

# The **ARMY PETROLEUM CENTER** **FUEL POINT**

Issue # 3

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## Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

The Army Petroleum Center hosted a transition and ribbon-cutting ceremony (*on 9 Oct 03*) to formally announce to the petroleum community that we now have a presence at Ft. Belvoir, VA. The ceremony also welcomed our new Director, COL Melvin Frazier.



(pictured from left to right—Mr. Lonnie Ashbrook (former Director, APC); COL Melvin Frazier (Director, APC); MG N. Ross Thompson III (Commander, TACOM); and Ms. Shari Bednarik (Director, Deployment Equipment Product Support Integration Directorate, TACOM))

## AIR Card Automated Data Collection (ADC) Test

The Defense Energy Supply Center (DESC), along with the Military District Washington (MDW) and the US Army Petroleum Center (APC), is conducting a test at Davison Army Airfield, located at Fort Belvoir, to use AIR Cards instead of Identaplates to record refueling transactions.

Airfield personnel (*12<sup>th</sup> Aviation*) swipe the AIR cards the same as would be done at a commercial airfield. The transaction data is downloaded directly into the Fuels Automated System (FAS).

The goal is to replace Identaplates, which require manual processing, with AIR Cards at military installations. That would also allow the Services to go to a single fuel credit card instead of having to maintain redundant systems. The test will expand from testing with only *12<sup>th</sup> Aviation* aircraft to others based at Davison Army Airfield, and then to transient aircraft as well.

## APC Lab Supports US Government in Coal-Related Case

The US Army Petroleum Center (APC) played a significant role in recouping funds owed the Government in a recent court case. The gist of the Government's claim was that a coal supplier knowingly delivered lower quality coal than required to US military bases. The jury found the defendants were liable under the False Claims Act, resulting in a judgment in excess of \$2.9M. In a related judgment, a laboratory was fined over \$1 M for knowingly failing to test coal in accordance with standards set by ASTM International.

US Attorney Gregory F. Van Tatenhove stated, "The judgments demonstrate that the United States will not tolerate fraud and abuse by government contractors."

Key factors in the success of the Government's case were the testimony of Mr. Gary Smith, Chief, APC Petroleum Testing Facility, which confirmed the deliveries violated the terms of the contract and a deposition furnished by Ms. Sue Hunt, Program Manager for the Army Coal Program, APC.



(Mr. Gary Smith and Ms. Sue Hunt were presented with a 2-star note and Commander's coin from MG N. Ross Thompson III (Commander, TACOM) commending their efforts in this case.)

## MILCON Projects Approved

The DLA FY08 Fuels MILCON Installation Planning and Review Board, composed of representatives from the Joint Staff, Combatant Commands, DESC, and the Service Control Points, recently evaluated over 80 fuels MILCON projects. The top two Army fuels projects, Ft Campbell AAF Hydrant System replacement and the Ft Carson (*Peterson AFB*) A/DACG Tank Farm, were rated high enough to fall within the projected funding line.

## PWD Trained Naval Reservists Who Played Unexpected Role in Iraq

Ten Navy reservists from Texas, who deployed to support Operation Iraqi Freedom after receiving training at the Petroleum and Water Department (PWD), US Army Quartermaster Center and School, Fort Lee, VA, helped set the all-time record for fuel delivery for all British Royal Air Force bases. See the article at: [http://www.quartermaster.army.mil/QM-UPDATE/QM3-PWD\\_Trained\\_Naval\\_Reservists.html](http://www.quartermaster.army.mil/QM-UPDATE/QM3-PWD_Trained_Naval_Reservists.html)

## Army Petroleum Advisory Conference and Workshop 2003

The HQ DA G-4 and the Army Petroleum Center co-sponsored the Army Petroleum Core Steering Group (CSG) meeting and the 2003 Army Petroleum Advisory Conference (APAC) and Workshop. Those events were held in San Antonio, TX from 28-31 Oct 03, in conjunction with the PETRO 2003 conference.

Contact the APC's Executive Officer, Ms. Debbie Johnson, DSN: 771-7101; commercial: 717-770-7101; email: [djohnson@usapc-emh1.army.mil](mailto:djohnson@usapc-emh1.army.mil) for a copy of the minutes and/or briefings.



*(pictured are attendees at the 28 Oct 03 CSG meeting)*

## MOS Change

The 77F, 77W, and 77L MOS designation for Active Duty personnel changed to 92F, 92W and 92L, respectively, on 30 Sep 03. Changes to the Reserve Component will be effective o/a 31 Aug 04.

