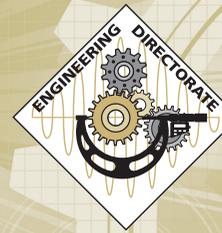


THE ENGINEERING EDGE



ECBC ENGINEERING
Design→Build→Test→Support

EDGEWOOD CHEMICAL BIOLOGICAL CENTER

Inside This Month's Issue:

ECBC-RI Value Engineering
Series 2

Guest Employee Spotlight:
June Sellers 3

Engineering Employees Honored
with FEB Award 3

Highlights of March Women in
Science/Engineering Panel
Discussion Event 4-5

Building Business with Strategy:
Pete Farlow 6

Employee Spotlight:
Nicole Brown 6

I&TST Provides Unique SIPRNet
Hosting Capabilities 7

BSC IP10 Knowledge
Management Update 7

*This newsletter was published
through the Balanced
Scorecard.*

*For article suggestions,
questions or comments
please contact Ed Bowen at
ed.bowen@us.army.mil.*



Engineering BSC Initiative Provides Direction for Knowledge Management, SharePoint Use

Since the Engineering Balanced Scorecard (BSC) strategy development process began in 2005, Engineering Directorate staff have remained engaged because the strategy itself is relevant and accessible. The structure of the strategy calls for continuous efforts to educate individuals about strategic initiatives and these initiatives seek to improve daily operations for the workforce — including a specific initiative for knowledge management.

When Mike Brown heard about the warehouse filled with boxes of Edgewood Chemical Biological Center documents, he wondered how many more boxes existed, tucked away in the corners of employees' cubicles, offices and storage spaces.

"Bill Klein approached me and explained his concern that the documents in the warehouse may get lost or damaged, so he wanted them scanned and saved," Brown, Team Leader of the **(Continued on page 7)**



(From left to right) Nick Renna, Brianna McClairn and Ciarra Barker represent the "people behind the work" to scan and upload thousands of documents to ECBC's document library. All three come to ECBC from the Student Temporary Employment Program.



Engineering's Women in Science and Engineering Event Draws 100+ Attendees From Across the Center

On March 2, the Engineering Directorate hosted a "Women in Science & Engineering Panel Discussion" in honor of National Women's History Month. Over 100 Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) employees turned out to participate in the event, with all of the Center's senior leadership in attendance. This event marks the first time in recent history that ECBC has offered such a forum to engage in dialogue about people development topics related to women in the workforce.

"I think it's a really good thing to have [events like this] so women can see how to advance their career," Nichole Au, a chemical engineer in the Engineering Directorate, said during the networking time before the event. **(Continued on page 4)**

ECBC-Rock Island's I&TST Provides Incentive to DoD Customers via SIPRNet Hosting Capabilities

Edgewood Chemical Biological Center's (ECBC) Information and Technology Solutions Team (I&TST) located at Rock Island is an organized, compliant and professional operation when it comes to their Secret Internet Protocol Router Network (SIPRNet) hosting capabilities. The team provides a "rare service" as I&TST Chief Len Guldenpfennig says.

At a time when user accountability and custom developments are needed more than ever to provide resistance against security breaches (such as WikiLeaks and other similar events), Guldenpfennig's team has equipped themselves with the needed accreditation and authorization to **(Continued on page 7)**

To access the electronic version of this newsletter visit:
<https://ecbcsharepoint.apgea.army.mil/sites/engineering>



APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE



ECBC-RI Obtains Greater Efficiency and Productivity in Defense Spending: Final installment in a series of Value Engineering articles

Members of the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center-Rock Island's (ECBC-RI) Engineering Directorate enjoy telling the story of how useful Value Engineering (VE) can be, helping others realize the effectiveness of the program to bring about efficiency improvements. The Engineering Edge has worked with the ECBC-RI team responsible for the technical management of VE to tell the story in a series of three installments. This month's is the third and final installment.

"Your efforts over the past 29 years have accounted for savings and cost avoidances of more than 40 billion dollars... These significant savings are a result of your diligent efforts in driving innovation, speed and agility within the acquisition cycle. Your development of sound acquisition practices that identify and prioritize requirements, and provide tailored plans to streamline operations ensure cost-effectiveness and improve quality. These practices help guard against inefficiency and waste while helping our Warfighters remain competitive. This has been the goal of the Value Engineering Program since its inception."

