Soldiers, families, and civilians are our most important assets. At Army Safety, we focus on the development and implementation of techniques, practices, technologies, systems, and training to transform and modernize the Safety and Occupational Health (SOH) program and better anticipate, recognize, and control hazards that pose a risk to our valued assets. Improving explosives safety (ES) training, capability, awareness, and management processes are critical components of a robust SOH strategy that promotes the health and safety of soldiers and civilians and supports the Army as it transitions, adapts, and improves to meet the demands of the future. Three essential priorities of our ES program are improving expertise and readiness of personnel; implementing an Army-wide Recognize, Retreat, and Report (3Rs) ES program; and advancing ES program management.

Through the growth of the Army 0017 Explosives Safety Specialist civilian occupational series and expansion of ES training and credentialing programs, we are improving personnel readiness and ensuring we have ES expertise at the right locations. Over the past year, more than 9,000 civilians and soldiers have participated in Career Program 12 and Defense Ammunition Center–sponsored ES classroom training and certificate programs. An additional 154,000 students accessed Army ES training through online platforms. Explosives safety education is an effective risk mitigation tool. As such, it is our priority to implement the Army’s 3Rs ES program. This program is easy to remember and educates military personnel and civilians alike about the potential hazards associated with munitions and the actions to take should they encounter or suspect they have encountered a munition. We are continuously improving 3Rs education to target the general public, specific activities (e.g., outdoor recreation), and industries (e.g., construction). The Army recently began working with Active and Reserve installations to design installation-specific 3Rs programs.

Likewise, we are improving ES program management to mitigate risk and maximize readiness through streamlined processes and reporting from the Headquarters, Department of the Army, to the brigade level. Our initiatives include improving organizational structures, establishing objectives and performance measures for organizations responsible for Army Explosives Safety Management Programs, and creating systems and tools for data capture and sharing. One such system is the Safety and Occupational Health Enterprise Information Management System, which the Army will begin to deploy in the first quarter of FY20 with full deployment planned by FY28. The new, unified system will enable a better
shared understanding of both risk and resources for preventing injury and illness that affect readiness and lethality across our enterprise.

Safety and health excellence require daily proactive engagement by commanders, leaders, supervisors, soldiers, and civilians at every level. As we move into the spring season and towards Memorial Day commemorations, I encourage you to be proactive in stopping the chain of events that lead to mishaps.

Thank you for what you do every day for our Army. I wish you all a safe and happy Memorial Day.

Readiness Through Safety!
Timothy J. Daugherty
Brigadier General, USA Commanding

MESSAGE FROM THE FCR:

CP-12 PUBLISHES INTERN SUPPORT TOOLS

By Dr. Brenda Miller
Senior Safety Advisor/
Career Program 12 Functional Chief Representative

The Career Program (CP) Office is busy enhancing tools for career development. In February, we released two publications to attract and inform new hires: an intern recruitment brochure and the intern program handbook.

The brochure is used at college campuses, job fairs, and military service centers to recruit the best and brightest to Army civilian service. This quick reference guide communicates the following essential information:

• The CP-12 mission and career paths
• Civilian service benefits
• Training and development programs
• Points of contact for intern placement and job opportunities.

The intern handbook familiarizes new hires with the CP-12 mission, vision, and areas of responsibility and serves as a general reference guide for both interns and supervisors in the SOH CP. This guide includes the following critical information:

• Career management roles and responsibilities
• Army Civilian Training and Education System
• Intern tools and training requirements
• Benefits and entitlements
• Travel policies and processes
• Career program policies and recommendations
• Key information resources.

The brochure, handbook, and other information pertinent to CP-12 are located at https://safety.army.mil/CP-12/ Home.

ANNOUNCEMENT: 2019 ARMY EXPLOSIVES SAFETY SURVEY

We are excited to announce that Career Program 12 (CP-12) is collaborating with the Office of the Director of Army Safety to improve the explosives safety (ES) training and support available to our safety professionals. On May 8, we emailed CP-12 safety professionals an invitation to participate in the 2019 Army Explosives Safety Survey.