## Hot Refueling a CH-4



### Too Close for Comfort!

How many times in the Army have you heard, "Remember, anyone can stop training if you see an unsafe act!?" That's fine when it's training, but how about when it's a real mission?

During late summer this year, the APC operations team received a phone call concerning aircraft refueling. A CH-47 Medium Lift Company was working long hours supporting fire fighting. Pilots were getting major blade time hauling buckets of water and then dropping it to extinguish fires. In order to get a maximum effort on fire fighting operations, the unit elected to perform hot refueling. Probably a good call considering the importance of keeping the aircraft flying, and fighting the fire.

The problem, however, was how the hot refueling mission was set up. Refueling personnel were positioning the refueling vehicle by backing it towards the front of the aircraft. Not quite a text book move, and it was being done at night. Factoring in the size of the rotor disk and the vehicle's fifty foot hose, the vehicle was being positioned about three feet from the spinning blades. The person calling in had tried to stop the operation, but was unable, since he couldn't provide something in writing. Long story short, after some phone conversation and email, the hot refueling mission was stopped until the unit could install enough hose on the vehicle to maintain a safe distance.

FM 10-67-1, Concepts and Equipment of Petroleum Operations, is being revised in conjunction with the new Field Manual numbering system. A DA Form 2028 was submitted requesting added guidance for 100 feet minimum spacing between refueling vehicle and aircraft when performing hot refueling.

## Reporting Fuel Spills

The Defense Energy Supply Center (DESC) has recently published a policy regarding reportable fuel spills. They have made it as easy as possible to report these incidents, thus mitigating the adverse impact on the environment. Timely notification can get the "ball rolling"—but it depends upon you, the user, to provide all necessary information. That policy can be found at:

<http://usapc.army.mil/miscellaneous/misc.asp>

*(Scroll down and click on the link entitled "Spill Reporting Procedures on Capitalized Fuels")*

## Capitalization of Army Fuel in Uzbekistan and Afghanistan

In an effort to improve the accountability of fuel transactions, the US Army Petroleum Center is requesting the Defense Energy Supply Center capitalize Army-owned fuel at Karshi-Khanabad [K2] (*Uzbekistan*), Bagram, and Kandahar (*Afghanistan*). The existing process, which is done manually, is susceptible to error causing inaccuracies in the billing process. The automated system currently in use by DESC would capture and retain all transactional data, thus assuring the integrity of the process. A team from the DESC FAS contractor was sent in-country to set up FAS equipment, train operators, and initiate the capitalization. DESC's capitalization of Army fuel into the Defense Working Capital Fund will promote a more accurate view of fuel consumption, provide for detailed retail level accounting, and expedite the billing process.

## New Rapid Refueling System Opens at Fort Bragg

A significant milestone was achieved recently at a ceremony observing the opening of the Simmons Army Airfield aircraft rapid refueling facility. The Director of the US Army Petroleum Center, COL Frazier, presided over the ceremony with representatives of the Defense Energy Supply Center (DESC) attending as well. The observance announced the end of a five-year absence of hot refueling (i.e., aircraft refueled while engines and propellers are running) at the airfield and was a culmination of years of planning and hard work. DESC awarded the contract to Hawthorn Aviation Services, which will provide four rapid refueling positions, new airfield bulk storage and bulk loading capabilities. The enhanced facilities will be more efficient resulting in a safer operation. Hawthorn is also providing rapid refueling services at Camp Mackall with the same expectation of efficiency.



(pictured from left to right are Randy Hardy, APC; COL Melvin Frazier, Director, APC; and Jake Magish, President of SuperSafe Tanks, Inc.)

## Rucker to Test +100!

The Army Aviation Missile Command (AMCOM) is preparing to launch a two year demonstration program using JP-8+100 in rotary wing aircraft at Ft. Rucker, AL. The +100 additive serves to enhance the thermal stability of JP8 by 100 degrees. The theory is that +100 will reduce the amount of fuel injector fouling in aviation turbine engines and the related maintenance measures to correct it. The purpose of this test is to identify potential rotary-wing aviation maintenance cost savings directly related to using the +100 additive.

The APC has participated in meetings at Ft. Rucker for the purpose of defining refuel procedures and timelines for the test and will continue to monitor the test program from its commencement in early January '04, until its completion. Controls were developed for the draft test plan to ensure that necessary segregation and operational applications are in place.

The USAF has already tested the +100 additive in some of their aircraft and determined that maintenance savings could be gained through its use. The USAF is currently using this additive in fighters, trainers and select ANG/AFRES C130 aircraft at 67 bases worldwide. The USAF does not use JP-8+100 when deployed. The Canadian Air Force is also in the process of changing from NATO F-40 (JP-4) to NATO F-37 (JP-8+100).

