



For Immediate Release:  
March 1, 2011

Contact: William Farrow  
william.farrow@usace.army.mil  
256-895-

## Center moves equate efficiency

**Huntsville, Ala.--** More than 200 Huntsville Center employees have relocated around the Center and University Square as part of a work space shuffle due to mission expansion.

“The changes at Huntsville Center were driven simply because Huntsville Center currently has more people than work spaces and as an opportunity arrived, we tried to put functional teams together,” said Lt. Col. David Bailey, Huntsville Center deputy commander.

“We simply outgrew our work space and had to acquire more space to house our work force,” Bailey said.

Bailey said Huntsville Center has grown by more than 125 people since October, 2008 .

“As our mission grew, so did the work force and people were actually doubling up in cubicles,” Bailey said.

To expand, Bailey looked no further than empty space available at one of the many office facilities available on University Square, the road surrounding Huntsville Center.

“We took a logical approach to determine who moved where,” Bailey said. “We wanted to minimize moves because it’s always cumbersome to pack up an office and move it all to someplace new, but then we didn’t want to waste an opportunity to put divisions and teams back together where possible. For example all of Ordnance and Explosives Directorate is now located together instead of being split between the main building and Suite 24,” he said.

Bailey said he began working on the project last summer and while looking for organizations that were the right size for a space available at 4901 University Square, he found that OE fit the need perfectly.

After OE moved their three geographically separated locations under one roof, the ball began rolling as empty space began showing up at other locations, allowing other moves to occur. OE’s new home, more than 10,000 square feet of offices and cubicles, is in the northwestern corner of the facility simply known to most of the Huntsville Center work force as “White Tiger” due to the facility also being the home to a White Tiger Packing and Printing business located on the corner of The Boardwalk and University Square.

“By moving people into one facility, or one area of the Center, it puts employees together in the same area as their second and third line supervisor and that unity will result a more collective and united workforce in the long run,” Bailey said.

Bailey admits that few people enjoy being uprooted from their cubicle, but he points out OE is now working from a building full of new office furniture and even newer technology.

The furniture procurement project, valued at more than \$400,000, was locally produced in Athens, Ala., said Deborah Neel, a contractor with Spectra Tech, Inc., and project manager with the centralized furniture program at the Huntsville Center. Neel coordinated the furniture procurement for OE.

The OE move was also the stepping stone for Huntsville Center's conversion to the Voice Over Internet Protocol.

"OE is currently a stand-alone environment for VOIP and their move to White Tiger allowed us to connect with a local fiber optic cable and perform a lot of pre-planning and pre-positioning for the Center's conversion to VOIP," said Lee Adams, ACE-IT network engineer.

Adam's said conversion to the new VOIP allows for faster Internet speed and the addition of truly intelligent, portable phones.

Technologically, the move is completely reliant on the capabilities of ACE-IT to move computers and telephones. Peter Cole, ACE-IT chief, said the move is scheduled to be complete by April after another 200 plus work stations require set up at different location.

"We have people moving IT (information technology) two hours prior to people showing up to work and two hours after people go home for the day," Cole said.

According to Cole, almost 200 more people identified to move will be packing, moving and unpacking in their new areas with their IT hopefully already in place, plugged-in and operational.