



News Release



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment

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AFCEE begins construction on first ever cyber warfare intelligence center

Lackland AFB, Texas – The Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment recently began construction on a new 38,000 square foot cyber command center.

The facility will be the home for the 68th Network Warfare Squadron and the 710th Information Operations Flight currently located at the former Brooks AFB. Scheduled for completion in the fall of 2010, it will be the pioneer command center for cyber warfare.

Officials from the 68th Network Warfare Squadron recently held a groundbreaking ceremony to officially commence construction.

“This building will be the first of its kind in the nation, as well as the first step in the new warfare – cyber warfare,” said Col. Bradford Shwedo, commander of the 68th Network Warfare Squadron.

Air Force officials chose Lackland AFB to be the hub of cyber command operations. One reason they chose Lackland AFB was because of its proximity to other cyber-related commands such as NSA’s Texas Cryptologic Center; the Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Agency; the 67th Network Warfare Wing; the Joint Information Operations Warfare Command; and the Air Force Cryptologic Support Group.

The facility’s construction is one of the base realignment and closure projects, also known as BRAC, being managed and executed through AFCEE and constructed by TolTest, Inc.

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The BRAC commission is a federal entity set up to review the assets and property of military installations, close excess bases and realign operations and resources to maximize tax payer dollars.

The facility will serve as an office building for 400 employees. Some amenities include a sensitive compartmented information facility, also known as a SCIF, a breakroom, and an additional 4,000 square feet for a 100-space parking lot and a two-lane road.

The building will also be designed and constructed in accordance with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design requirements. LEED is a goal-oriented approach to the design, construction, and operation of “green” buildings. LEED certification requires the facilities built have environmentally friendly features, use recyclable materials when possible, and use energy efficient lighting and appliances.

“We are excited about the opportunity to design and construct the Intelligence Operations Center for the Air Force Reserve Command and the Air Force Space Command, which will be essential to the execution of their cyber warfare capabilities,” said AFCEE project manager Mark Stough.

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The author is an AFCEE contractor with the firm Booz Allen Hamilton.