Participation in this short survey is voluntary, but we strongly encourage you to support this improvement effort and the Army’s commitment to safe and efficient ammunition and explosives operations. The email invitation is signed by Mr. James Patton, Senior Safety Engineer, Office of the Director of Army Safety. If you’ve received an invitation, we encourage you to respond today.
HOT TOPICS:
NEW LEADERSHIP AT THE DEFENSE AMMUNITION CENTER

Ms. Theresa (Tre’) Smith is the new executive director of the Defense Ammunition Center and U.S. Army Technical Center for Explosives Safety (USATCES). Ms. Smith is no stranger to the explosives safety community. She served as the director, USATCES in 2015. She worked on the NATO Allied Ammunition Storage and Transportation (AASTP) Board, the Ammunition Safety Group, AC/326 (Ammunition Life Cycle Safety in Support of NATO Priorities) subgroup/C (In-Service and Operational Safety Management) Committee. Ms. Smith supported diverse Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board missions. She also was pivotal in attaining and hosting diverse iterations of AASTP-1, NATO Guidelines for the Storage of Military Ammunition and Explosives, and AASTP-5, NATO Guidelines for Storage, Maintenance and Transport of Ammunition on Deployed Missions or Operations, training for U.S. personnel. In addition, Ms. Smith was instrumental in the integration of explosives safety to the Department of the Army review program. She is certified in United Nations International Ammunition Technical Guidelines and truly embraces every opportunity to coach, mentor, and train personnel on the significance of explosives safety principles.

Ms. Theresa (Tre’) Smith
Executive Director of the Defense Ammunition Center

EXPLOSIVES SAFETY IN A DEPLOYED ENVIRONMENT

By Amber R. Quillman

Explosives safety specialists’ responsibilities in a deployed environment, regardless of location, is somewhat consistent: advise on courses of actions to improve the command ammunition and explosives (AE) safety posture.

The fundamental tools an explosives safety specialist uses in the deployed environment are the Automated Safety Assessment Protocol Excel spreadsheet and Explosive Safety Siting Software, using the quality distance calculator to create deviation approval and risk acceptance documents (DARADs), work in partnership with the customer to complete the Deliberate Risk Assessment Worksheet (DD Form 2977), and create munitions risk assessments. One can also expect to complete a site plan for submittal and issue explosive licenses based on approved net explosives weight limits. Some of the information for the needed documents is gathered at Project Review Board, Construction Joint Facilities Utilization Board meetings.

Specialists also conduct and document site visits to AE storage locations to ensure compliance with AE storage requirements (compatibility and explosives limits) and proper documentation (risk assessment or commander’s authorization).

The most difficult part of completing required risk acceptance documents is staffing (acquiring signatures). The key difficulty with staffing is knowing or determining the correct signature authority for risk acceptance. The signature authority is determined considering the category of risk, the duration of the risk, and ownership of the resources to control, eliminate, or correct the hazard. The category of risk is based on severity (expected consequence) of an incident, the probability (expected frequency) of an incident, and ultimately the risk acceptance authority using the Army Risk Management Process (Department of the Army Pamphlet 385-30, Tables 3-3 and 4-1). Another difficulty with staffing is that personnel status is fluid. After obtaining one signature, you may find that the next person in line for signature has gone through a relief in place (RIP). The process will then need to start over. Even if there hasn’t been a RIP, the people you need may not have access to email. Keep in mind some deployed environments are in hostile territory and your document is not always someone else’s priority (following up with a phone call is recommended).

Explosives safety specialists, after a 90-day deployment, will return with the know-how to complete tasks in a difficult and fluid environment. They will also have confidence with speaking to and advising diverse groups, individuals, senior leaders, and all services, including coalition forces. Explosives safety specialists are a vital resource in keeping the warfighter safer in an unsafe environment.
CAREERIST SPOTLIGHT: PHIL Santee

DEVELOPMENTAL ASSIGNMENT WITH THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF ARMY SAFETY

As I neared the end of my developmental assignment with the Office of the Director of Army Safety (ODASAF), I was asked to summarize my experience. Over the course of the 90-day assignment, I had taken notes on projects I assisted, meetings I attended, sites I visited, and other tasks I supported, but the notes alone didn’t furnish a profound understanding of what I was taking away from my experience. On paper, the day to day didn’t make the same impression as did the reality of watching and participating in the decision-making process at the headquarters level and understanding the effect each decision had across the Army and the safety and health community.

Over the course of my career, I have supplied input to Army regulation updates and responded to taskers for annual accident and injury reporting statistics, along with various other requests that, at the time, may have seemed somewhat void in their purpose or reason. This developmental assignment offered a new and different perspective, an explanation to why these requests are made. I learned that those requests have significant purpose to not only protect the warfighter, but also support our careers and the continued advancement of the CP-12 community as a whole.

