**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Unified Facilities Guide Specifications (UFGS)

STATUS AND DIRECTION

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UFGS: WHY

- IN THE BEGINNING – DoD Created The Military Services

- FREEDOM – Services were Independent, Competitive, Happy

- DoD WARNING – Avoid Duplication of Effort; Have Similar Facilities & Quality

- COORDINATION – Improved but Limited

- UNIFICATION – Weak Attempts

UFGS: PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS

- **Standard Specifications** (USACE - "H"Piles, Earthwork – 1950s)

- **FCGS** (Several Gov't Agencies,150 developed – 1960s - 1970s)

- **MCGS** (Tri-Service implementation of FCGS – 50 developed – 1970s)

- **Coordination** on various sections and goals (1980s -1990s)

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UFGS: MANDATE

- **House Conference Report 105-247**, 9 Sept 97, directed uniform criteria and guide specifications for military services.
- **Tri-Service Report** to Congressional Committee, March 1998
- **UFGS Master published**, March 2001
- **Under Secretary of Defense Memorandum**, signed by E.C. Aldridge, Jr., 29 May 02, directed the UFGS be used for DoD facilities regardless of funding source.

UFGS: OBJECTIVES

(Tri-Service Report)

- Common Criteria

- Common Database

- Uniformity of Presentation

- Coordinated Content

- Save on preparation and maintenance costs

- MAINTAIN TECHNICAL EXPERTISE IN EACH SERVICE

UFGS: PURPOSE
(Tri-Service Report)

- Specify Government requirements

- Utilize industry standards

- Promote Full and open competition

- Sound basis for contract documents

- Reduce errors and omissions

UFGS: UNIFORMITY

(Tri-Service Report)

- CSI MasterFormat section numbering
- CSI Three-Part Section format
- Consistent paragraph sequence and format
- Uniform notes to the designer
  - *   Uniform paragraph format
  - *   Consistent paragraph sequence
  - *   Uniform designer notes format

UFGS: AUTOMATION (SpecsIntact)

(Tri-Service Report)

- Automatic Reference Paragraph Generation
- Reference Lists and Reports
- Submittal Register / Submittal Reports
- English / Metric Measurement Units
- Link to Criteria Change Request (CCR) Form
- Publish in SEC, DOC, or PDF Formats
- Job Processing

UFGS: SYSTEM

- Established in MIL-STD-3007

- Covers Both UFC and UFGS Documents

  – Management structure

  – Procedures for programming

  – Procedures for development

  – Procedures for maintenance

UFGS: OVERSITE / MANAGEMENT

- ENGINEERING SENIOR EXECUTIVE PANEL (ESEP)

- COORDINATING PANEL (CP)

- DISCIPLINE WORKING GROUPS (DWG)

- GUIDE SPECIFICATIONS WORKING GROUP (GSWG)

UFGS: ENGINEERING SENIOR EXECUTIVE PANEL

- Members: ODUSD Representative and Tri-Service Chiefs of Engineering

- Establish policy, resource proponent, resolve issues, oversee Coordinating Panel

- Oversee all unified criteria documents

UFGS: COORDINATING PANEL

- Engineering Managers
- Represent Army, Navy, Air Force, DoD
- Manage all unified criteria
- Recommend Program Composition
- Formally approve UFC documents

UFGS: DISCIPLINE WORKING GROUPS

- Members are Technical Proponents (Discipline Experts)

- Represent Participating Agencies

- Responsible for unified criteria documents within their discipline

- Recommend program composition

UFGS: GUIDE SPECIFICATIONS WORKING GROUP

- Members are specifications experts
- Recommend policy/procedures for UFGS
- Represent Participating Agencies
- Establish UFGS format

UFGS: DATABASE

- Each Preparing Activity (PA) maintains their own database

- One PA serves as UFGS Database Manager on a rotating basis

- Database Manager combines individual databases into UFGS database and processes for publication on the internet

UFGS: THE COUNT

- **March 2001: 800 + Sections**
  - 450 +or- sections carried "A" or "N" designation
  - Combining similar sections should reduce total to approximately 575

- **July 2005: 699 Sections**
  - 120 "A" sections; 129 "N" sections
  - Combining similar sections should reduce total to approximately 575

- **In over 4.5 years we have combined approximately 200 sections, reducing total number of sections by about 100**

- **Original target was to eliminate "A" and "N" within 5 years**

UFGS: THE CHALLENGE

- **Convert to MF04 Section Number**
- **Automate section references**
- **Link references to actual documents**
- **Refine Review and Approval process**
- **Accommodate other Agencies**

UFGS: MF04 SECTION NUMBERS

- Proposed numbers developed
  - Based on limiting UFGS number to 3rd level
  - Review by Discipline Working Groups
  - Include proposed number in UFGS banners
  - Use updated SpecsIntact software
  - Change UFGS number and file name

UFGS: AUTOMATE SECTION REFERENCES

- Form now is Section 00000 TITLE

- Form will be Section 00 00 00 TITLE

- Need program to automate the operation and to adjust in the future

Section <SRF>00 00 00</SRF> TITLE

UFGS: LINK TO REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

- 90% of references in UFGS available online
- Hyperlinks in UFGS could link to actual document
- UMRL could be the controlling list
- Actively pursuing this possibililty

UFGS: REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS

- Each new and revised UFGS must be coordinated with other agencies

- Often misunderstanding regarding approval

- Need method to document the process without delaying the process or burdening the people involved

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UFGS: OTHER AGENCIES

- UFGS program participation open to other agencies

- Other agencies must follow MIL-STD-3007

- NASA has signed MOU to participate; VA considering participation

- Other agencies could follow

UFGS: SUMMARY

– **UFGS meeting the requirements of DoD**

– **UFGS meeting agency needs**

– **UFGS continually improving**.

– **UFGS will continue to improve, expand, and serve the needs of the Government**