



Engineer Update

Engineer Crane Training. Crane accidents are one of the leading causes of death and injury in the construction industry today. These accidents are attributed to rigging failure, improper positioning, falls, dropped loads and improper outrigger use. Often, crane accidents are also the result of inadequate training and the lack of preventive maintenance, experience and supervision, and required inspections. Crane operators and supervisors must know the capability of their equipment to prevent rollovers and navigate properly to avoid striking overhead obstructions. Several documented crane accidents have occurred in the theater of operations over the past few years to include the death of a Soldier due to electrocution when a crane boom struck an overhead power line.

To address the safety and technical training needs of crane operations, the Engineer School has made changes in the way Soldiers are trained and qualified to operate the All-Terrain Crane AT422-T. Beginning in FY09, the Engineer Crane Operator Course, currently being taught as part of the 21J Course, will become an Additional Skill Identifier (ASI), coded C4. The new 3-week course is a week longer than the former course, with the first week introducing a Crane Safety block of instruction based on Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards. This 40-hour block of training consists of (1) Introduction, (2) Math, (3) History, Evolution, and Types of Cranes, (4) Fundamentals of Cranes and Lifting Operations, (5) Rules, Regulations, and Agencies, (6) Rigging, (7) Determine Lifting Requirements, (8) Types of Lifts, (9) Inspections and Standards, (10) Communication, and (11) Additional Safety Devices.

The new block of instruction is math-intensive and requires students to be able to complete basic and intermediate math calculations without the aid of a calculator. The remaining 80 hours of the course will consist of equipment operating time, to include (1) Introduction to AT-422-T Crane, (2) Maneuvering Operations, (3) Set-Up Procedures, (4) Procedures for Moving Various Types of Loads, (5) Clamshell Operations, and (6) Control Manipulation Practical Exercise.

Currently, the Engineer School is working to input the C4 ASI into ATRRS for scheduling. Once courses are loaded into ATRRS, unit ATRRS managers can request seats for training. Until that time, units requiring crane operator training should contact the Fort Leonard Wood Directorate of Plans, Training, and Mobilization at (573) 563-4052. For specific questions about the course contact 1LT Vance C. Flowers at A Company, 554th Engineer Battalion, Horizontal Skills Division, at (573) 596-0131, Ext. 6-0996/7435.



News and Notes

Korea's 2009 Peninsula Engineer Conference. The Combined Forces Command (CFC) and US Forces Korea (USFK) announce the 2009 Peninsula Engineer Conference (PEC) to be held from 4 through 6 February 2009 in Seoul, South Korea. Hosted by the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), registration will be open soon for 300 participants on a first-come, first-served basis.

This year's theme is "Transforming Korea." USFK is presenting speakers with the latest updates on Transformation to US Korea Command (USKORCOM) and the Korea Relocation Plan. The 2009 PEC will feature a tour to the site of the future USKORCOM Headquarters and "Humphreys Hub" near Pyeongtaek. Participants will view engineer updates on the USFK Theater Master Plan, KRP Construction, and Combat Engineering. The 2009 PEC will also include an Engineer Ball and other traditional military and social events.

Those interested in attending may contact Mr. Tom Brady at USFK Engineers, e-mail <thomas.m.brady@korea.army.mil>, or call commercial +82-2-2791-3260 (DSN 315-723-3260). For more details, see <www.same.org/pec>.