Although it may not have always been evident to me, and possibly others like me in the CP-12 community, the work our leaders do to protect our careers, defend our funding, and champion our advancement in the Army system is commendable. Between the 25 occupational series in CP-12 and seemingly countless functional skillsets, the coordination efforts to support and sustain each need is, to say the least, demanding, and it has been a privilege to assist in this process during my developmental assignment.

This assignment reaffirms that my responsibility as a safety and health professional is important and what everyone does in the CP-12 community is vital. We are the experts in our field and we know the importance of what we do. But we also need to convey our message clearly, when given the opportunity. If we don’t effectively communicate our needs and concerns, it is difficult for the ODASAF to share our message and defend our significance across the Army.

So if I can share one lesson learned from this experience, it would be to get more involved, professionally raise opinions on program gaps or significant safety concerns, and supply as much detail as possible on program data requests and other responsibilities as safety and health professionals. It matters for our profession and our careers. Also, remember that we are just one small part of a larger system and although our individual missions are important, so are others, and we must trust our leadership to balance our needs successfully to support all warfighters across the Army.

Seeing a broader perspective on how my expertise fits into the larger Army system is an invaluable lesson learned for my career, and, hopefully, a motivation for others to take on a similar experience to benefit not only their own professional growth, but also the growth of the CP-12 community.

Mr. Phil Santee is a native of Nazareth, Pennsylvania, and has been a resident of the Baltimore, Maryland/Washington, DC metro area since 2009. He is a graduate of Millersville University, where he earned his Bachelor of Science through an Occupational Safety and Environmental Health program accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. Upon graduation, Mr. Santee started his professional career as a Department of the Army, Army Civilian Training, Education, and Development System Intern for the Combat Capabilities Development Command’s Chemical Biological Center (CCDC CBC) as a safety and occupational health specialist. While completing his internship, he earned his CP-12 Certificate, an Advanced Certificate in Safety and Health Management through the American Society of Safety Professionals, and a Professional Certificate in Environmental Health Sciences from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. At the completion of his internship, he remained at CCDC CBC and played a key role in supporting safety and health programs and initiatives for stockpile and non-stockpile chemical material destruction activities, industrial hygiene, industrial safety, and chemical and biological laboratory safety. Mr. Santee continually builds his experience and education across all aspects of the safety and health profession, earning his Certified Safety Professional (CSP) credential in 2013. In 2016, Mr. Santee joined the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District’s Safety and Health Office, and plays an active role as a key advisor to the Chief of Safety for the district.
RESOURCES FOR SUCCESS

In collaboration with the Defense Ammunition Center and the Army Munitions and Explosives Safety (ES) Management Council, Career Program 12 (CP-12) recently updated and published two important resources for explosives safety: The Leader’s Guide to the Explosives Safety Professional and the Tactical Explosives Safety Quick Reference Guide. These publications are critical resources for ensuring the success of the Army ES mission and commanders’ ES management programs.

The Leader’s Guide to the U.S. Army Explosives Safety Professional

As part of the profession of arms, CP-12 ES safety professionals routinely furnish guidance and support for ammunition and explosives (AE) functions. Their responsibilities include safety functions associated with AE use, storage, transportation, production, surveillance, maintenance, research, testing, munition responses, demilitarization, and disposal. CP-12 professionals are critical as the focal point for the commander’s explosives safety management program and ensure the safety of Army assets. This guide furnishes an overview of ES personnel roles and responsibilities, the commander’s role in ES, qualifications for ES professionals, and keys to a successful ES program.

This guide is available in electronic media at https://safety.army.mil/CP-12/Resources/Leaders-Guides.

The Tactical Explosives Safety Quick Reference Guide

This guide supplies personnel in possession of AE with information on how to manage the risks associated with AE storage and handling, guidelines for safe separation distances, and resources for ES support in the operational environment.

The guide includes the following:
- The application of the rules on separation (quantity distance)
- AE characteristics
- Detail on ammunition storage areas and forward arming and refueling points
- Criteria for ES deviation and risk assessment.

