Virtual Collaboration Action Plan (VCAP)

Planning CoP Webinar June 11, 2014

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US Army Corps of Engineers BUILDING STRONG.



PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- Project assignment and mission
- Virtual collaboration tools
 - Meeting invites
 - Conference calls
 - Webinars
 - Data repository
- Virtual collaboration purposes and processes
 - Project delivery team meetings (PDT) and other team meetings
 - Interagency meetings
 - Public meetings
 - Trainings
- Best management practices
- Regional Virtual Collaboration Toolbox





PROJECT ASSIGNMENT

- Project assigned to the South Pacific Division's (SPD) fiscal year
 2013 Regional Leadership Development Program (RLDP) class
- Do the best with less! regional approach
- Regional Management Board challenge
 - Look at the psychology of change
 - Focus on reducing the costs that often result from using traditional collaboration
 - Develop virtual collaboration processes
 - Research virtual collaboration tools
 - Develop an actionable product



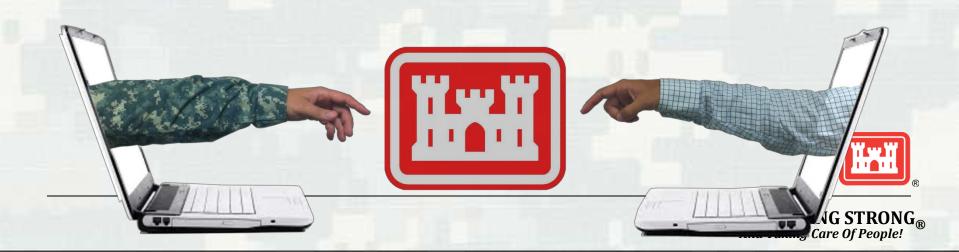


Project Mission

Develop an **action plan** and **toolbox** to **promote** virtual collaboration **throughout** the **South Pacific Division**.

Definition of Virtual Collaboration

A method of working together to accomplish goals utilizing regional expertise and technology-based resources with team members who are geographically separated.



PROJECT RESEARCH

- Coordinated with virtual collaboration subject matter experts (SME)
- Researched the functionality of different tools for USACE missions
- Researched virtual collaboration use by other public agencies and private sector (what they use, how, why)
- Interviewed ACE-IT leadership at each district and researched restraints
- Researched the psychology of change and what makes virtual collaboration successful
- Surveyed SPD workforce knowledge





PROJECT DELIVERABLES

- Virtual Collaboration Action Plan (VCAP) report
- Virtual Collaboration Regional Toolbox
- Virtual collaboration brochure
- Virtual collaboration brownbag trainings
- Virtual Communications CoP webinar





VIRTUAL COLLABORATION TOOLS

- Meeting request
 - Doodle (<u>www.doodle.com</u>)
 - Outlook
- Conference call (recommend AT&T reservationless number)
- Webinar
 - Defense Connect Online (DCO)
 - AT&T web meeting
- Data Repository
 - File Transfer Protocol (FTP)
 - SharePoint
 - ProjectWise





DEFENSE CONNECT ONLINE (DCO)

- Best for: internal meetings, trainings, and telework
- Cost: FREE!!!
- Voice service: can use computer microphones; currently recommend conference for voice (voice over internet protocol – VOIP)
- Several options: chat room, webcam, record meetings, live editing, transferring and sharing meeting information, taking and saving notes, breakout rooms (requires VOIP)
- Pros & Cons: user-friendly (however, not as much as AT&T for newbies); many more functions; highly customizable; users have their own profile for saving meeting information





AT&T WEB MEETING

- Best for: external meetings and trainings
- Cost: \$0.12 per minute per user
- Voice service: requires teleconference (\$0.03 per minute per user)
- **Several options:** chat room, webcam, record meetings, live editing, transferring and sharing meeting information, taking and saving notes
- Pros & Cons: very user-friendly (most people are familiar); many functions; no user profile for saving meeting information (must download it to your computer)





VIRTUAL COLLABORATION PURPOSES AND PROCESSES

- PDT and other team meetings
- External meetings (i.e., other agencies, stakeholders, customers)
- Public meetings
- Trainings
- Telework
- Nearly any meeting requirement

