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Materials and Manufacturing Tech
Full Project Lifecycle Sustainability

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Widening the Lens on Innovation for Clean Manufacturing

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ERDC RDAs
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AREAS THAT DELIVER SOLUTIONS

MILITARY ENGINEERING
ENGINEERED RESILIENT SYSTEMS
CIVIL WORKS
INSTALLATIONS AND OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENTS
GEOSPATIAL RESEARCH & ENGINEERING

CORE COMPETENCIES
SPECIALIZED ERDC KNOWLEDGE THAT ENABLES OUR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AREAS

BLAST ANDWEAPONS EFFECTSON STRUCTURES AND GEO-MATERIALS
CIVIL AND MILITARY ENGINEERING
BATTLESPACE TERRAIN MAPPING AND CHARACTERIZATION
COLD REGIONS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
MILITARY INSTALLATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE
COMPUTATIONAL PROTOTYPING OF MILITARY PLATFORMS
COASTAL, RIVER, AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING
Materials and Manufacturing R&D
Supporting Army S&T, USACE, and Military and Civilian Stakeholders and Partners in ERDC Core Competencies:
- Blast and Weapons Effects on Structures and Geomaterials
- Civil and Military Engineering
- Military Installations and Infrastructure
- Cold Regions Science and Engineering

Leveraging Extramural Research Partnerships and Advanced High-Performance Computing Capabilities
Sustainability and Climate Change Drivers (or lack thereof)

Civil Works
- Aging infrastructure burden outweighs new infrastructure
- Limited sustainability drivers for materials and construction
- Strong emphasis on 100+ year service lives, service life extension, and asset management
- Long-standing practices that have sustainability benefits

Military
- Post 9/11 threats transition towards peer and near-peer
- Modernize to fight and win
- Limited direct drivers for sustainability and climate change
- Operational impacts of climate change on warfighting functions
- Energy, water, and natural hazard resilience drives modernization
Opportunities

- Sustainability and climate resilience drivers are forefront drivers
- People and $$ applied toward action on climate change and resilience
- R&D initiatives growing in:
  - Nature based solutions
  - Multi-hazard resilience
  - Design / materials / manufacturing nexus
  - Advanced materials-by-design (+biotech)
  - Manufacturing / construction processes

Executive Order 14000 of January 27, 2021

Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad

The United States and the world face a profound climate crisis. We have a narrow moment to pursue action at home and abroad in order to avoid the most catastrophic impacts of that crisis and to seize the opportunity that tackling climate change presents. Domestic action must go hand in hand with United States international leadership, aimed at significantly enhancing global action. Together, we must listen to science and meet the moment.

Source: Dr. Kate White, USACE Climate Change and Resilience Community of Practice Lead

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Particular Considerations in Construction Materials

- Large drivers in cement, geomaterials, construction, and other high-energy manufacturing processes
- Construction industry relies on commodity products
- Construction materials are cheap: economic and policy drivers needed to generate action
- We need to think beyond steel and concrete
- Materials and lifecycle design are hand-in-hand
- We must think full life-cycle: design, manufacturing, construction, operations, disposition
- Many professions (some may call them tribes) must work together to innovate in construction
  - Researchers, engineers, policy, training, academia manufacturers, contractors, and labor workforce

Design Requires
4500 psi at 28 days

Safety Factor of 1.2
5400 psi at 28 days

Contractor Request
6000 psi at 14 days

RMC Supplier
Targets 6500 psi

Can Add > 1/3
Excess Cement
Alternative Cement Chemistries

- Portland Limestone Cement

- Specifications
  - ASTM C1157
    - Type GU or MS
  - ASTM C595 or AASHTO M240
    - Type IL

Alternative Cementing Chemistries

- Multiple activities Civil and Military
- Leveraging experience in specialty military apps
- PLC, CSA, CAC, MPC, LC3, Belite, Carbonating…
- along with manufacturing innovations…
Construction Materials-by-Design

- **Materials Analysis**
- **Meso-Scale M&S Design**
- **Virtual Microstructure**
- **Virtual Proportioning**

**Experiments Database**

**RVE Constitutive Behavior**

**VML-AFC-EPIC**

**HPC Capabilities**

**VML + AFC**

**CEMHYD3D**

**GEMS/THAMES**

**Reaction Products**
Nature-Based Solutions

- Supported through the USACE Engineering With Nature initiative
  - Natural solutions as opposed to hard civil works infrastructure
  - Science and engineering that produces operational efficiencies
  - Using natural process to maximum benefit beyond built projects
  - Broaden and extend the benefits provided by projects
Aging Civil and Military Infrastructure Challenges

- Complex portfolio of civil works and military facilities
- Materials: concrete to steel…timber to polymers
- Operational facilities built as early as late 1800s
- ERDC supports Tri-Services R&D on aging infrastructure

How do we understand current state, predict future state, and use this information to shape outcomes in a limited funding environment?
Advanced Manufacturing R&D Focus Areas

**Additive Construction Technology Development and Demonstration**

**Environmental Sustainability of Additive Manufacturing**
- Emissions (VOCs, UFs)
- Overprinting
- Trial and error
- 30% virgin powder
- Waste in print area

**Advanced and Lightweight Materials Enabled by Additive Manufacturing**

**Computational Tools for Design and Manufacturing Process Optimization**
Additive Construction

Problem
• Expeditionary Structures are:
  • Labor intensive
  • Energy expensive
  • Material expensive

Solution
• 3D print custom-designed expeditionary structures on-demand, in the field, using locally available materials.

Impact
• Saves time
• Saves money
• Saves material
• Saves energy/fuel
• Reduction in hard labor & manpower
• Improved protection

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Additive Construction

Sustainable Solutions
- Reduction of concrete materials and reinforcement materials through optimization
- Reduced logistics (Diesel)
- Removal of formwork (time, logistics, and cost)
- Improved energy performance
- Exploration of impact of alternative materials
  - Alternative cements
  - Low conductivity aggregates
  - Supplementary cementitious materials (Fly ash, silica fume, etc.)
  - Polymer concrete
  - Metal
  - Polymers


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Additive Construction

Energy Performance

• Energy and thermal modelling
• Thermal testing
• Design through geometry
• Comparable or better than CMU construction
• Reduced embodied energy
• Shorter construction times
• Optimized material usage
• Baseline R-value similar to CMU for walls

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