May 2010 Value Engineering Awards Ceremony, the Honorable Zachary Lemnios, Director, Defense Research and Engineering, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics

initiative by offering incentives to contractors to deliver items at lower costs while improving or maintaining quality levels and essential functions. A VECP provides a vehicle through which improvement ideas can be submitted by a contractor currently under contract with the Government. Approved and implemented VECPs submitted by contractors allow for a sharing arrangement to be established for the savings generated. This provides a mutually beneficial situation for the contractor, Government, the taxpayers, and most importantly the Warfighter. FAR Part 48 and Part 52.248-253 specify criteria for VECP acceptance and provide guidance for contractor sharing rates, encompassing a percentage of the applicable instant, future, and concurrent contract savings, as well as any collateral savings.

The VECP process is not limited to supply chain and indirect expenses. The basic VE provision is the Value Engineering Incentive (VEI) clause in the FAR. The VEI clause is included in most supply/service contracts when the contract price exceeds \$100,000. **(Continued on page 8)**

The first two articles addressed the significant success achieved in the Army Materiel Command (AMC) VE program under the technical management of the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center. This article will continue to show how value engineering applications support the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (USD-AT&L) initiatives for Obtaining Greater Efficiency and Productivity in Defense Spending.

One of these efficiency initiatives is to reward contractors for successful supply chain and indirect expense management. This initiative provides a great lead-in to the Value Engineering Change Proposal (VECP) portion of the Value Engineering Program. The use of VECPs provides a method to achieve this



ECBC HR Tip of the Month: Emergency Contact Data

You can now enter this information through My Biz. After you've logged into My Biz, click on Update My Information, Emergency Contact Information Tab and follow instructions to Add or Modify data. ⚙️

For more information about your HR policies, please contact Engineering Workforce Management Representative **Sabre Harper at ext. 5-2722.**



Awareness: Earth Day

Earth Day is right around the corner and there's no better day to give your life a green makeover or reaffirm your commitment to protecting the planet. With approximately half a billion people participating in Earth Day events around the world, there's no

questioning the impact of April 22. The best ways to celebrate are easy, fun and bound to make a big difference in the eco-friendliness of your day-to-day life. Whether it's getting out there and giving a hand with one of the many organizations undertaking big Earth Day endeavors, using the day as an excuse to switch up some of the less-than-sustainable parts of your life, or simply celebrating the beauty of nature, there are plenty of ways to give back to the planet and be part of this global movement. Visit <http://www.earthday.org/> to find out ways you can demonstrate your commitment to environmental protection and sustainability. ⚙️

The Engineering Edge

The Engineering Edge is the ECBC Engineering Directorate's monthly newsletter. It is produced for ECBC Engineering staff as part of the Balanced Scorecard Initiative. Unless otherwise noted, all stories, photographs and graphics are produced by the Engineering Directorate's Strategic Planning and Business Operations Branch.

Submissions: We need your stories, photographs, comments and suggestions. If interested, contact The Engineering Edge staff concerning ongoing and future products and submissions to The Engineering Edge Newsletter. Submit your stories or ideas via e-mail to ed.bowen@us.army.mil.



Guest Employee Spotlight: June Sellers, Surety Officer / ECBC Security Manager

In this special installment of the Employee Spotlight Series, the Engineering Edge talks with June Sellers, ECBC's Surety Officer and Security Manager, about her career journey and work at ECBC.

EE: When did you first join ECBC and what brought you here?

June Sellers: I retired from the Army in 2005, and I came to ECBC in 2006; I believe it was May 2006. That was about 90 days before a Department of the Army Inspector General Surety inspection. I was initially hired as a Surety Officer.

EE: What are your current job title and responsibilities?

