



AMC Establishes a Deployable Civilian Contracting Cadre:

The Global War on Terrorism and our continued operations in Iraq and Afghanistan have clearly heightened the awareness of how important contracting is in support of our deployed troops and the stabilization and rebuilding efforts in both countries. For the last 3 years we have deployed a record number of Army civilians with contracting expertise to support efforts such as the Logistics Civilian Augmentation Program (LOGCAP), the Army's major contingency contract; rebuilding associated with power plants, hospitals and schools; and the day-to-day contracted Combat Support/Combat Service Support needed to support our deployed forces.

In the last 4 years, AMC deployed approximately 25 man-years of civilian contingency contracting support per year. The majority of the deployments were in support of Army taskers issued through the Worldwide Individual Augmentation System (WIAS). While AMC was able to meet most of the AMC taskings with volunteers, there were instances where they deployed a few Emergency Essential (EE) contracting employees. However, an evaluation of the EE program conducted by AMC revealed some issues in filling and retaining personnel for EE slots both OCONUS and CONUS.

As a result, AMC recently launched a program to establish a cadre of highly trained and experienced civilian contingency contracting officers. On 28 April 2006, the AMC Deputy Commanding General approved an implementation plan for a pilot program entitled Deployable Civilian Contracting Cadre (DCCC). Highlights of the program are as follows:

- recruit and maintain an AMC cadre of trained, warranted, deployable contracting personnel
- standardize deployment preparation, incentives, training, warranting, oversight and control
- allow personnel to volunteer to be deployable for a 3-year period, then return to a non-deployable status without having to change jobs (unlike the EE slots)
- provide adequate incentives to attract and reward volunteers who might otherwise seek outside employment if forced to deploy under EE
- serve as a pilot program for revamping the entire EE workforce

There are a number of advantages this AMC program offers. The program provides financial incentives for the volunteers who join, it limits their commitment to a 3-year period of time and it will afford the type of training and preparation needed to support deployments well in advance of asking someone to deploy. With the increased reliance upon our civilian contracting workforce, we owe them such a program if we expect them to put themselves in harm's way to support our Army. As a result, we will be advocating the program's expansion across the entire Army contracting workforce as an alternative to designating certain positions as EE. While such a program will not completely eliminate the need for a few EE positions, it will greatly reduce the reliance on an EE program that is not providing the responsiveness we need for the future.

For more information on the DCCC program, please contact Sharon Seiffert, HQ AMC Command Contracting, DSN 656-8239, COM 703-806-8239 or Sharon.seiffert@us.army.mil.