New AEDC Flight Systems director aims to support, grow his team

By Deidre Ortiz
AEDC Public Affairs

As of June 28, Lt. Col. John McShane took on his role as director of AEDC Flight Systems Combined Test Force at Arnold Air Force Base. While new to the job and the area, McShane is full-speed ahead in conducting business as usual.

“ar goals are, first off, to take care of the people because they’re the ones that do the work. I want to find out the things that are causing them issues, or to use one analogy, the barnacles on the ship,” he said. “I want to find out what those things are and take on those burdens and allow them to do their job.”

“The second is to grow the team to what we need the CTF to be, as far as performance or manpower and strength. We are healthy now, but there’s a lot of performance or manpower end strength. Those are things that are and taking on those burdens, and allow them to do their job.”

McShane commented that by taking care of the people first, the CTF team can put in focus on meeting test requirements to meet the needs of the nation.

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Smoking Policy

1. The following revised Arnold AFB smoking policy is effective immediately and applies to all individuals on Arnold AFB. This policy will remain in effect until modified by a future directive.

2. Traditional Tobacco products (e.g. cigars and cigarettes):
   - Tobacco use on the Arnold AFB Golf Course is permitted, but discouraged based on the health hazards associated with tobacco use.
   - Electronic Cigarettes (also known as “e-cigs”):
   - For government employees, the fact that a person smokes has no bearing on the number of breaks they are entitled to take.
   - Smokeless Tobacco products (e.g. snuff and dip):
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JFC, AFSA team up for car show, barbecue

Team AEDC members view vehicles on display while at a car show and barbecue hosted July 26 by the Arnold Air Force Base Junior Force Council and Air Force Sergeant’s Association Chapter 477. In the past, the JFC has used the funds raised through the car show to purchase turkeys for Thanksgiving boxes distributed by the Deerfield Elementary Backpack Program. (U.S. Air Force photos by Jill Pickett) (This image has been altered by obscuring badges for security purposes.)

Air Force Sergeant’s Association Chapter 477 serves up pulled pork and sides July 26 during a joint event with the Arnold Air Force Base Junior Force Council at Arnold. Funds raised by the AFSA chapter are used to support community events such as the Military Appreciation Day and the AEDC Children’s Christmas Party.

A Studebaker truck is on display at Arnold Air Force Base July 26 during a car show and barbecue hosted by the Arnold AFB Junior Force Council and Air Force Sergeant’s Association Chapter 477. (This images has been altered by obscuring badges for security purposes.)

A 1932 Ford Roadster is on display at Arnold Air Force Base July 26 during a car show and barbecue hosted by the Arnold AFB Junior Force Council and Air Force Sergeant’s Association Chapter 477.

Attendees of a car show and barbecue, hosted by the Arnold Air Force base Junior Force Council and Air Force Sergeant’s Association Chapter 477, are reflected in the hubcap of a vehicle on display July 26 at Arnold.
Cadets, who participated in the 2019 Southeast Region National Civil Air Patrol Glider Academy July 12-20, gather for a photo during their graduation at the Beechcraft Heritage Museum in Tullahoma. The cadets were from 11 states. The group completed about 200 glider flights during the week-long academy. (Courtesy photo)

One of the cadets of the Southeast Region National Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Glider Academy takes flight during the Southeast Region National Civil Air Patrol Glider Academy July 19. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jordan Futter)

A cadet takes flight during the Southeast Region National Civil Air Patrol Glider Academy at Tullahoma Municipal Airport. The academy, hosted by the Beechcraft Heritage Museum in Tullahoma, was July 12-20. (Courtesy photo)

The cadets participating in the Southeast Region National Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Glider Academy July 12-20 learn how to make tow ropes as part of the week’s activities. (Courtesy photo)

### Project NEXUS tests developing technologically ready Airmen

By 2nd Lt. Robert Guest

**AUSTIN, Texas (AFNS) –** Air Education and Training Command officials began a beta test aimed at learning the best ways to introduce more technologically ready Airmen into units. The program, Project NEXUS, is expected to fuel organic technology problem-solving efforts at Airmen in their day-to-day workplaces.

From July to November, 18 Airmen will study data science, software development, or UX/UI design in Project NEXUS, an Air Force beta program created by AETC’s Technology Integration Detachment and hosted by AFWERX-Austin.

“Project NEXUS will drive internal AETC expertise in modern data science and mobile design and development,” said Capt. Kyle Pakko, Project NEXUS project manager. “It will empower Airmen to become elite digital professionals who deliver strategic data and development capabilities.”

