Arnold AFB to begin Return to Full Capacity June 1

By Jason Austin

Leadership at Arnold Air Force Base announced today, May 29, that a three-phase Return to Full Capacity framework will begin Monday June 1. The initiation of Phase I is contingent on active COVID-19 case data from the four surrounding counties of Bedford, Coffee, Franklin, and Grundy, where approximately 75 percent of the workforce resides, remaining flat or declining. Phase I will be used to validate risk mitigation strategies in place to better protect the health of the workforce. Those strategies involve appropriate personal protective equipment, sanitizing materials and workplace practices such as physical distancing and room capacity limits. The Arnold Engineering Development Complex (AEDC) is part of the Arnold Engineering Development Complex (AEDC) Branch, or TSSI, supports the Arnold Engineering Development Complex. Project managers within the Test Systems Sustainment Division (TSSI) are advancing test capabilities through addressing infrastructure needs.

“The scope of our programs is $100 million-plus,” Dent said. “It remains everyone’s personal responsibility to limit their exposure to potential pathogens by limiting travel to areas with a high rate of transmission using publicly available data. Employees are encouraged to continue wearing cloth face coverings, avoid crowded spaces, use protective face coverings while in public, and wash hands frequently and not touching their face. These personal responsibilities better protect the individuals, their families and their co-workers. Once initiated, Phase 2 will be considered the new normal for some time, with the Air Force predicting the COVID-19 pandemic to remain in communities for 18 months or longer.”

A presentation on the full RFT framework as well as a daily update on the trend data AEDC leaders are using to make informed decisions can be found on the Arnold AFB Coronavirus webpage at www.arnold.af.mil/coronavirus.

The Arnold Air Force visits 704th TG facilities at Holloman AFB

1st Lt. Hannah Myers, 586th Flight Test Squadron flight test engineer, gives SECAP Barbara Barrett a close look at a T-38A Talon on May 20 at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico. Barrett visited facilities on base to interact with Airmen who have been working diligently to adapt, innovate and still complete mission operations amid COVID-19. Her visit included the world-class testing facilities of the 704th Test Group.

AEDC Capital Improvements Branch manages restoration, modernization, development of infrastructure

The Capital Improvements Branch, or TSSI, supports the mission of Arnold Engineering Development Complex by advancing test capabilities through addressing infrastructure needs. “We partner with our Test Operations and Sustainment contractor to provide the Test and Evaluation infrastructure necessary for execution of the National Defense Strategy,” said Michael Dent, chief of TSSI.

The Branch is part of the Test Systems Sustainment Division. Project managers within the Branch support all AEDC mission areas – Flight, Aeronomics, Space and Missiles, and Hypersonics – at Arnold Air Force Base; McKinley Climatic Lab at Eglin Air Force Base; Florida; the National Full-Scale Aerodynamics Complex at Moffett Field in Mountain View, California; and the Hypervelocity Wind Tunnel 9 at White Oak, Maryland.

Joseph Barta, right, an AEDC project manager, talks about a Plant Exhaustor Motors improvements being completed under the Service Life Extension Program (SLEP), seen here Feb. 13 at Arnold Air Force Base. Also pictured, Nathaniel Harrison, former SLEP manager for the Capital Improvements Branch. (U.S. Air Force photo by Jill Pickett)
Integrity

For government employees, the fact that a person smokes has no bearing on the number of breaks they receive. 

Traditional Tobacco products (e.g. cigars and cigarettes):

The following revised Arnold AFB smoking policy is effective immediately and applies to all individuals on Arnold AFB.

• Smoking in government-owned/leased vehicles is strictly prohibited. Personnel are allowed to smoke in their personal vehicles.

Smokeless Tobacco products (e.g. snuff and dip):

Smokeless tobacco products are not to be restricted to DTAs. Smokeless tobacco use will be permitted in all workplace areas (inside and out) subject to reasonable safety and sanitary conditions. Specifically, containers will not be allowed to obstruct pedestrian or vehicular traffic. All smokeless tobacco use is to be performed in designated areas outside the buildings.

For further details, refer to Arnold Air Force Base - and Mission Support Group.

