

Team,

Today, on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' birthday, I am proud to announce the publication of an updated vision statement and new campaign plan, both of which provide refinements to our strategic direction. I chose to release them on this day because I want to link them to our proud heritage of service to the Armed Forces and the Nation. Our vision statement is included in the 'Strategic Directions' brochure that is being distributed throughout the Corps. The brochure describes who we are, what we want to be, and our direction for the next several years. Please read it. You will be the key to keeping us moving in the right direction, and I need your continued support to make our vision a reality.

In the past year, I have said that I am comfortable with the Corps' general direction. I still am. Our predecessors did a tremendous job of examining and improving our internal processes. Now it is time to apply the gains we have made. Some may wonder why we are issuing an updated vision and new campaign plan if I believe we are moving in the right general direction. Although there are no significant differences in philosophy from previous versions, there are changes.

Our vision begins, "One Team: Relevant, Ready, Responsive, Reliable, proudly serving the Armed Forces and the Nation now and in the future." Our missions, especially our work in support of the War on Terror, show that we are indeed relevant. If we are to remain relevant, we must improve our responsiveness to customers - which is at the heart of our vision. We will actively engage those we serve to learn about their vision and goals, which will help us to anticipate their needs. We must also provide earlier and better preparation and coordination, and follow through on the commitments we make.

The campaign plan focuses our efforts and will help us provide better, faster, cheaper, safer, greener solutions. It has three major goals and supporting objectives that were developed from our five mission areas. Take some time to read it. Our missions and capabilities are interconnected and every Corps employee is integral to our success. Your new 'Just Do It' card is also being distributed. The card is your permission slip to exercise initiative as you help us implement our plan. Please use it.

Our next step will be to issue implementation plans for the campaign plan goals and supporting objectives. In the meantime, you will be able view the brochure, campaign plan and 'Just Do It' card later today at <http://www.hq.usace.army.mil/cepa/vision/vision.htm>. Thank you for all you do and thank you for being part of our great team.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

ESSAYONS!

Carl Strock