JS: I have several actually. I'm still a Surety Officer here, I'm also the Security Manager and Operations Security Officer. I've served in those roles since December 2009. I've also been the Acting Risk Manager for the Center since May of 2010. As the Surety Officer I'm responsible for assuring regulatory compliance with surety, safety and security regulations in all of our chemical and biological laboratories. We have a major inspection about once a year, the next one is in April. As Security Manager I'm responsible for all of the security disciplines, such as information security, operations security, industrial security, physical security and personnel security. Any information that is leaving ECBC for publication or presentation has to be reviewed for release. My team reviews and provides security guidance for all contracted efforts. We also provide personnel security support for about 1,700 to 2,200 people. That includes taking care of everything from clearance updates, submitting and receiving visit requests, to issuing camera passes and hunting permits.

EE: What is a highlight about your current job at ECBC, something you look forward to each day in coming to work?

JS: I'd say working with the people. We have a great team of people in the "Risk Hallway" and it's really fun to work with them. We're all over the map and there is never a dull day because someone is going to be working on a different project or with a different customer. Remember, our customers are all ECBC employees. Every day someone is going to have a different puzzle for us to solve - it makes it interesting.

EE: What is one of the most exciting projects you've worked on while at ECBC?

JS: I would say trying to enhance the way we train people here. There's a lot of complaining about the amount of mandatory training that people are required to take, and some of it we have control over and some of it we don't. I believe there are ways to make it easier to take mandatory training. There are different venues, like online or live, and there are more interesting ways to do it. So we're trying to find ways to make training more interesting. You're going to have to do it, so we may as well make it fun.

EE: What are your hobbies outside of work?

JS: My primary hobby is working on stained glass. I create stained glass panels and I'm working on a huge project right now; it's six feet long, but it's fun. It's humbling work because glass doesn't always allow for perfection. I also do a lot of needlecraft. I knit, crochet and do beadwork.

EE: What is one thing about yourself that your co-workers may not know?

JS: I consider myself an introvert. I work with people all day long so they probably wouldn't think that. ⚙️

Five Engineering Employees Selected to receive FEB Excellence Award

The Baltimore Federal Executive Board (FEB) has selected five ECBC Engineering Directorate employees to be recognized at its 44th Annual Excellence In Federal Career Awards program. The Baltimore FEB is one of 28 Federal Executive Boards across the country that works to provide closer coordination among federal agencies outside of the nation's capital. The awards program, which will take place on May 6, recognizes federal employees for excellence in job performance during the previous year. Congratulations to the following five employees for this achievement:

GREG THOMPSON

Greg was nominated by Jeff Warwick for his superior creative skill as a concept artist in engineering conceptual product design, working with the client to take their concept and create a design which will eventually be turned into a product for the Warfighter.

LARRY OSWALD

Larry was nominated by Mark Schlein for the totality of his 37 years at ECBC, which over time has earned him the nickname Larry "I'm Here For You" Oswald.

LINDA THOMPSON

Linda was nominated by Connie Riley because her experience, capabilities and effectiveness have resulted in her becoming a resource for other teams when critical requirements arise. Although these additional tasks are outside of her normal responsibilities and there are usually primary actions pending, Linda always makes time to support these requests.

CHIKA NZELIBE

Chika was nominated by Lester Strauch for his work as the Engineering lead for a Center-wide, cross-directorate effort to build a heavy mobile expeditionary laboratory and a chemical monitoring suite for the 20th Support Command.

WILLIAM SPANGLER

William was nominated by Dan Lumpkins because of the new processes he has brought to ECBC. William played a key role in updating manufacturing and designing processes for new machinery and technologies, such as the wire electrical discharge machine that precisely cuts conductive materials to a high tolerance of holding microns. ⚙️

ENGINEERING'S BSC "WOMEN IN SCIENCE & ENGINEERING PANEL DISCUSSION" EVENT DRAWS 100+ ATTENDEES FROM ACROSS THE CENTER...

Engineering Hosts Special Panel Discussion in March to Honor Women's History Month (Continued from page 1)

The event was sponsored by the Engineering Directorate Balanced Scorecard Strategy (Objective P2: Recruit and Retain Qualified People, Objective P3: Develop Leaders and IP6: Foster a Culture of Communication), and demonstrated the value to the workforce of executing the strategy.

