Air Force to deliver $750 million in environmental remediation and construction through the Worldwide Environmental Remediation and Construction program (ENRAC).

The Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence (AFCEE) program calls for full-service technology capabilities to clean up air, water and soil contamination. CH2M HILL will be responsible for constructing, operating and maintaining treatment systems.

“This is a continuation of our relationship with AFCEE which further emphasizes the strong partnership between our two organizations and reflects the commitment of CH2M HILL to support the Air Force’s environmental programs worldwide,” said Jim Ferris, president of CH2M HILL’s Energy, Environment and Systems business group.

AFCEE was established to ensure environmental stewardship with top-of-the-line services and products. CH2M HILL has been working with AFCEE for eight years. The firm was awarded its fourth consecutive environmental engineering contract in 2000, which has a maximum value of $200 million.

CH2M HILL office in Germany helps support U.S. Air Force work

The CH2M HILL office in Kaiserslautern, Germany, was created with one mission in mind—supporting U.S. Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) and the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence (AFCEE).

Since the office opened in January 2000, CH2M HILL’s AFCEE program in Europe has grown to approximately $20 million. Heading the start-up efforts are CH2M HILL employees Mike Smith, Frank Lewis, Mike Walworth, Dan Turek, Jill Walworth and Randy Vanslambrouck, with support and coordination from offices internationally. The program has grown quickly with projects in 12 countries that include virtually all of CH2M HILL’s business groups.

Leading to this rapid growth were investments in talented people, strategic relationships with local contractors and great customer service. CH2M HILL’s project approach is driven by experienced employees who understand Air Force work and are teamed with local professionals.

“We deliver quality products and continually increase customer satisfaction and repeat business through commitment to their program,” said USAFE Client Service Manager Mike Walworth. “We understand the Air Force environmental business and their buying processes. We get up every morning and ask the question ‘How do we make our client’s job easier?’ Service is definitely our competitive advantage.”

This approach to meeting client needs is based on relationship building and putting the right staff in place to facilitate those relationships. The team in Kaiserslautern was created by hiring employees who possessed specific skills requested by the client.

“The relationships developed by having our PMs (project managers) working directly with our AFCEE team chiefs and the base points of contact have been critical to our growth. These relationships foster improved communication and assist AFCEE, which is based in San Antonio, in overcoming the geographical distances between them and their European customers,” Walworth said.

There is fierce competition between seven Air Force contractors in Kaiserslautern. By focusing on building strong relationships and better approaches to service, CH2M HILL has distinguished itself from the competition.

“Our approach to business is not to be afraid of challenges when attempting to open new doors,” Walworth said. “The Air Force is similar to a multinational corporation with a wide range of service requirements. Identifying these service requirements and then working with AFCEE to develop project delivery models that satisfy USAFE’s needs probably separates us from the competition more than anything else.”
Program Manager Mark Rigatti in Atlanta is responsible for the successful startup of the ENRAC contract. His experience includes managing multiple regional and national Department of Defense remedial construction contracts.

For project information contact Mark Rigatti (mrigatti@ch2m.com) or Marsha Robinson (mrobinso@ch2m.com).

20 new task orders roll in for AFCEE work in Europe

To date, AFCEE has awarded CH2M HILL $200 million for 190 task orders at more than 60 major active U.S. Air Force facilities.

The year 2001 best demonstrates our ability to succeed outside North America. Our ongoing work in Europe involves 45 active task orders in 12 countries working at every USAF installation. Examples include:

- Remedial construction
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)/base planning
- Explosives work
- Utility services
- Traffic studies
- Pollution prevention
- Tank removals
- Telecommunications studies
- Hydrogeologic studies
- Landfill closures

This year alone, CH2M HILL was awarded 20 new task orders for $10 million to provide a wide range of services at U.S. Air Force facilities in Germany, Italy, Spain, Turkey, Belgium, The Netherlands, Slovenia and the United Kingdom.

BDS supports USAFE publications

Charlene Regenhardt, Lynn Ver Woert, and Kathy Mullen of CH2M HILL's Business Development Services (BDS) in Denver publish the quarterly USAFE newsletter and also produced the 1999 and 2000 annual reports.

The newsletter is designed to help improve USAFE's current environmental programs by:

- Disseminating important information throughout the command
- Distributing informal guidance
- Providing experience and lessons learned to other USAFE installations
- Announcing important information and upcoming events
- Describing new tools, techniques and procedures

The newsletters serve as an information exchange between USAFE headquarters and Air Force bases throughout Europe. Articles present information on restoration, conservation, planning, and pollution prevention, as well as legal and funding issues.

The annual reports describe the previous years' accomplishments in meeting USAFE's environmental goals and achievements.

This is one of three water quality wells CH2M HILL is monitoring at an Air Force landfill in Turkey.

Once installed, this air-stripper will remove volatile compounds from water at a Texas Air Force base landfill. Remediation activities are among the many services CH2M HILL provides to the U.S. Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence program.