The three cohorts of six Airmen, who come from various Air Force specialties and backgrounds, will either specialize in data science, software development or application design.

“The students learned so much and it was a great week for all involved,” said Olga Oakley, the AETC STEM coordinator. “The students learned so much and it was a great week for all involved.”

Oakley helped to close out the week, serving as the special guest speaker at the Glider Academy graduation July 19.

Those with the SER National Glider Flight Academy thanked the Beechcraft Heritage Museum for the use of their facilities and Tullahoma Municipal Airport for their work in support of air and ground operations.

Lt. Col. Eric Frahm, director of Air Education and Training Command’s Technology Integration Detachment, speaks during the Project NEXUS kickoff event at the AFWERX Austin Hub July 8. The AETC beta test is aimed at learning the best ways to introduce more technologically ready Airmen into units. NEXUS is expected to fuel organic technology problem-solving efforts for Airmen in their day-to-day workplaces. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jordan Futter)

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an organization can expect to complete the majority of their work and have a level of comfort or confidence. If an incident occurs, an investigation is typically the next step to determine the cause and make improvements to prevent it from happening again.

In the context of AEDC, a Safety Culture is vital to ensure the safety of everyone involved. Bishop stated the importance of the "right" personal protection equipment, the organization to carry out duties safely, and the insistence or resistance of an organization to random selection to carry out duties safely. Safe decisions could include wearing the right personal protection equipment, back up, and what we've got to do is a Flight Commander, then Director of Operations in Flight test squadrons. As a Flight Commander, he led air staff-directed research and development of electronic warfare systems. From there, he served as Program Element Monitor for the Air Force Research Laboratory, where he led staff-directed research and development of electronic warfare systems.

Following the Change of Leadership ceremony, AEDC Flight Systems Commander Lt. Col. John McShane is at right, is shown with Maj. Michael Knauf, AEDC Aeronautical Operations Officer, and other AEDC team members. (U.S. Air Force photo by Aline Bussier)

"Another priority is to provide high-quality training resources to meet test objectives. We've put this thing together block-by-block, and what we've got to do is to make sure that our workforce is trained to support their fielding timelines," he said. "The real output of AEDC is actionable information that supports their fielding timelines, and that's not hyperbole – it's true. We need to make sure that our workforce has the best training possible, and that training is available once it has been approved for public release.

AFOSI Det 106 Arnold AFB, Tenn.

Suspicious behaviors to be on the lookout for:

- Surveillance
- Eliminating Security
- Acquiring supplies
- Suspected persons of place
- Dry runs

For more information, contact Air Force Office of Special Investigation at 454-7820.

What I would note is that these are not contradictory objectives," Tight said. "I believe we can keep safety as our number one priority and still meet our customer objectives and, in fact, I believe that by being safe, by being disorganized in our operations, by following new training instructions, and being very unique things from an AEDC perspective that helps us be very efficient and effective in what we do. Our times, we're outside all the time, and it is just a great place. He added that's ready to learn as he can give his AEDC team all his.

"Another unique in how it does test execution. There's a lot of simulations to other flight test organizations but there's also things unique from an AEDC perspective that helps us be very efficient with our time. Overall, I've been very impressed with AEDC and the test team that here. My goal is to learn the system and our test tactics to best enable the people who are doing the work."

Bishop further urged employees to look out for one another and make the right decisions.

"Safety culture - this isn't just a war game. This isn't just the guys out there turning the wrenches," Bishop said. "This is safety, and safety, and safety, and safety, and safety is a higher priority than any cost or schedule objective."
By Jill Picknett

AFRL looks to fine tune process of 3D printing composite inks

AEDC Public Affairs

AEDC focuses primarily on the production of 3D printed parts for the Air Force, specifically polymer architecture that can be used to make structures with continuous fiber composite parts. This process is an interesting new technique that would allow for the production of complex internal structures for objects that would otherwise be too expensive to make conventionally. The polymer matrix is a key component of this process and plays a crucial role in the production of the final product. The polymer matrix must be able to flow and deform during the printing process in order to create the desired internal structure. The polymer matrix also acts as a binder to hold the fiber reinforcements in place. By controlling the properties of the polymer matrix, researchers can control the final properties of the printed object. This allows for a high degree of customization in the final product.

By Alexa Low

Scaffolding Safety in August

AEDC Safety

The topic for August is safety. It’s a topic that’s important to yourself, your family, and your community. The Air Force Safety Program has four domains of fitness – mental, physical, social, and spiritual. The office will also focus on suicide prevention and awareness, ergonomics, substance abuse, and alcohol and substance abuse.