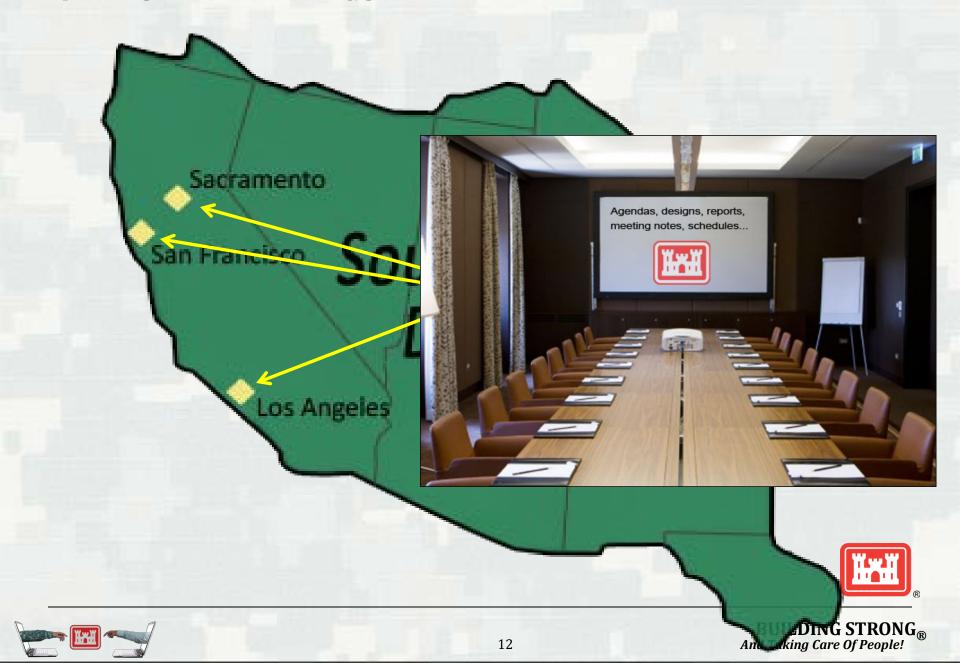




TRADITIONAL MEETINGS...



VIRTUAL MEETINGS...



VIRTUAL COLLABORATION...



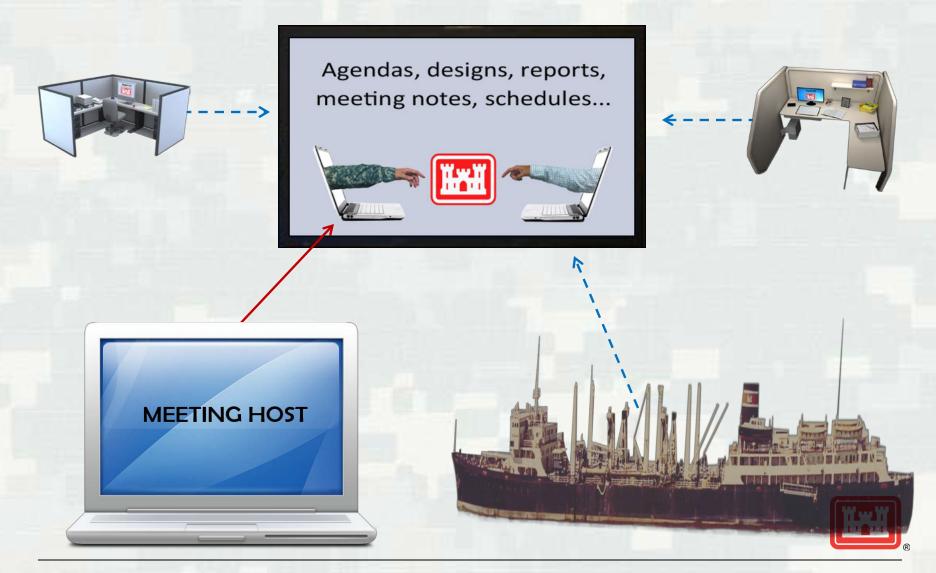




 $\begin{array}{c} \textbf{BUILDING STRONG}_{\$} \\ \textit{And Taking Care Of People!} \end{array}$

