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Afghanistan Engineer District-South Establishes New Division Focused on O&M

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan— On Sept. 15, Afghanistan Engineer District – South established an Operations, Maintenance and Services Division, consolidating field operations of the following branches:

- Afghan National Security Forces Operations, Maintenance & Service Branch
- Operations and Maintenance Planning and Programming Branch
- Facilities Maintenance Branch.

Establishing the new division will improve accountability, contractor oversight and program and field coordination in executing the operations and maintenance mission. The new division will increase the district's responsiveness to its customers by consolidating the planning, programming and oversight of service contracts and operations and maintenance execution, and by streamlining operational control.

The new O&M division will:

- Provide increased senior level oversight of Afghan National Quality Assurance contract, operations and maintenance, and district facilities planning.
- Be responsible for communicating with the mentors of the Afghan security forces to increase their understanding of the services available within the operations and maintenance contract.

The chief of the new division will report directly to the district commander, and will be responsible for all operations, maintenance and service contract activities for the Afghan security forces program and for district facilities within southern Afghanistan.

The existing branches' authorized positions will be consolidated into the new division, with the division chief's position being the only increase to manning. Albert Soliz will serve as the interim division chief until a permanent selection is made.

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USACE's Afghanistan Engineer District-South provides design and construction services throughout southern Afghanistan to support the International Security Assistance Force and U.S. Forces-Afghanistan. The work is carried out in Regional Commands South, Southwest and West with the goal of achieving counterinsurgency effects and bolstering the Afghan Government's services to its people.

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