The safety topic for August is scaffolding safety. Scaffolding is a temporary structure used to provide access to and support for objects in an awkward location. Scaffolding is used to perform work on structures that are too high or too far away to access safely. Scaffolding is a complex system of components, including poles, frames, and platforms, that must be carefully designed and assembled to ensure the safety of those working on the scaffolding.

The main components of a scaffolding system are the scaffolding, the access platform, and the fall protection system. The scaffolding is the structure that supports the platform and provides access to the work area. The access platform is where the workers perform their tasks. The fall protection system is used to protect workers from falling.

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The Pilot Prep Program is effectively giving Meadows and other Airmen like her the chance “to experience the possibilities” while getting more flight time and the additional opportunity to retest for the UPT Selection Board.

“It definitely has been worthwhile,” said Lt. Makenna Elliott, another three-year Airman, serving at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska. “We’re trying to raise our score and Meadows possessed those intangibles. Commitment and passion are crucial to a pilot’s success, he said, adding that Elliott and Meadows made those intangibles.

A sure step high are eligible for more intense flight training and service. “This allows us to make a well-informed decision” before opting for the 10 1/2-year obligation required to be a pilot in the Air Force, Elliott said.

The students’ instructor, CAP Lt. Col. Ken Curell, a former Air Force fighter pilot and current American Airlines pilot, is enjoying the experience, saying it has rekindled the passion he remembers from his earliest days of flight.

“When you see the passion presented, it’s really inspiring,” Curell said.

One of 28 CAP instructor pilots with significant flying time either in the military or general aviation, Curell has more than 20,000 hours of flight time counting his Air Force and CAP service as well as his time with American Airlines. Commitment and passion are crucial to a pilot’s success, he said, adding that Elliott and Meadows possessed those intangibles. Curell, a mission pilot in CAP’s Ohio Wing, said the Pilot Prep Program is a good way to bring new Air Force pilots on board.

“It gives you an appreciation for the talent pool that is out there,” he said, calling the experimental program “the right answer for the Air Force.”

The program is being conducted at Columbus Municipal Airport alongside Nebraska’s Mission Aircrew School, one of three schools that combines task-based training with practical application. In addition to its Air Force students, more than 500 CAP members will participate in NESA this year from every state.

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USDA creates program to protect predatory birds, Airmen

By Airman 1st Class Breanna Klemm
97th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

ALTUS AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. (AFNS) – Hawks and falcons are an essential part of the ecosystem and are one of nature’s instinctive predators. Although these natural aviators are beneficial to the environment, they can pose a threat to the safety of Airmen, aircraft and vulnerable wildlife.

The 97th Air Mobility Wing Bird/Wildlife Aircraft Strike Hazard, or BASH, program, expanded with the addition of the Predatory Bird Relocation Program.

After seeing the risks predatory birds, or raptors, have when they live near or on airports, Adam Kohler, a U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services wildlife biologist at Altus Air Force Base, created the Predatory Bird Relocation Program, which safely removes birds that have the potential to injure themselves or others.

“I work for the USDA Wildlife Services which acts kind of like the government’s wildlife damage management program,” Kohler said. “One of the big areas we work in are airports. We use the BASH program to help keep the public and aircraft safe from accidents that may happen with wildlife.”

The Predatory Bird Relocation Program is an important aspect in forwarding the mission of the 97th AMW. Each year, the Air Force spends approximately $100 million repairing damage to aircraft from birds and other wildlife. Since Kohler founded the program in the fall of 2018, more than 20 raptors have been safely captured and relocated away from the airfield saving Altus AFB time, lives and money.

“While hawks and falcons are less abundant than other birds found in this area, they are one of the species with the highest risk of getting hit,” Kohler said. “Although there are less of them out there, they get stuck in the engines more often, and because of their size they inflict more damage when they are hit. That is why we created the program specific to relocate the raptors.”

When a raptor is within a close enough range of the airfield to become a hazard, Kohler sets out harmless, simple traps to capture the bird. Once the raptor is captured, Kohler places a tracking band on its foot and relocates it to a safer environment.

“By us going out there and handling the raptors, it helps out U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services and any agencies that are studying wildlife.” Kohler said. “It’s a cooperative effort between us and every other wildlife research agency towards gaining knowledge from and understanding different species.”

Each tracking band has a specific number on it to help identify the bird in the future. This is a very important part of the relocation process because it can help identify which birds return to the airfield after they have been relocated. If a banded bird does return, it is relocated to a different environment, hopefully to keep the raptor satisfied at its new location.