The POC for obtaining access to this guide is Hilbert C. (Buster) Hurd, TSP, Explosives Safety Specialist U.S. Army Defense Ammunition Center

Located at U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center Fort Rucker, AL 36363-5363 hilbert.c.hurd.civ@mail.mil

DEVELOPING ARMY EXPLOSIVES SAFETY SPECIALISTS

Buster Hurd

In collaboration with the Defense Ammunition Center (DAC), Career Program (CP-) 12 is developing a new Army civilian job series, the 0017 Explosives Safety Specialist. To build the program, CP-12, DAC, and a broad group of Army explosives safety (ES) subject matter experts designed and implemented a rigorous two-year training and development program that incorporates Army resident and distance learning, university courses, on-the-job training, and rotational assignments. The program emphasizes safety and occupational health concepts, hazard analysis, risk management, munitions criteria, and ES policy and procedures across the broad range of operational environments. Program participants support global Army operations alongside seasoned ES professionals.

As part of the program, 0017s earn American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited Professional Certificates in Explosives Safety (level 1 and 2). These training certificates are directly linked to Army ES competency requirements, ensuring commanders receive qualified ES professionals to complement their organizational safety personnel at all levels, from brigade to major command. In the near future, our goal is to build and earn ANSI accreditation for an explosives safety certification program. This credentialing program will go beyond training certificates to assess ES knowledge, skills, and abilities through a capstone project and demonstrative activities that include site planning, risk assessment, and broad ES management functions. Successful completion of this program and the ES credential will ensure 0017s are competent and capable of supporting the commander’s mission and the Army ES program.

ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG

ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG
EXPLOSIVES SAFETY RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT USACE

By Susan Hamilton, PE
U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, AL

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is an Army organization with expertise in a variety of areas. USACE operates on a worldwide scale with a mission to deliver vital public and military engineering services, partnering in peace and war to strengthen our nation’s security, energize the economy, and reduce risks from disasters. Among the many talented individuals operating in USACE organizations, there are multiple groups who collaborate in teams as subject matter experts in their respective fields. Of the more than 46 centers of expertise designated by USACE, there are four mandatory centers of expertise (MCX) in fields related to explosives safety. Of these four MCXs, three are headquartered at the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center in Huntsville, Alabama. The MCXs in explosives safety–related fields include

- Environmental and Munitions Center of Expertise (EM CX) (Huntsville, AL),
- Facilities and Explosives Safety Center of Expertise (FES MCX) (Huntsville, AL),
- Protective Design Center (PDC) (Omaha, NE), and
- Range and Training Land Program (RTLP) Center of Expertise (Huntsville, AL).

These MCXs supply expertise in their respective fields to all USACE elements as well as the Army and other Department of Defense (DoD) and non-DoD federal agencies. The MCXs have also furnished technical support to foreign, state, and local governments and authorities when coordinated with and authorized by USACE through an interagency and international services agreement.

The EM CX specializes in activities related to the cleanup of waste military munitions, unexploded ordnance, and munitions potentially presenting an explosive hazard. There are four divisions in the EM CX: Environmental Engineering and Geology, Environmental Compliance and Management, Environmental Sciences, and Military Munitions. Together these divisions work to create, review, implement, and manage explosives safety plans and requirements associated with the cleanup of chemical and conventional ammunition and explosives around the world.

The FES MCX focuses on the design, construction, or modification of facilities that manufacture, store, handle, maintain, create, demilitarize, test, or dispose of ammunition or explosives (AE). Engineers in the FES MCX specialize in application of explosives safety quantity distances requirements for AE facilities and work to create technologies in facilities explosive safety, handling, and storage. Services of the FES MCX include development
and review of explosives safety siting plans, protective construction analysis and design of facilities to resist blast effects, research development testing and evaluation of blast effects and blast mitigation methods, and creation of explosives safety criteria for the Army and DoD.

PDC maintains state-of-the-art technical expertise in and furnishes expert support for fields related to antiterrorism and force protection requirements. In addition, PDC specializes in designs to resist the effects of nuclear weapons, supply protection from chemical biological or radiological agents, and furnish electromagnetic pulse protection.

The MCX for RTLP was established to maintain state-of-the-art technical expertise for the planning, programming, design, and construction of Army training ranges and selected indoor training facilities. Technical expertise in this area includes ballistics analysis; facility planning, design, and construction; facility safety review; and Army and U.S. Marine Corps standard designs. The RTLP MCX is involved throughout the range development process, including facility design, construction, instrumentation, and operation. The RTLP MCX, with input from major Army commands and schools, creates generic design manuals for the Range Design Guide. In addition, the RTLP MCX reviews designs and monitors range construction projects to ensure they meet interface and standardization requirements.

