



Hurricane Juan Hits Halifax

In September, Hurricane Juan slammed into Halifax, doing more damage than any storm had done in decades. Many Nova Scotians were without power for days and Defence Minister John McCallum sent 600 soldiers to help the city recuperate. But DND had damage of its own to contend with, and for that, it called on DCC.

Rick MacDermid (902-426-5832), a site manager at CFB Halifax, was called in by CFB Shearwater to arrange for the repair of a number of roofs of buildings that had been badly damaged, as well as parts of a dockyard. There were also

a number of smaller projects, such as repairing the air handling unit and replacing some insulation and the protective lining on the central heating plant and boiler exhaust system.

Of particular concern was the building that houses the Sea King simulator. With the roof membrane lost, rainwater threatened the simulator's delicate electronics.

"We were required to react immediately to get contractors to get the damage repaired in an emergency situation," says MacDermid. "We were given approval locally to get contractors to come to the

site to give estimates. The normal procedure would be for public tender."

According to LCol Tony Lovett, the Formation Construction Engineering Supervisor for Maritime Forces Atlantic "Within hours, DCC was able to award the contracts, within a day or two they had contractors on site, and within a few days the roofs were being closed in."

In all, eight contracts worth \$1.2 million were awarded to seven firms. "DCC's work was well recognized by DND in Atlantic Canada, from Admiral Davis on down," notes LCol Lovett.

Rebuilding Afghani Communities

Contracts officer Keith Dyer from the Trenton site office is in Afghanistan for a six-month rotation, in which he is helping the Civilian Military Cooperation platoon (CIMIC) to rebuild a national infrastructure shattered by decades of war.

"What ever was left after the occupation has been gutted by the locals," says Dyer. "Anything that can be salvaged is gone."

Dyer's job involves providing quality control for the CF in Kabul. He follows in the footsteps of Richard Allie, who spent a month setting up the terms of reference for the DCC position until he was replaced by Dyer in September 2003.

In addition to helping CIMIC rebuild schools, mosques and churches, he provides quality assurance services to DND.

"For CIMIC, we went out last week to look at a local mosque behind the Camp Julien," says Dyer. "Even in the smaller out of the way areas around Kabul, the Canadians are recognized by the children because of our white SUVs. Kids and adults wave or give the thumbs up. I met and talked with the locals about what they were looking for, to complete their mosque, roof, windows, doors, wall finish, etc."

Unlike most humanitarian workers, though, Dyer's team travels in full military gear. Training for this, and for the inevitable cultural differences, was a major part of an intensive 10-day training session that Dyer attended before going over.

But despite these security concerns, Dyer has been able to travel widely through the country, sharing his expertise. Local firms, for example, get the



Pictured above is Keith Dyer (center) working on a Mosque.

contracts, but over the years they have fallen out of practice with the contracting process. Dyer helps them get back on their feet. And with many of these firms broke, contracts also include payments upfront. When Dyer's six-month rotation is up, he is expected to be replaced by Perry Wallace from the Greenwood site office.



Seasons Greetings from DCC

Everyone at DCC wishes you the very best that the season has to offer and a very happy new year, especially those of you far from home. In Ottawa, we're remembering the reason for the season by participating in the Shepherds of Good Hope Christmas Food Hamper Program. This is the 10th year that DCC has helped out with this initiative and during December, employees will be making the holiday time a bit brighter for a local family of five.

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DND Fun Run

On October 24, DCC employees joined their DND colleagues for the 22nd Annual Canadian Military Engineers (CME) Fun Run. Participants ran, walked or even roller bladed a course along Ottawa's Rideau Canal.

"The name of the game is to get out as many people as you can," says Consultant Contracts Coordinator Ryan Polkinghorne (613-990-2720) who coordinated the DCC team. In all, 18 DCC people came out, one of whom put on roller blades.

One of the highlights of the event is the awarding of the Red Runner Trophy, which is actually a running shoe that has been painted red and nailed to a board. The winner is calculated based on how many people turn up, what their demographics are and how they participate.

Although DCC didn't win the Red Runner, Polkinghorne says that the event was a great deal of fun and presented another opportunity to meet with DND personnel.

An Award for Service

The next evening, October 25, DCC President Ross Nicholls was on hand as the Association of Consulting Engineers of Canada (ACEC) presented a Meritorious Service Award to Canada's military engineers in recognition of 100 years of "engineering the nation's defence." The award was presented in Winnipeg during the gala dinner of the Canadian Consulting Engineering Awards, which celebrate excellence in engineering and the outstanding achievements of the past year.

Honouring the CME

Certifying DND Buildings

DCC staff like to stay on top of their fields, and Vic Sabramsky (613-384-1256, ext 28) is no exception. The commissioning resource group team leader from the regional office in Kingston recently became one of only about 20 people in North America to be certified as a commissioning professional and manager.

Commissioning verifies the operation of equipment, particularly heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems. Ideally, it begins as projects are being designed, to keep projects in line with owners' needs, and it continues until the building is demolished, to double-check maintenance.

To get the certificates—called accredited commissioning process authority professional (CxAP) and accredited commissioning process authority manager (CXM)—Vic spent a week this

April in Madison, Wisconsin, where the University of Wisconsin offers an intense 12-hour-a-day course. Even so, he says, "There was more information than there was time to cover."

For him, going through the process "confirmed a lot of what I already know and a lot of the practices I am already using." For example, Vic has been using guidelines from the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE). And the course also used as its outline the ASHRAE guidelines, albeit a newer, as-yet-unpublished version.

The week also confirmed for Vic the value of what he does for clients. "A lot of examples verified the actual value of the commissioning process. They compared buildings with and without commissioning, comparing problems in each of them. By far, properly commis-

sioned buildings have many fewer call backs and warranty issues and the equipment will last longer."

Becoming accredited involved several steps: the training and exams occurred in that week in Wisconsin, and afterward you have to provide documents that verify your experience and background. In Vic's case, this meant gathering letters from his clients supporting his experience.

Do you have comments about this newsletter?
Send them to
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