“Banding the birds is an essential part, nationwide, to the agencies research of the effectiveness in relocating raptors,” Kohler said. “Throughout our research we have found that more than 90 percent of the relocated birds have stayed in their new location, away from the airfield. It’s good because this data helps us show that capturing and releasing these birds actually keeps them away and safe, and not returning.”

Although predatory birds are necessary in local environments, flying too close to an airfield is a threat to the raptors’ own lives and the safety of Airmen.

By relocating these raptors to a safer location, Kohler and the USDA Wildlife Services team help keep the 97th AMW safe and mission ready.
Arnold AFB Milestones

Matthew Wilson, TOS 35 Years
35 YEARS
Danny Haddon, TOS
Paul Kelly, TMAS
David Mose, TOS
Diana Pemberton, TOS
Betty Rathford, TOS
Matthew Wilson, TOS

25 YEARS
James Gilliam, TOS

20 YEARS
Carrie McGrew, AF

15 YEARS
Lawrence Chiles, TOS
Todd Varpoll, TOS
David Woods, TOS

10 YEARS
Lindsey Marache, AF
Holly Jones, AF
Edward Mickle, AF

5 YEARS
Matthew Anderson, TOS
Jason Armstrong, FSS
Ronald Baass, TOS
David Donen, TOS
Bradley Howard, TOS
Joshua Jermain, TOS
Christopher Lagrange, TOS
Samantha Nolan, TMAS

INBOUND MILITARY
Maj. Scott Burrows, AF
2nd Lt. Ryan Gill, AF
Maj. Lance Hostvik, AF
2nd Lt. Brian Hill, AF
Master Sgt. Frank Menichino, AF

RETIREMENTS
Burl Clawrow, TOS
Carol Passmore, TOS
Fred Rose, AF
Daniel Robins, TOS
Janice Wells, TOS

NEW Hires
Don Hennings, TOS
William Carter, TOS
Jonathan Clark, AF
Zane Crossen, TOS
Colin Cunningham, TOS
Anthony Durante, AF
Jalek Frye, TOS
Justin Garrett, TOS
Scott Glennon, TOS
Michael Grant, TOS
Scott Hagler, TOS
David Higdon Jr, TOS
Jeremy Martin, TOS
Ronald Mims, AF
Bernard Nichols, NAF
David Ogg, AF
Tyler Ramney, TOS
Cris Rosemuller, AF
Brian Timmons Jr, TOS
George Vandagriff, TOS
Brady Wattenbarger, AF

PROMOTIONS
Elijah Minter, AF, to NH-04

Lindsey Amacher, AF
Holly Jones, AF
Edward Mickle, AF

35 YEARS
Matthew Wilson, TOS
35 Years

Celebrating flight of the B-2

A B-2 Spirit aircraft is prepped for launch July 17 at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri. Whiteman AFB is celebrating the 30th anniversary of the inaugural flight of the B-2 in 1989. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Thomas M. Barley)
Conduct a short safety meeting.
Request a no-cost, confidential consultation.
Display a flyer or poster about workplace safety.
Make safety part of daily conversations.

Air Force participates in Safe + Sound Week

The Air Force is participating in Safe + Sound Week, August 12-18, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s nationwide event to highlight the value of safety and health programs in the workplace and recognize the organizations that implement them. (U.S. Air Force Illustration by Susan Merhege)

World War II veteran 1st Lt. Joseph Kollenberg poses in front of the B-24 “Strawberry Bitch” at the National Museum of the United States Air Force, July 24. Kollenberg served as a B-24 Navigator in the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1944-1945, completing more than 27 combat missions over Northern France, Germany, the Ardennes and Central Europe. (U.S. Air Force photo by Ken LaRock)

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. (AFMS) – The Air Force will participate in Safe + Sound Week Aug. 12-18. Safe + Sound Week is a nationwide event designed by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to highlight the value of safety and health programs in the workplace and to celebrate the institutions that implement them.

This Air Force Safety Center is asking Airmen to take part in OSHA’s “Take 3 in 30” challenge as part of Safe + Sound Week. The “Take 3 in 30” challenge is simple: take three actions in 30 days to advance workplace safety or health culture. Some recommended actions include:

- Take three safety actions in 30 days to advance workplace safety or health culture
- Consider adding safety actions or videos to get a bonus Air Force Safe + Sound virtual coin.
- AFSEC will share Airmen participation on Occupational Safety SharePoint and AFSEC social media. Email AFSEC for more information on Safe + Sound Week.

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