For additional information on these centers of expertise, including contact information, please see the websites or contact information below. Note that the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center is a cost-reimbursable organization and may require funding to furnish support.

- **Environmental and Munitions Center of Expertise** (Huntsville, AL)—John Nebelsick, John.D.Nebelsick@usace.army.mil
- **Facilities and Explosives Safety Center of Expertise** (Huntsville, AL)—Jeffery Coulston, Jeff.Coulston@usace.army.mil
- **Protective Design Center** (Omaha, NE)—https://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/pdc/home/, PDC.Web@usace.army.mil
- **Range and Training Land Program Center of Expertise** (Huntsville, AL)—William.C.Stephenson@usace.army.mil

Hazards from explosive events fall into three primary categories: pressure, thermal, and debris. Of these three hazard types, debris typically control safe separation distances. As they say, "It isn't that the wind is blowing. It's what the wind is blowing!"

Debris from explosive events are categorized as either primary fragmentation or secondary debris. Primary fragmentation includes the pieces of the munition case that are intended to break apart and hazard the enemy. Secondary debris include any building debris or other materials that are not in contact with the explosives but are incidentally thrown during a detonation. Primary fragmentation typically poses a hazard at greater distances than secondary debris. Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board (DDESB) Technical Paper 16 (TP-16), “Methodologies for Calculating Primary Fragment Characteristics,” details an analytical method for the calculation of primary fragment characteristics for explosives safety site planning, test prediction, protective construction, and other uses. The analysis methods discussed in TP-16 are detailed and extensive.

Hand calculations have historically been tedious and prone to human error. Standalone Excel-based tools are part of the TP-16 download package to speed calculation time and ensure correct, repeatable results. There are six tools associated with TP-16:

- **Generic Equation Calculator**—Approximates the required separation distances for intentional and unintentional detonations.
- **Buried Explosion Module**—Calculates the mitigated overpressure and debris distance for detonation of buried military munitions.
- **Barricade Angle Calculator**—Calculates the required cross-sectional geometry of a barricade to protect personnel or assets at a specified distance.
- **Modified Pseudo Trajectory Normal Calculator**—Calculates the hazardous fragment distance from a detonation based on a set of test data.
- **Jacobs-Roslund Calculator**—Calculates the likelihood of propagation of a detonation between munition items.
- **Stacked Munition Article Calculator**—Calculates the required separation distance for stacks of munition items.

These tools can be used in conjunction with each other and the TP-16 methods to define and, in some cases, mitigate the hazards from detonation of military munitions. Instructions as well as details of the methods used in the algorithms of the tools are included in the TP-16 document. TP-16 is available via secure download from the DDESB website at https://denix.osd.mil/ddes/ddes-technical-papers/.

Ms. Hamilton is a DoD subject matter expert in blast effects, explosives safety siting, and primary fragmentation. She has a BS in civil engineering from Auburn University and has been with the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, for 10 years. During her career, Ms. Hamilton has implemented explosives safety throughout all of DoD and created new explosives safety techniques and requirements based on science and the latest research and testing efforts. Ms. Hamilton is co-author of DDESB Technical Papers 16 and 17, serves on the DDESB Science Panel, and creates, improves, and maintains the tools associated with Technical Papers 16 and 17.
USATCES UNDERGOES PROCESS IMPROVEMENT TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY

By Ronald Allen and Landon Johnson

The U.S. Army Technical Center for Explosives Safety (USATCES) has recently employed improvement strategies to the explosives safety site plan (ESSP) review and approval process to reduce the processing time required to obtain Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board (DDESB) and USATCES ESSP approvals. Through the introduction of a new internal tracking system and real-time metrics that assist in finding process bottlenecks, USATCES has reduced the average ESSP review time by 69 percent from calendar year (CY) 2018 to CY19. Much of this improvement can be attributed to the implementation of an initial review by USATCES upon receipt of the ESSP to ensure the submission includes required basic information and has the correct formatting. If the ESSP does not meet these initial requirements, it is returned to the submitting organization for correction and resubmission—the opposite of the past process that allowed ESSPs to sit in a queue as corrections were made.

In addition, a formalized request for information (RFI) process has been implemented to facilitate the exchange process between USATCES and the submitting organization when additional information is needed to complete review and approvals. ESSPs pending an RFI response are placed on hold, which frees action officers to review other ESSPs in the queue while waiting on a response. Failure of the submitting organization to respond to RFIs prior to the assigned suspense date results in ESSPs being returned to the organization and removed from the approval process.