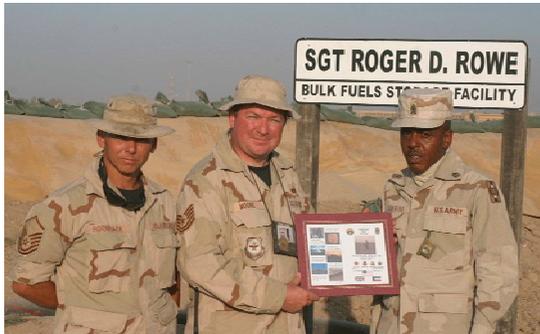
On the downside, the USAF study has confirmed that +100 has a detrimental effect on the older type of filter separator coalescers by inhibiting their ability to separate water and suspended particulates from fuel. The 100+ additive also has a tendency to render Aqua-Glo test results unreliable. Consequently, the APC and G4 have developed an Army-wide policy defining a "no-use" status of JP-8+100 within the Army and this policy was distributed in message R141139Z APR00 and retransmitted again in R290815Z OCT01. With the exception of the Ft. Rucker test program, this no-use policy is still in effect.

## Upcoming Events

- QLLEX 04 Mid-Planning Workshop, 9-11 Jan 04
- FAS Managers' Training, 5-9 Jan 04
- FAS Operators' Training, 26-30 Jan 04
- FAS Orientation, 27-28 Jan 04
- FAS Operators' Training, 23-27 Feb 04
- FAS Managers' Training, 15-19 Mar 04

## Airman Honors Army Friend

The horrors of war can leave a lasting friendship, as well as painful loss. An article published in Oct 03 by the American Forces Information Service describes such a friendship between an airman (*TSgt Robert Moore*) and an Army soldier (*Sgt Roger D. Rowe, who, sadly, is deceased*). It proves that those who are gone still remain in the hearts of those left behind.



(pictured from left to right—MSG Hornback; TSgt Moore; and SGM Dawkins)

Check out this web site for additional information:  
[http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Oct2003/n10142003\\_200310142.html](http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Oct2003/n10142003_200310142.html)

## Changes of Command

- DESC – Mr. Richard Connelly, former Director of Defense Logistics Agency Support Services, assumed responsibilities as the new Director, Defense Energy Support Center (DESC) on 3 Nov 03. (Additional information can be found at: <https://today.dla.mil/desc/headlines/200311/article9412.htm>)
- 475<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster Group – COL John C. (Jack) Skelly assumed command of the 475<sup>th</sup> QM Group on 14 Nov 03.
- Army – Command Sergeant Major Kenneth O. Preston has been selected as the 13<sup>th</sup> Sergeant Major of the Army. He will be sworn in as the Army's senior enlisted advisor during ceremonies at the Pentagon on 15 Jan 04.

### How to Get More Information?

For more information on a variety of useful petroleum-related support topics, requirements and facility assistance issues, visit the APC web site at:

<http://usapc.army.mil>

## M978 Tanker PMCS



There have been a lot of questions concerning the vagueness of engine speeds when performing Items 94 and 95 in Table 2-3 Preventive Maintenance Checks and Services for M978 Tankers in the TM 9-2320-279-10-1.

The contractor (*OTC*) has just completed tests on five tankers to prove out the discharge line pressures with the engine speed condition at low idle and to verify the HEMTT Model M978 PMCS, Item 94.

Discharge Line Pressure (*DLP*) was 12-13 PSI on all trucks at normal low idle. The correct engine speed to check the operation of the main fuel pump for PMCS, Item 94, is "LOW IDLE" (*Throttle Control Off*). Readings of 10 PSI or lower would indicate a potential problem in the fuel delivery system.

Item 95 is also vague as to engine speed condition to perform the test. Per review by the contractor's training department, the correct engine speed for PMCS, Item 95, is "HIGH IDLE" (*Throttle Control On*).

This issue is now being addressed by the contractor to clarify this area concerning engine speeds in these two PMCS items. The improved procedures will appear in the next update.

*(This article was written by Charlnita Moore and was originally included in the September 2003 issue of "The HIP Times". It is reprinted with permission.)*

## Fueling Freedom's Finest

### APC Telephone Numbers

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
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| Deputy Director                           | 717-770-7203 |
| Executive Officer                         | 717-770-7101 |
| Product Assurance Division ( <i>lab</i> ) | 717-770-6511 |
| Support Team                              | 717-770-7040 |
| Technical Team                            | 717-770-5582 |
| Operations Team                           | 717-770-8580 |
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