"A lot of work goes into strategic planning," Director of Engineering AJay Thornton said. "We call it Balanced Scorecard but it's strategic planning, and this is one of the initiatives that came about as a result of our efforts in strategic planning. I think things have been positive up to this point and I genuinely believe that by following this strategic plan we're going to continue to get better."

Following these remarks from Thornton, Nancy Kammerer, Deputy Joint Project Manager for Nuclear Biological and Chemical Contamination Avoidance, delivered an inspiring keynote address, citing the changes she has seen over the course of her career.

"Things have really changed in the 29-plus years that I've been with this organization," Kammerer said. "There are so many young faces that are here ... look at the first two rows in this auditorium - that was the number of women we had in our organization when myself and the other panel members started here."

Kammerer also described the path she has taken to leadership within the Department of the Army.

"In general terms, we had good people working here and we still have good people working here," Kammerer added. "But have there been rough times? Yes.

"I was probably about 27 years old and, during one of the [reorganizations], they put me on to a BioTech team. I went down to talk it over with my new boss and he said, 'I don't want you working for me; I don't think you have the right education.' I could have gone back to my old boss because he and I had a good relationship, but I just stuck it out and proved myself."

The remainder of the event was dedicated to question-and-answer format, with a panel of six senior female leaders from the organization answering questions submitted by the workforce. Panel members included Kammerer; Suzanne Michling, Product Director, Standoff Detection; Nan Ramsey, Engineering Associate Director and ECBC Rock Island Site Manager; Carol Eason, Acting Director of Safety and Acting Deputy Director for Chemical Biological Integration; Debra Thedford, Associate Director, Directorate of Program Integration Business Management and Integration; and Pam Barrett, a former ECBC employee with a doctorate in human development. The panel was moderated by Nicole Funk, Booz Allen Hamilton Senior Vice President. **(Continued on next page)**





Funk fielded questions from the workforce covering a broad range of topics. Topics included: the difference between being a manager versus a leader; the prevalence of a “good-old-boys network;” mentoring; the difficulties of being a woman in the science and engineering fields; the expectations that the panelists have for their employees; and advice for men and women just entering the science and engineering fields.

“The advice for men and women just entering the science and engineering fields would be the same [for men or women]; and it should be the same,” Eason said. “Hard work, having passion for what you do, getting involved, working with others, conversations, teaming - all of those things are important.”

In response to an audience question regarding encouraging female high school students to pursue an education and career in the science and engineering fields, Ramsey strongly advised everyone to help them in every way.

“I really believe the barriers to becoming an engineer or scientist for women happen at that age and I think that’s where we need to push this and facilitate this and encourage it in every way that we can,” she said.

The event concluded with a presentation of the Meritorious Civilian Service Award to Ramsey by ECBC Technical Director Joseph Wienand. Ramsey was recognized for her leadership and initiative to maintain the continuity of engineering support for the Army consumable items transferred to the Defense Logistics Agency; the award was signed by General Ann Dunwoody, the first female 4-star general in the U.S. Army.

This event was part of several Engineering initiatives to honor the accomplishments of women in the science and engineering fields and their contributions to the defense of the Nation. The event handout included the special themed March issue of the “Engineering Edge” newsletter celebrating “Women in Engineering” and a short bio of each panel member. 



IF YOU WERE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE EVENT, WOULD LIKE TO REVISIT SOME OF THE CANDID RESPONSES MADE BY THE VARIOUS PANEL MEMBERS OR MS. KAMMERER’S KEYNOTE ADDRESS, we invite you to visit the WISE Panel Discussion Online Forum, hosted on ECBC’s SharePoint. The entire video of the event, panel members’ answers to questions during the discussion, and the event handouts can be found at: <https://ecbcsharepoint.apgea.army.mil/Lists/WISE>.

We invite you to continue the dialogue online via the provided forum, posting additional follow-up questions and comments related to the topics discussed at the March event.

If you have any questions about the event or the SharePoint forum, please contact Ed Bowen at ed.bowen@us.army.mil.



Edge Photo of the Month

Panelists from March’s Women in Science and Engineering Panel Discussion listen as Engineering Associate Director and Rock Island Site Manager Nan Ramsey responds to a question about encouraging female high school students to pursue an education and career in the science and engineering fields. Ramsey strongly advised everyone to help them in every way.