SMALL MEETINGS

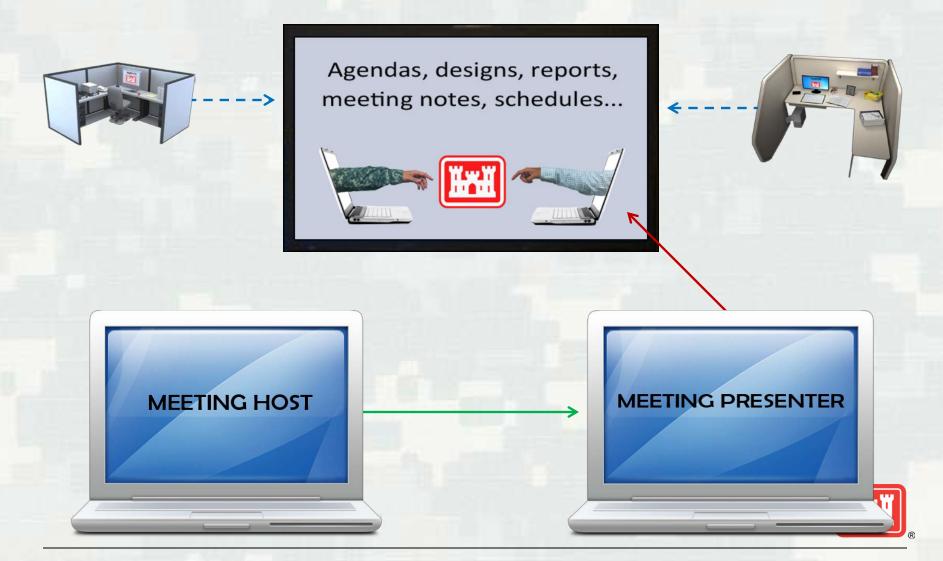
(PDT, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, CONTRACTOR)





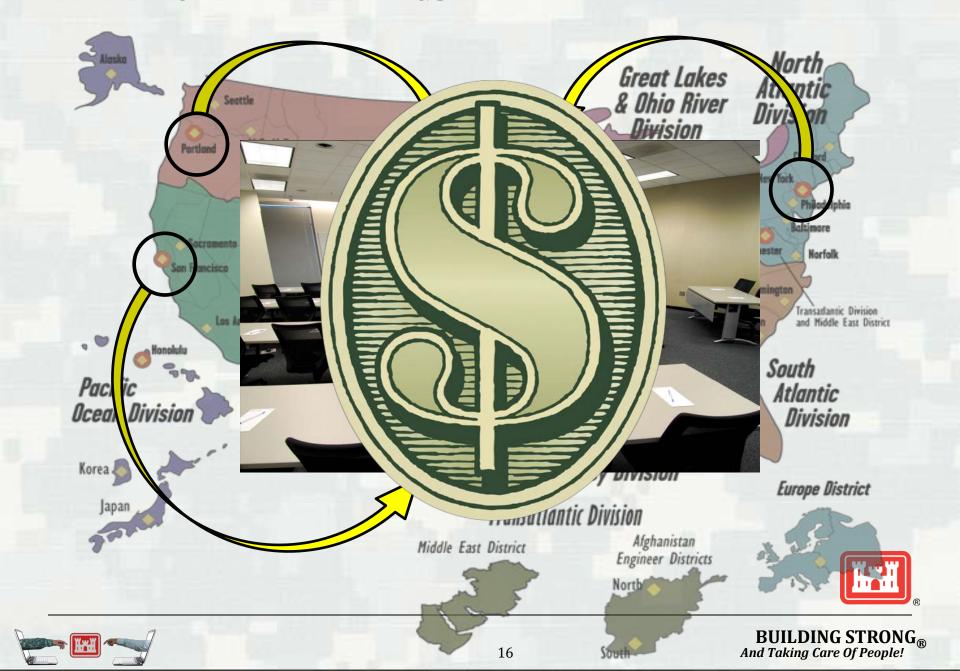
LARGE MEETINGS

(CHARRETTES, PUBLIC MEETINGS)





TRADITIONAL TRAININGS...



VIRTUAL TRAININGS...







