

704 MAINTENANCE GROUP



MISSION

The 704 Maintenance Group (MXG) is responsible for the operations and maintenance of AEDC's Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) systems and equipment. This encompasses a 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week support system to national aerospace ground test facilities, industrial plants, test cells, utilities, laboratories and a state-of-the-art fabrication shop.

Responsible to the AEDC Commander for the programming, management, quality assurance evaluation, standardization, execution, and reporting of all test infrastructure facility operations and maintenance programs. Interfaces with DoD, non-DoD and commercial acquisition and logistics organizations to ensure project management of test infrastructure facility operations, maintenance and logistics projects meet AEDC mission requirements. Evaluates mission support contractor performance and recommends award fee grade for the Facilities Operations and Maintenance functional area to the Program Executive Officer for Major Service contracts and the Award Fee Review Board.

This team identifies areas for improvement, tracks 'lost test time,' monitors asset health, performs configuration management, evaluates performance, and accounts for resources expended in the performance of contracted work. After each assessment, the center executes the plan with support from maintenance resource managers.

LINEAGE

704 Maintenance Group

STATIONS

Arnold AFB, TN

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

During fiscal year 2008, the 704th MXG implemented and built upon a number of programs and procedures to meet the needs and requirements of the center. The group successfully lowered lost test time by applying

Reliability-Centered Maintenance (RCM) technologies, asset management planning, and safety initiatives in their daily operations.

The Maintenance Quality Assurance program helped the 704th MXG focus in on key areas such as tool control, housekeeping, safety and procedural compliance. In addition, it identified a need to establish a maintenance quality organization that would ensure individual work instruction/work tasks were performed within the specified standards. During weekly staff meetings, the group reviewed findings from Field Audit and Inspection Checklists, as well as the program and performance metrics, to determine areas for improvement.

The fiscal year also brought an increased emphasis on RCM efforts. By using ultrasound condition based maintenance technologies to identify leaks in RC1 cooler piping, center personnel were able to identify 'hot spots' with infrared thermography and conduct repairs without interrupting test schedules.

In addition, investment and maintenance personnel integrated scheduling through the Missions Operations Control Center (MOCC) to accomplish complex modifications and repair actions. ATA also created a dedicated planning team - who received accolades for managing a significant number of tasks in support of testing - for the ETF summer downtime to facilitate the repairs to AEDC's facilities.

Furthermore, the 704th MXG led development of Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century (AFSO21) Improvement Initiatives in the area of RCM. Maintenance personnel recorded their findings and presented them in papers at a number of public forums to include the University of Tennessee's Maintenance and Reliability Conference and the Predictive Maintenance Conference.

A key highlight was Bart Jones, ATA's maintenance director, serving as the keynote speaker for the International Maintenance Conference. At the conference, the ATA Facilities Operations and Maintenance Department's Conditioned-Based Maintenance (CBM) Team was recognized as the 2008 Predictive Maintenance (PdM) Program of the Year by Uptime Magazine.

The Chemical and Metallurgical Lab also received a recertification and recognition as one of the top three in the world during 2008.

Technicians perform an ultras inspection of RC1 cooler piping.

All of the actions - training, certification programs, development of accurate technical data, and investment projects - taken by the 704th MXG during fiscal year 2008 helped AEDC maintain a focus on Safe, Reliable, Effective Operations (SREO). This focus enabled AEDC to set an all-time record low injury rate, and ensure excellent maintenance performance. Fiscal Year 2009 Forecast

Another excellent year of maintenance performance is anticipated in 2009; however, there are challenges ahead.

A mixture of real-world events, base events, aging and deteriorating systems, funding, work force, deployments, programs, logistics and other issues will test the Group's ability to deliver reliable asset performance.

Thus, the maintenance program has identified initiatives (listed below) to improve performance in fiscal year 2009.

The initiatives will help AEDC cultivate a total systems sustainment culture to deliver highly reliable and available RDT&E systems. By proactively applying the latest maintenance technologies and business management principles, the 704th MXG will be an essential player in AEDC's success during fiscal year 2009.

Air Force Lineage and Honors

Created: 8 Dec 2019

Updated:

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.