



CIB NEWS ARTICLE

International Council for Research and Innovation
in Building and Construction

Providing a global network for international exchange and cooperation in research and innovation in building and construction, in support of an improved building process and of improved performance of the built environment.

June 2006

Full Member Profile

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ERDC - Engineer Research and Development Center CERL - Construction Engineering Research Laboratory Champaign, Illinois, United States



The U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) provides high quality, responsive engineering and environmental research and development support to the Army and Nation. As part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers team, ERDC develops innovative science and technology solutions to support among others infrastructure, environmental, water resources, and disaster operations.

ERDC Mission

The U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) is one of the most diverse engineering and scientific research organizations in the world. It employs more than 2,000 engineers, scientists and support personnel; has \$1.2 billion in facilities; and conducts an annual research program totalling more than \$750 million.

Research projects include: facilities, airfields and pavements, protective structures, sustainment engineering, environmental quality, installation restoration (cleanup), compliance and conservation, regulatory functions, flood control, navigation,

recreation, hydropower, topography, mapping, geospatial data, winter climatic conditions, oceanography, environmental impacts, and information technology.

ERDC History

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been streamlining its business practices to provide better service for its customers. One major success story is the consolidation of the Corps' research laboratories into the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC). Reorganization began in October 1998 and became a reality in October 1999 when the separate laboratories combined into the ERDC.

Seven laboratories are located in four geographic sites around the country: the Coastal and Hydraulics, Environmental, Geotechnical and Structures, and Information Technology Laboratories in Vicksburg, Mississippi; the Construction Engineering Research Laboratory in Champaign, Illinois; the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory in Hanover, New Hampshire; and the Topographic Engineering Center in Alexandria, Virginia.



By consolidating the labs into one R&D organization, ERDC offers its customers one door to diverse initiatives and capabilities. Integrated teams of engineers and scientists across ERDC can address a broad range of science and technology issues, from Arctic temperatures to vehicle mobility in desert sands; from protecting a wetland to predicting the extended habitat range of an endangered species.

ERDC Contact Information

For more information, please visit the ERDC Web site at www.erdcd.usace.army.mil, or contact the ERDC Public Affairs Office by telephone at +1.601.634-2505.

CERL - Construction Engineering Research Laboratory - Introduction

From the CERL Acting Director: "Our facility is part of the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC). CERL conducts research and development in infrastructure and environmental sustainment. Our research results in new technologies that help military installations provide and maintain quality training lands and facilities for soldiers and their families. Many of our products also find use in the private sector, with CERL representing a unique asset to the nation for research in civil engineering and environmental quality."



Dr. Ilker Adiguzel, Director CERL and the Designated CIB Contact

CERL Mission

CERL conducts research to support sustainable military installations. Research is directed toward increasing the Army's ability to more efficiently construct, operate, and maintain its installations and ensure environmental quality and safety at a reduced life-cycle cost. An adequate infrastructure and realistic

training lands are critical assets to installations, which serve as platforms to project power worldwide. CERL also supports ERDC's R&D mission in civil works and military engineering.



CERL works closely with its customers to develop quality products and services and to help customers implement new technologies. User groups and steering committees have been established to help identify existing problems, establish research priorities, and provide input into the development of products. Many CERL products developed under this teamwork approach are in daily use, both within the Department of Defense and the private/public sectors. An active technology transfer program ensures these products receive the widest dissemination among prospective users.

Operations and Staff

CERL's success in providing high quality products is the result of its ability to work with the university community and private industry. It was located in Champaign, Illinois, in 1969 to work with the College of Engineering and other organizations at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Some 100 university personnel supplement the 250 government employees at CERL. CERL's staff represents a wide variety of scientific disciplines ranging from materials engineers to computer programmers to biologists. A consolidated USAERDC support staff consisting of technicians, writers, and accountants assists the research staff in the everyday details of conducting R&D. Under various contract arrangements, CERL actively works with over 30 major universities and private organizations in conducting research to support Army needs.