Thus far in CY19, USATCES has received 26 ESSPs—15 of which are currently in review, two that have been returned for corrections and resubmission, and nine that have been forwarded to DDESB for approval. The current average review time at USATCES is 23 days.

USATCES plans to continue to enhance processes and efficiencies by migrating the ESSP tracking system and the USATCES explosives safety data repository to a SharePoint site to increase continuity and improve access to the data for personnel around the world. The initial version of the SharePoint site has been developed and USATCES personnel are in the process of loading existing data before launching access to external organizations.

3Rs (Recognize, Retreat, Report) Explosives Safety Education Program

Munitions are designed to be dangerous. Military personnel use our lands and waters across the United States for live-fire training and testing to defend our nation. As a result, ammo may be present on both land and in the water. No matter what you call it—ammo, explosives, UXO, duds, or souvenirs—remember munitions are dangerous and can explode if approached, touched, moved, or disturbed. By visiting https://www.denix.osd.mil/uxo/, and learning and following the 3Rs (Recognize, Retreat, Report) of Explosives Safety, you will help protect yourself and your family, friends, and community from the potential dangers associated with the presence of munitions.
PRE-DEPLOYMENT TRAINING

By Shelley Gibson

Department of the Army civilians and soldiers from U.S. Army Central (USARCENT) are preparing to travel to Fort Hood, Texas, to train units deploying to their area of responsibility (AOR). One of USARCENT Safety Directorate’s critical program elements is the safe handling and storage of ammunition and explosives (AE). The importance of this factor drives the need for educating the force and supplying refresher and familiarization training to the deploying unit on current tactics, techniques, and procedures. The subject matter experts from the USARCENT Safety Office, the Defense Ammunition Center (DAC), U.S. Technical Center for Explosives Safety (USATCES), USARCENT Sustainment Office, and 1st Theater Sustainment Command furnish this training.

The training consists of explosives safety training and basic ammunition logistics. The training includes explosives safety site planning, which incorporates deviation approval and risk acceptance document processing, munitions risk management assessments, and explosives licensing of the storage location. Tactical explosives safety components are also presented, such as Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board (DDESB) Technical Paper 15, various barricade identifications, ISO containerization, and how to calculate explosives safety quantity distances. Other areas of instructions include theater layout and an overview of the common operating picture for the AOR, munitions familiarization, physical security, stockage objectives, and the unique explosives safety storage criteria for basic load ammunition holding areas, forward operating bases, combat aircraft parking areas, and ready ammunition storage areas.

During the training phase of a deploying organization’s mobilization process, the collaborative team supplies instruction on the required subject matter. The training usually consists of three days at the mobilization (MOB) site. This training ensures deployed elements are compliant with Headquarters, Department of the Army (HQDA) Executive Order (EXORD) 043-17, “Campaign on AE Safety.” HQDA EXORD 043-17 was born out of the need to bring all organizations into compliance with Department of Defense Explosives Safety Regulation 6055.09; Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction 4360.01B; Army Regulation 385-10, “Army Safety Program;” Department of the Army Pamphlet 385-64, “Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards;” and all applicable policies and procedures. Subordinate commanders are required to bring their organizations into compliance with the explosives safety data management tasks described in the EXORD. All of the requirements are outlined to ensure that safety professionals are properly trained in the tasks that they are expected to perform. The DAC, USATCES, and USARCENT collaboration for pre-deployment training meets that need and is held during an organization’s MOB cycle. The training focuses on the explosives safety and ammunition logistics in the USARCENT AOR. A myriad of subjects are chosen and, with teamwork and a group effort, the required training is tailored to the organization’s need, the schedule is planned, and the material is organized for the course.

Pre-deployment training enhances unit readiness. Readiness is important and, in the AOR, the unit has to be prepared for all hazards and find any AE violations. Units are going into a possible combat arena and the team must make certain that all personnel with the mission of ammunition processing and explosives safety have the tools to carry out and complete their mission safely. The team also must make certain that all personnel on deployment with the AE mission can observe and identify the hazards that AE can bring to their battle space. Understanding these hazards may be the difference between loss of life, bodily harm, or equipment damage and everyone and everything returning safely from a deployment.

The pre-deployment training gives the gaining organization a sense of understanding for the battle space and an awareness of the threats, challenges, and hazards, along with the many opportunities to make a difference during their deployment. Imparting knowledge through the training enables a seamless transition.