To view more pictures from this event and other ECBC photos, please visit:  <http://www.flickr.com/photos/edgewoodchembiocenter/> 

Building Business with Strategy: A conversation with Pete Farlow, Training and Exercise Program Analyst



The Engineering Edge talks with Pete Farlow to understand why he chose to participate in Engineering's strategic planning process.

Engineering Edge:
How did you first hear about Engineering's Balanced Scorecard (BSC)?

Pete Farlow: Many years ago I heard about the Balanced Scorecard and attended one of the first meetings.

EE: What inspired you to get involved?

PF: I'm now in my later work-years and getting closer to retirement. I decided that the my usual workload is not what it once was and participating in the BSC would be an interesting thing to do – to use my wisdom and my experience to make the Engineering Directorate, and the Center, a better entity over all.

EE: What initiative are you currently working on?

PF: I am working on P4, which is the Institute Accountability and Responsibility Standards Initiative. The subtitle is "How to Manage Problem Employees."

EE: What are the main goals your initiative is trying to reach?

PF: We're trying to develop strategies for employee accountability and implement processes that we can hand over to people – supervisors, problem employees and employees that are affected by problem employees. The intent of the initiative is to put in place a strategy that will hopefully reinvent that so-called problem employee to make them a good employee again. In order to keep the experts we have and make sure they're not problem employees, we want to provide supervisors with ways, other than punitive measures, to develop their employees. We want to help problem employees get out of whatever their problem may be, whether it is personal, at work or with another employee.

We're trying to help the problem employee via a series of regulations and suggestions – be it training, work rotations or identifying different job skills. We are even trying to put safeguards in place so that even if an employee is struggling with a personal issue – dealing with the loss of a loved one, alcoholism, or any personal issue – the supervisors and other employees who work with the individual have ways to approach and handle any sensitivity with that person. With the way the economy and job market are now, it is important that we keep the employees we have and help them if they need it.

EE: What has been the most rewarding part of working on the BSC?

PF: It's been rewarding to have the opportunity to impart wisdom and lessons-learned from my experiences to make other people's experiences better; at least I hope I have! The people on our initiative are great to work with. They come from all different types of backgrounds, so we have a mix of people. You get to see what they're passionate about and learn what they're doing to help others. That is a real plus. ⚙️

Employee Spotlight Series: A conversation with Nicole Brown, Engineering IT Specialist

For this installment of the Engineering Edge Employee Spotlight Series, we talked to Nicole Brown, Engineering Information Technology (IT) Specialist, about her role and responsibilities at ECBC.



Engineering Edge:

How long have you been at ECBC?

Nicole Brown: I've been here since 2002. I first came through the George Washington summer internship program and then began working at the Help Desk as a contractor. I developed a reputation for problem solving and in turn built myself a solid reputation with Engineering management, which ultimately led to being selected for a position in the Engineering Directorate.

EE: What is your current job title and responsibilities?

NB: I'm an IT Specialist for the Engineering Directorate. I also support the video teleconferencing equipment (VTC). My unofficial duty is to support the issuing of contractor Common Access Cards.

EE: What is a highlight about your current job at ECBC - something you look forward to each day when you come to work?

NB: I really enjoy working with all of the new VTC equipment we recently had installed. The Tandberg systems work much better than the old Polycom systems. They look a lot nicer too.

EE: What is one of the most exciting projects you've worked on while at ECBC?

NB: Definitely the new VTC stuff, it was a huge project. I was in charge of taking the installers around, making sure they did everything right and making sure it got installed correctly. There was a lot of stuff that needed to be changed to make sure that it worked the way that Bill Klein and AJay Thornton wanted it to work.

EE: What are your hobbies outside of work?

NB: I go to the gym a lot and I play a lot of Xbox. Right now I'm stuck on the game Fable Three; it's a great game and one of my favorites. I also really enjoy Scrabble.

EE: What is one thing that you're co-workers may not know about you?

NB: I don't like ketchup. I know everyone thinks that's weird. I'm probably the only American in the world that doesn't like ketchup. ⚙️

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ECBC-RI's I&TST Provides Unique SIPRNet Hosting Capabilities

(Continued from page 1)

secure their clients' information technology infrastructures.

