

CHARTER

TRI-SERVICE DESIGN GUIDANCE COORDINATING PANEL

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.

2. Purpose

This charter establishes the Tri-Service Design Guidance Coordinating Panel (the Panel). The Panel 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.

3. Sponsor

The Panel is sponsored by the Tri-Service Engineering Senior Executive Board (the Board). Board members are 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.

4. Responsibilities

The Panel 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 Panel are:

- (A) Establish process and procedures to implement unified guidance policy:
 - (1) Analyze the existing Air Force Civil Engineering, Army Corps of Engineers, and Naval Facilities Engineering Command processes by which technical guidance and criteria are planned and programmed, developed, reviewed and approved, applied, evaluated (feedback), maintained, updated, revised, and either reissued or rescinded.
 - (2) Identify each Service difference (i.e. needs, responsibilities, technical requirements, business practices, document types and format, customers, publications and distribution) and examine various issues which must be overcome to effectively share criteria between the Services.
 - (3) Develop Tri-Service criteria preparation, coordination and review procedures at the working level emphasizing technical cooperation, cost efficiency, and timely execution.
- (B) Formulate and recommend unified design guidance policy to the Tri-Service Engineering Senior Executive Board.
- (C) Formulate and recommend short term and standing Tri-Service Working Group charters and membership to the Tri-Service Engineering Senior Executive Board.
- (D) Prepare and maintain prioritized unified design guidance requirements list.
- (E) Prepare annual and future year unified design guidance action plan.
- (F) Provide coordination and oversight of Tri-Service Working Groups.


- (G) Arbitrate Service technical and procedural differences impeding unified design guidance. Prepare position papers for unresolved differences for final resolution and direction by the Tri- Service Engineering Senior Executive Board.

5. Implementation


The Panel members will be the Air Force Office of The Civil Engineer, Chief of Engineering Division; the Army Corps of Engineers, Chief, Engineering and Construction Technical Branch; and the Navy Director, NAVFAC Criteria Office. The role of chairperson will rotate bi-annually. This Charter will become effective upon signature by the Board and will remain in effect for a period of two years. The Charter will be renewed as mutually agreed by the Board.

6. Approval


The Tri-Service Engineering Senior Executive Board establish the Tri-Service Design Guidance Coordinating Panel in accordance with the *Unified Design Guidance* report to the Congressional Defense Committees, dated March 1998.


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Chief, Engineering and
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07/02/98
Date


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Chief Engineer
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7/2/98
Date


LAWRENCE F. SHEEHAN, P.E.
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7/2/98
Date


KEVIN T. GROSS, P.E.
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Managing Dir., Energy & Engr.
Industrial Affairs & Installations
Dep. Under Secretary of Defense

7/8/98
Date