The Arnold Mili...
AEDC leaders detail return-to-full-capacity plan during virtual town hall

By Bradley Hicks

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla.—The 96th Medical Group at Eglin AFB, Fla., has been planning for a return to full capacity since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. The group is putting a lot of thought into the plan initiation of the program...
A significant effort managed by TSSI is the Service Life Extension Program, or SLEP, which is addressing critical infrastructure needs. “AEDC is rich in history and has been supporting DOD Test and Evaluation projects since the 1950s,” said Nathan Harrison, formerly the Service Life Extension Program manager for TSSI. “Due to AEDC’s aging infrastructure, there are many critical restoration and modernization needs. Addressing these needs is absolutely crucial for maintaining and further realizing U.S. airpower superiority. SLEP has played an integral role by ensuring AEDC assets can continue to provide test and evaluation capabilities that are second to none.”

An example of SLEP efforts at Arnold AFB is the replacement of nine exhauster motors with five exhauster motors in the A and B Plants which serve multiple test cells on base. The upgraded equipment will increase reliability and maintainability of the system. Another example of a project completed as part of the SLEP is a project that implemented an innovative method to repair leaking raw water pipes by lining the interior with a fiber-reinforced polymer. The repair was conducted to meet an urgent need, and its success is being evaluated to determine if this process will be viable across Arnold where appropriate. Implications are cost avoidance in the millions, plus potentially a 10-fold reduction in schedule required to implement.

2nd Lt. Adam Doyle, a project manager with TSSI, oversaw the pipe restoration.

“As a project manager my role is to manage and integrate projects to ensure all cost, schedule and performance requirements are delivered to enhance AEDC test capabilities,” Doyle said. “Along with that, I believe a big portion of my job is delivering the most efficient ways of solving AEDC’s critical needs that could be problematic for the advancement of the National Defense Strategy.”

In addition to restoring and modernizing infrastructure to maintain existing capabilities, TSSI pushes AEDC forward by constructing facilities to meet evermore demanding test needs, such as the hypersonic mission area. “Open sources tell us that Russia and China have made significant advances in hypersonic flight in recent years,” said Frank Wonder, Hypersonic Test and Evaluation Investment Program (HyTIP) manager for TSSI. “As a result, hundreds of millions of dollars are being invested, and much of that at AEDC, to advance our nation’s Hypersonic Test and Evaluation infrastructure.”

“The von Kármán Gas Dynamics Facility drove regeneration, shown here Feb. 14, was restored and modernized as part of the Service Life Extension Program a few years ago, at Arnold Air Force Base. This effort improved the reliability and safety of the system.”

The Capital Improvements Branch, or TSSI, is restoring the exhaust gas cooling system of the Aeropropulsion System Test Facility (ASTF), including forespray banks and exhaust cooler, seen here Feb. 14 at Arnold Air Force Base. This effort will enable testing of the next generation of turbine engines in ASTF. (U.S. Air Force photo by Jill Pickett)

Tyler McCamey, left, an AEDC program manager, observes a gauge on gas-insulated switchgear (GIS) for the Propulsion Wind Tunnel Facility, Feb. 14, at Arnold Air Force Base. The switchgear was upgraded to GIS as a Service Life Extension Program effort. Also pictured, Nathan Harrison, former Service Life Extension Program manager for the Capital Improvements Branch. (U.S. Air Force photo by Jill Pickett)
1. Stay informed the smart way.

A healthy mind is key to a healthy body, and the ability to stay informed is essential. However, there are many sources of information available, and it can be overwhelming to sort through them all.

Here’s how to stay informed:

- Get outside. Nature can be a great source of information and can provide a calming effect. It can also be a great source of inspiration and new ideas.
- Practice meditation. Meditation can help you relax and clear your mind, which can be helpful when trying to sort through information.
- Stay active and spend time outside. Don’t let the gym be the only reason you get off the couch. Go for a walk, run, bike, or do some other form of exercise.
- Start a new project. Use this time to learn a new skill or hobby.
- Take inventory on your perspective. In a crisis like this, it is very easy for our minds to run wild and create worst-case scenarios.
- Take your time. It is important to take your time and avoid making decisions too quickly.
- Practice meditation or relaxation techniques. Meditation or relaxation exercises can help you relax and clear your mind, which can be helpful when trying to sort through information.

