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Contact:
Mark Ray, (540) 667-5705
mark.c.ray@usace.army.mil

Camp Dwyer Rotary Wing parking, taxiway project completed

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — A Dec. 12 ceremony on Camp Dwyer in Helmand province marked the completion of a \$14.9 million project to provide parking and taxiways for coalition helicopters.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Afghanistan Engineer District-South contracted for and oversaw construction of the project. It comprises a total of 65,000 square meters of concrete paving, including 45,000 square meters of parking and taxiway and 20,000 square meters of runway, and can accommodate up to 10 aircraft. Work began in March 2010, and the facility became operational at the end of October.

“This project started slowly, like many projects in Afghanistan,” said South District Commander Air Force Col. Benjamin Wham in his remarks. “But our great team here at Camp Dwyer worked with the contractor, got the project on track and delivered an outstanding facility that will support coalition air operations in this area as long as they are required.”

The new parking and taxiways will improve the capacity of the medevac “DUSTOFF” units stationed at Camp Dwyer to execute their critical mission—evacuating wounded coalition soldiers, said Army Capt. Kevin Doo, maintenance officer of C Company, 1st Battalion, 171st Aviation Regiment, in his remarks. The battalion is one of the aviation units already using the new facility.

“The full range of rotary wing air operations here on Camp Dwyer uses the parking and taxiways of this facility. It increases our combat capability and supports the vital work of the DUSTOFF assets,” said Marine Lt. Col. Matthew



Ribbon flies as distinguished guests at the ceremony symbolically open the new facility. From left to right, Leevant Donmez, from METAG, the contractor that constructed the facility, Col. Benjamin Wham, USACE Afghanistan Engineer District-South Commander, Lt. Col. Matthew Stover, Air Boss, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, and Capt. Kevin Doo, maintenance officer, C Company, 1st Battalion, 171st Aviation Regiment.

Stover, Air Boss of the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), which oversees air operations at Camp Dwyer. “On behalf of the 2nd MAW, I’d like to thank the Corps of Engineers team for their work here.”

“The successful completion of this project is another example of how the South District builds strong and delivers quality construction to support the coalition, the Afghan National Security Forces, and the government and people of Afghanistan,” Wham said. “I look forward to being able to participate in many similar ceremonies, marking the completion of district projects, over the next seven months.”

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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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Residents from the surrounding area at the opening ceremony for the new district police headquarters at Ashterlee, Daykundi province. (USACE photo/Mark Ray)



A view of the compound in September 2011. (USACE photo/Mark Ray)

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