

# **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**BETWEEN**

**THE U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

**THE NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING  
COMMAND**

**AND**

**THE AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER**

**ON**

## **UNIFIED DESIGN GUIDANCE**

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### **1. Background**

A Tri-Service working group evaluated the status of unified design guidance and analyzed options to implement further improvements in response to House Conference Report 105-247, dated 9 September 1997. The working groups findings and recommendations are:

- (A) Forty-three percent of the Services existing design criteria documents are "unified", and current initiatives will unify another four percent. The Services use a common guide specification system, many of the same design tools and databases, and are working together to develop standard designs for common types of facilities.
- (B) There is potential for unifying more systems and the majority of the fifty-three percent of the Services design criteria documents that are not already unified. There is also potential to expand the existing uniformity of the Services guide specification system.
- (C) Greater use of Tri-Service groups as a formal documented process is the most cost-effective system for implementing improvements in unifying design guidance based on the analysis performed by the Tri-Service Working Group.

The findings and recommendations were documented in a report entitled *Unified Design Guidance*, which was submitted to the Congressional Defense Committees in March 1998.

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## **2. Purpose**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes the Tri-Service Engineering Senior Executive Board (the Board). The Board is established to facilitate greater use of Tri-Service working groups for the purpose of implementing improvements in unifying design guidance as identified in the *Unified Design Guidance* report to the Congressional Defense Committees.

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## **3. Responsibilities**

The Board will promote greater use of Tri-Service engineering and design criteria with a preference for the use of commercial non-Government standards to the maximum extent practical. Specific functions of the Board are:

- (A) Establish unified design guidance policy.
  - (B) Charter a Tri-Service Design Guidance Coordinating Panel to develop procedures for implementing unified design guidance policy.
  - (C) Provide oversight of the unified design guidance process.
  - (D) Resolve issues impeding unified design guidance.
  - (E) Act as resource/budget proponent for unified design guidance.
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## **4. Implementation**

The Board members will be the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, Managing Director, Energy and Engineering; the Army Corps of Engineers, Chief, Engineering and Construction; the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Chief Engineer; and the Air Force Deputy Civil Engineer. The role of chairperson will rotate bi-annually. This MOU will become effective upon signature by DUSD and the Service Chiefs of Engineering and will remain in effect for a period of two years. The MOU will be renewed as mutually agreed by DUSD and the Services Chiefs of Engineering.

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## 5. Approval

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, Managing Director, Energy and Engineering, and the Service Chiefs of Engineering herein establish the Tri-Service Engineering Senior Executive Board in accordance with the *Unified Design Guidance* report to the Congressional Defense Committees dated March 1998.



KISUK-CHEUNG, P.E.  
Chief, Engineering and  
Construction Division  
Directorate of Military Programs  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

7/2/98

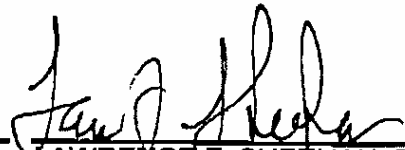
Date



DR. GET W. MOY, P.E.  
Chief Engineer  
Naval Facilities Engineering  
Command  
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7/2/98

Date



LAWRENCE F. SHEEHAN, P.E.  
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KEVIN T. GROSS, P.E.  
CAPT, CEC, USN  
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Dep. Under Secretary of Defense

7/8/98

Date