"Very few agencies offer customized SIPRNet solutions with the ability to build in specific functionality. We have that capability right now, and that's something many agencies don't yet understand or take advantage of," Guldenpfennig said.

Similar to work the team does on the Non-classified Internet Protocol Router Network (NIPRNet), I&TST provides application design, development, hosting and sustainment solutions on SIPRNet. Many of the team's service offerings and custom applications for this secured network meet their client's requirements for ease of collaboration across the secured network, as well as increased management to safeguard against situations similar to WikiLeaks.

"There are trends in requirements that come through for the SIPR and NIPR Nets, similar to trends that move through the general IT industry," Guldenpfennig said. "Recently, more and more DoD organizations have begun to recognize the value of having SharePoint sites within SIPRNet."

To meet this demand, I&TST began offering the specific capability of an application that would allow a client to host SharePoint within their SIPRNet website.

While I&TST is not the only option for Federal Government agencies in need of information management systems and solutions, Guldenpfennig says that they've been able to stay ahead of their competition from other private companies and government groups by remaining Warfighter-focused and by offering their cutting-edge SIPRNet service offerings.

"We're ahead of the game in many of our SIPRNet capabilities and that's allowed us to stay a few steps ahead of our competition," Guldenpfennig said.

Understanding the ever-changing environment in which his team works has also allowed Guldenpfennig's team to stay afloat amidst Federal Government budget cuts and reorganizations.

In the cyber world of the U.S. Department of Defense's interconnected SIPRNet, it used to be "every command for themselves."

"In the past, all of the connections and server systems aligned to the Army Contiguous U.S. SIPRNet were segmented," Guldenpfennig said. "By that I mean each organization, no matter their size, had to be responsible for everything needed to maintain security, including user account management, which is a considerable overhead. The responsibility was placed on the shoulders of the various organizations to keep their own SIPRNet-based capabilities operating."

In the last two years, the Army has made a significant shift towards a more centralized approach to managing the secure network, providing assistance and automated administration from the U.S. Army Cyber Command (ACC) and ACC's subordinate, Network Enterprise Technology Command (NETCOM)/9th Army Signal Command (SC-A).

This shift in SIPRNet management, to what Guldenpfennig dubs "Big Army," has significantly shaped the environment a team like ECBC-RI's I&TST operates within.

Using an analogy to better understand the shift, Guldenpfennig described the new centralized management approach to a type of housing cooperative, one in which the various unit owners make financial contributions to a condo association in order to have access to a variety of services and amenities.

"It's like, if everyone got together and instead of taking up individual responsibility for the maintenance of a building, they decided to contribute \$50 to the association to have services provided, exclusively to the unit dwellers," Guldenpfennig said.

This move towards a central management system under NETCOM has allowed Guldenpfennig to realign the resources and workload of his team. In an era where the Federal Government has been charged with an overriding obligation to American taxpayers to "do more with less," Guldenpfennig says the "Big Army" solution to centralize SIPRNet's management has helped them. I&TST is no longer expected to perform many of the required tasks in the SIPRNet environment they previously provided oversight for; patches, updates, user account management and other general tasks are now disseminated automatically from "the top, down," allowing the team to realign themselves and offset budget pinches.

"As benefactors and users of what the Army is providing, the efficiency and effectiveness of what we can do for our customers has increased with this centralized approach," Guldenpfennig said.

For Guldenpfennig, it's all a matter of understanding the current environment we're in right now, the expected environment changes in the future and understanding how the changes can allow you to increasingly assist your customers.

"We're a rare breed," Guldenpfennig said. 

BSC Knowledge Management Initiative

(Continued from page 1)

Balanced Scorecard (BSC) IP10 Knowledge Management Initiative, said. "I explained how this could potentially turn into something bigger."

That something bigger became one of the Engineering Directorate BSC's key initiatives – IP10 Knowledge Management. The purpose of the initiative is to establish a consistent process for collecting and organizing Engineering-generated content; a process that would eventually be decentralized and adhered to by each of the Directorate's team leaders, and even further down, by each individual.

"In reality, whatever documents – text, images, presentations – are generated today, should go on SharePoint; not printed, put in a box and then scanned into the online document library at some later date," Brown said.