2. Stress and anxiety serve a purpose.

Stress and anxiety serve a purpose. They are our body’s way of alerting us to a threat. When we are stressed, our body releases a hormone called cortisol, which helps us cope with stress.

When you are stressed, your body releases a hormone called cortisol, which helps you cope with stress. Cortisol helps you feel grounded, strong and better able to respond to stress.

3. Go out and play.

Go out and play! Play is an essential part of our lives. It helps us to relax and take our minds off our worries.

When you are stressed, your body releases a hormone called cortisol, which helps you feel grounded, strong and better able to respond to stress.

4. No social distancing, no worry.

Social distancing is a crucial part of slowing the spread of COVID-19. However, this doesn’t mean you can’t still have fun with your friends and family.

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Arnold AFB milestones

15 YEARS
Lawrence Christian, TOS
Nicholas Fredrick, TOS
Yvonne S. Hester, FSS
10 YEARS
Armando Aguaje, AF
Darrell Day, AF
Clarence Fleming, AF
Randy Goodwin, TOS
William Harrigan, AF
5 YEARS
Jeffrey Ashley, TOS
Stephen Bones, AF
Brain Brown, TMSA
Jerry Ballcock, TOS
Stanley Chock, TO

Photos unavailable for the following award winners:
Capt. R. Kyle Taturn
760th Test Group, Det. 1, Holloman AFB
Staff Sgt. Patrick Gibbs
AFB Non-Nonsupervised Office of the Quarter

Master Sgt. Frank Mancino
Test Support Division - Logistics, Arnold AFB
Senior Nonsupervised Office of the Quarter

Maj. Tomeka N. O’Neal, AAF
Army Command Sgt. Maj. from Arnold AFB

Daniel Epperson
Test Operations Division, Arnold AFB
Civilian of the Quarter Category I

Andrew DeVoll
740th Test Squadron, Holloman
Civilian of the Quarter Category II

John England, TOS
Stephen Guimond, TMSA
John Lominac Jr., AF
John Winton, TOS

OUTBOUND MILITARY
1st Lt. Ryan Broussard, AF
Capt. David Rich, AF
1st Lt. Jonathan Tarr, AF

NEW HIRES
Christopher Carmos, AF
Melissa Douglas, AF

Maj. Stephen Satava, AF
Staff Sgt. Adam Satanish, AF

By Kevin L. Robinson

FORT LEE, Va.- Hurricanes, tornadoes, cyclones, typhoons and other storms often occur with little time to prepare for the devastating disruptions of normalcy. Service members and their families can plan for that disruption by using their commissary benefit to purchase emergency supplies and ensure normalcy.

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“Whether it comes from a sudden and unex- pected natural disaster or a manmade event, you cannot just go to the grocery store, which may also be closed—what’s your plan?” O’Neal said. “Before there is even time to think about it, you will need to have emergency supplies on hand.”

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, officials at Arnold Air Force Base have moved to cancel ac-

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Air Force Materiel Command preparing for next phase of COVID-19 operations

By Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio – As states across the U.S. begin to slowly reopen economies, Air Force Materiel Command leaders are similarly readying to return to full mission capacity following major disruptions caused by COVID-19.

The plan is for AFMC’s six centers and eight installations to reconstitute and begin to reopen installation services and to return many employees to their work places over the next 60 to 120 days. Timing will be determined by center and installation commanders, informed by their public health teams, local conditions, government’s executive orders, and declining trends of new coronavirus infections.

Moreover AFMC, in consultation with supervisors and medical professionals, will bring back a number of workers with health conditions that placed them at higher risk who have remained at home on weather and safety leave, and whose mission cannot be accomplished via telework.

“We’ve been careful primly planning for a safe and well thought through best return the workforce to full capacity. The time is right to start this process,” said Gen. Arnold W. Bunch, Jr., Air Force Materiel Command commander.

“Return to full capacity. Childcare is an amazing job responding to every challenge this coronavirus has thrown at us,” Bunch said. Bunch acknowledged the three air logistics centers are just one area where workers with special skills are needed at the job on depot production lines to support readiness by delivering aircraft and systems back to warfighters. In the past several weeks, some at risk workers were briefly recalled to perform specific tasks, and then returned home again to weather and safety leave. The reduced available manpower meant aircraft inclusions for programmed depot maintenance had to be slowed in some cases.

“We can’t com-