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News Release

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CAMP SHELBY C-17 ASSAULT RUNWAY CITED IN NATIONAL ENGINEERING COMPETITION

Project Creates Important Military Training Facility

Allen & Hoshall of Ridgeland, Miss., was named a national finalist in the American Council of Engineering Companies' 41st annual Engineering Excellence Awards competition for designing the C-17 Assault Runway at Camp Shelby near Hattiesburg, Miss. The facility, officially dedicated on 9 July 2007, will be called the Shelby Auxiliary Field 1 and is one of only two airfields in the world capable of handling the C-17's short field assault landing operations.

ACEC is the Washington-D.C.-based engineering industry association representing the business and political interests for owners and principals of approximately 5,500 independent engineering companies throughout the United States.

The Mississippi Air National Guard's 172nd Airlift Wing in Jackson made history when it became the first unit to receive a C-17 Globemaster cargo plane, the newest, most flexible cargo aircraft to enter the airlift force. The massive C-17 is capable of rapid delivery of troops and all types of cargo including 10 Humvees to main operating bases or deployment areas.

To provide a suitable location for the C-17's pilots to practice short runway landings, also known as "combat landings," Allen & Hoshall designed a 3,500-foot assault strip at Camp Shelby, the nation's largest state-owned and operated field-training site.

The new assault airfield includes a paved runway with 300 feet of overruns at each end, taxiways, parking areas to accommodate two C-17s, a 5,100-square-foot crash/rescue station, and other support facilities. The assault strip will also be used for training troops to load equipment, supplies, and personnel.

The project is among 180 engineering projects from across the nation and the world that were recognized by ACEC as preeminent engineering achievements for 2006. Judging for the prestigious Engineering Excellence Awards – known industry-wide as the "Academy Awards" of engineering – was conducted in February by a distinguished panel of engineers and architects, along with representatives from government, media, and academia. Criteria for awards include uniqueness and originality, technical, social and economic value, complexity, and success of the projects in meeting goals.