**AEDC’s Mission**

Conduct developmental test and evaluation for the Nation through modeling, simulation, ground and flight test.

**Commander’s Statement**

At AEDC, we test and evaluate the Nation’s aerospace systems of tomorrow. We must always be looking to the future, ready to test new technologies before they arrive. Today we are building test capabilities and testing systems for the “100 Year Horizon” of AEDC. To do that right, we must invest in our facilities and workforce - aligning capabilities and skills with current and emerging Developmental Test & Evaluation needs. Also, to meet the nation’s acquisition priorities, we must be agile and transformative in performing our work.

Towards that end, we have developed this strategic plan. It reminds us of what’s important to AEDC and guides us towards where we want to be, and how we plan to get there. Using this plan as the framework to move into the future, we are better able to balance our support of essential capabilities with the costs of operations and the agility required to meet the changing needs of our customers.

We develop the greatest aerospace systems the world has ever known, and the Nation is counting on each of us to accomplish our critical mission with eyes on the “100 Year Horizon.”

- Colonel Scott Cain, AEDC Commander

**Our Vision**

Be the Nation’s best value test and analysis source for aerospace and defense systems.
To be relevant to aerospace developers and to remain so, we must do more than test. We must also:

- Build our T&E Professionals
- Transform Test & Test Support
- Add Value to Acquisition Decisions & Programs
- Be Good Stewards of our Test Resources

AEDC will thrive in an environment with the following characteristics:

- Support for rapid acquisition
- Increased investment in T&E
- Flexible, adaptive, agile workforce, processes & organization
- Optimized use of analytical tools
- Optimized use of our test capabilities
- Efficient, effective & adaptable T&E
- Increased innovation in use of capabilities
- Proactive application of technology
- Risk/Reward balance

We must be willing to leave our comfort zone; daring to be innovative and bold in meeting the needs of our customers. In doing so, we will become more valuable to our customers and our Nation.

- Ensure capability of workforce matches AF DT&E needs
- Increase employee agility & versatility
- Increase analytical capabilities & technologies to lower test costs
- Experiment - Innovate - organization & mission
- Lower acquisition cost, schedule, risk
- Increase AF appreciation of DT&E
- Increase early DT&E to avoid future cost
- Connect across S&T, RDT&E enterprise
- Ensure operability of facilities & equipment — match readiness to need
- Maintain & enhance needed capabilities to increase reliability
- Invest in test capabilities to extend service life & fill capability gaps

If we fail to keep not merely abreast but ahead of technological development, we need not bother to train any force, and we need not make plans for an emergency expansion; we will be totally defeated before any expansion could take place.

General Henry “Hap” Arnold
August 17, 1945