

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

**THE NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING
COMMAND**

AND

THE AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER

ON

UNIFIED DESIGN GUIDANCE

1. Background

A Tri-Service working group evaluated the status of unified design guidance and analyzed options to implement further improvements in response to House Conference Report 105-247, dated 9 September 1997. The working groups findings and recommendations are:

- (A) Forty-three percent of the Services existing design criteria documents are "unified", and current initiatives will unify another four percent. The Services use a common guide specification system, many of the same design tools and databases, and are working together to develop standard designs for common types of facilities.
- (B) There is potential for unifying more systems and the majority of the fifty-three percent of the Services design criteria documents that are not already unified. There is also potential to expand the existing uniformity of the Services guide specification system.
- (C) Greater use of Tri-Service groups as a formal documented process is the most cost-effective system for implementing improvements in unifying design guidance based on the analysis performed by the Tri-Service Working Group.

The findings and recommendations were documented in a report entitled *Unified Design Guidance*, which was submitted to the Congressional Defense Committees in March 1998.

2. Purpose

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes the Tri-Service Engineering Senior Executive Board (the Board). The Board is established to facilitate greater use of Tri-Service working groups for the purpose of implementing improvements in unifying design guidance as identified in the *Unified Design Guidance* report to the Congressional Defense Committees.

3. Responsibilities

The Board will promote greater use of Tri-Service engineering and design criteria with a preference for the use of commercial non-Government standards to the maximum extent practical. Specific functions of the Board are:

- (A) Establish unified design guidance policy.
 - (B) Charter a Tri-Service Design Guidance Coordinating Panel to develop procedures for implementing unified design guidance policy.
 - (C) Provide oversight of the unified design guidance process.
 - (D) Resolve issues impeding unified design guidance.
 - (E) Act as resource/budget proponent for unified design guidance.
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4. Implementation

The Board members will be the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, Managing Director, Energy and Engineering; the Army Corps of Engineers, Chief, Engineering and Construction; the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Chief Engineer; and the Air Force Deputy Civil Engineer. The role of chairperson will rotate bi-annually. This MOU will become effective upon signature by DUSD and the Service Chiefs of Engineering and will remain in effect for a period of two years. The MOU will be renewed as mutually agreed by DUSD and the Services Chiefs of Engineering.

5. Approval

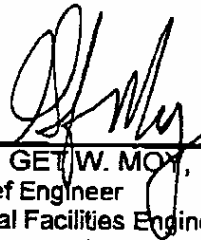
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, Managing Director, Energy and Engineering, and the Service Chiefs of Engineering herein establish the Tri-Service Engineering Senior Executive Board in accordance with the *Unified Design Guidance* report to the Congressional Defense Committees dated March 1998.



KISUK CHEUNG, P.E.
Chief, Engineering and
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7/2/98

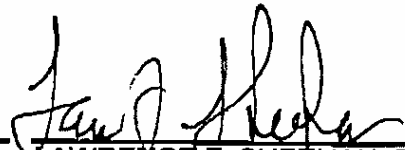
Date



DR. GET W. MOY, P.E.
Chief Engineer
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Date



LAWRENCE F. SHEEHAN, P.E.
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KEVIN T. GROSS, P.E.
CAPT, CEC, USN
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Industrial Affairs & Installations
Dep. Under Secretary of Defense

7/8/98

Date