Essentially, SharePoint is a family of Windows software that is used by organizations to set up internal Web portals – or intranets – for document sharing and search, team collaboration, wikis and company news. At ECBC, SharePoint is in the process of being rolled out and will likely **(Continued on page 8)**

ECBC-RI Value Engineering Series

(Continued from page 2)

It is also included in most spares/repair kit contracts over \$25,000 if the contract is not for standard commercial parts. The VEI clause may be included in contracts under \$100,000 if the contracting officer sees a potential for significant savings. If the VEI clause is in the contract, contractor participation is voluntary. However, when contractors do participate in the VE program by originating, preparing, and submitting VECs, they will be rewarded for their (and any of their subcontractors') ideas if the ideas are adopted by the procuring activity.

A VEC does not require a change in the specification; it requires only a change in the contract. In order to qualify as a VEC and to ensure that savings can be shared, the proposed change must be submitted under a current contract and must meet two primary requirements:

1. It must require a change to the contract under which it is submitted.
2. It must provide an overall cost savings to the Government after being accepted and implemented.

This and the previous articles presented show how the AMC VE program is designed to support critical cost cutting and efficiency initiatives. Additional information on the AMC Value Engineering program can be found at <http://www.ve.ria.army.mil/>.

As a final note, a Cost Reduction Program briefing, which included Value Engineering, was presented at Edgewood the week of 28 March 2011. To obtain a copy of the charts please contact Shay Macias, the ECBC Cost Reduction Program Coordinator, at shay.macias@us.army.mil. 



Members of the ECBC-RI Value Engineering team meet to participate in Value Engineering workshop.



"There was nothing in place prior to the IP10 initiative for employees to reference historical documents; there was no document repository," Brown said. "There is now though. Now that SharePoint and our document scanning services are in place, it's really up to the workforce to help us manage the remaining documents – and begin to use SharePoint for their current document management tool."

– Mike Brown, Team Lead of the BSC IP10 Knowledge Management Initiative

BSC Knowledge Management Initiative

(Continued from page 7)

replace the Center's current intranet, CBNet.

The platform is ideal to use for organizing and accessing documents used on a regular basis. However, due to file space limitations, Brown said they are looking into alternate options for hosting the actual document library.

The immensity of the project and projected number of potential documents to scan and upload to SharePoint, has been one of the recent challenges faced by the Knowledge Management team. SharePoint has a ceiling for how many files it will retain before it requires users to archive items.

"The purpose is for this to be a library of documents; and libraries don't archive," Brown said.

While the intent is to still use SharePoint for the user interface, the team is considering other platforms for hosting the actual document library, ones that have no limit to the amount of content stored.

In the meantime, Brown is focused on encouraging the workforce to use SharePoint on a daily basis, leveraging its many organizational and document management tools.

"Documents should be saved to SharePoint, not necessarily to personal computers," Brown said. "But that takes an entire culture change, encouraging individual employees to use SharePoint, not just within the Engineering Directorate, but across the Center."

Brown has established a team of individuals to account for the amount of work needed to collect, scan and organize the hundreds of thousands of hard copy documents from various teams on to SharePoint. The team consists of three students from the Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP), and a full-time Knowledge Management Specialist. To date, the team has scanned over 60,000 files.

When it first began, the IP10 initiative – as Brown expected – opened a watershed of requests from Engineering teams, requesting to hand over their own stored boxes of documents for scanning and saving to the Center's online document library. The teams came out of the woodwork; one team turned in several boxes and promised 15 to 20 more to come.

"What we've seen so far is only a fraction of what's coming," Nick Renna, one of the STEP students, said. "The initial estimates we've received from several teams, leads us to believe there are at least 500,000 more documents that need to be added to the document library."

When asked if he sees any end in sight, or if there will ever be a final scanned document, Brown seemed cautiously optimistic.

"There was nothing in place prior to the IP10 initiative for employees to reference historical documents; there was no document repository," Brown said. "There is now though. Now that SharePoint and our document scanning services are in place, it's really up to the workforce to help us manage the remaining documents – and begin to use SharePoint for their current document management tool." 