- Controls the overall meeting (facilitates)
- Grants 'presenter' rights
- Uploads relevant material to the meeting share box (prior to the meeting)
- Monitors the chat box
- Alerts the presenter of participant questions
- Ends the meeting



- Dials in as a participant
- In a traditional meeting, would likely host or facilitate the meeting
- In virtual meetings, serves as presenter, instructor, project manager, etc.
- Presents material from their computer
- Provides relevant material to host (e.g., agenda, read ahead, etc.) to share with other participants





PARTICIPANTS

- Be engaged virtually (this may take some getting used to)!
- Be astute note likely to see body language
- More than one participant from your office go to a meeting room, don't stay at your desk
- Use the chat feature for meeting-related subjects only
- Alert the chat box monitor (host) if you have questions or comments
- Use your camera for smaller meetings

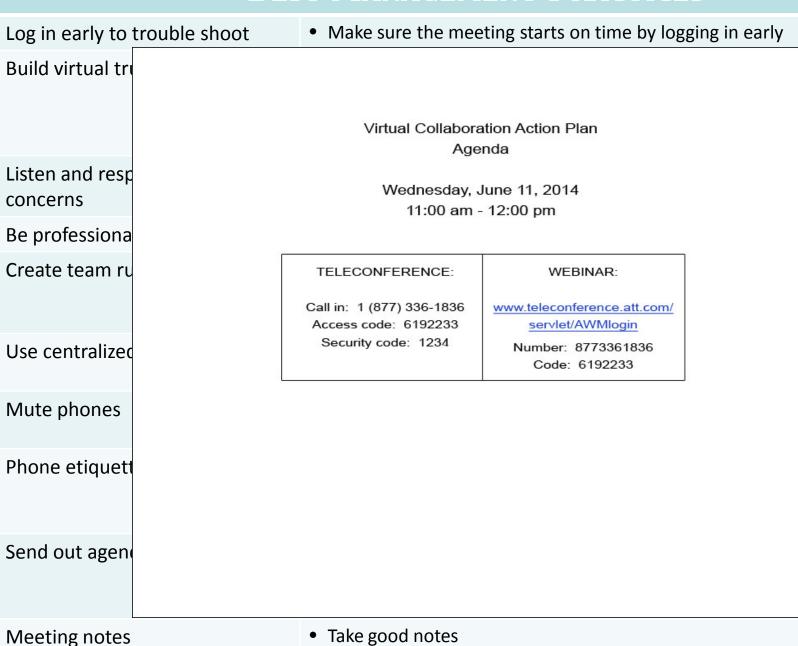




BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

and trainings

binar using



Send them out promptly



Virtual Collaboration Toolbox USACE Team Site

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District Offices

National Support Functions Programs Directorate

Virtual Collaboration Toolbox ♥

PDTs/Groups Tools Employee Information / Services

? This Site: Virtual Collab

Home Using this Site

Virtual Collaboration Tools and Applications

Best Practices Tips and Tricks

Easy to Use User Guides for VC Applications and Tools

Virtual Collaboration Online Training

SharePoint District **Project Sites**

Virtual Collaboration Action Plan (VCAP)

Discussions Discussion Board

SPD's FY13 RLDP Class

A Recycle Bin

All Site Content

Virtual Collaboration Toolbox

Welcome to the Virtual Collaboration Toolbox!!! This site includes applications and tools for successfully collaborating in a virtual setting with members of the SPD workforce within other districts and field offices, best practices for successful virtual collaboration, tips and tricks for using virtual collaboration tools and applications, easy to use user guides for tools and applications, and links to online training courses.

To get started, click on 'using this site' in the library located on the left side of this page. It will provide you with all the information you need to easily navigate this toolbox.

This toolbox is brought to you by SPD's FY13 Regional Leadership Development Program (RLDP) class. It was developed as part of the FY13 RLDP's class project - Virtual Collaboration Action Plan (VCAP).

We welcome your suggestions and encourage you to use our discussion board and read SPD workforce discussions, suggestions, and success stories regarding virtual collaboration.

Let your colleagues know about this page!!!

https://team.usace.army.mil/sites/SPD/PDT/vct/vctoolbox/default.aspx

US Army Corps of Engineers

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- Accessibility/508 Compliance



CONCLUSIONS

- Many tools exist for virtual collaboration and are already ACE-IT approved
- Not a question of if USACE will switch to virtual collaboration but when
- Lots of interest from districts; generally supportive
 - Need to specify virtual collaboration needs for each district
- Marketing, training and leadership support of virtual collaboration tools and processes are key!
 - Leadership support is imperative to ensure success
 - Best promotion and training is lateral (among employees)
- National interest in the VCAP project (Communications CoP)











