US Army Corps of Engineers' Perspective on Planning and Design for the Future

Mr. John F. Rushing
U.S. Army Engineer Research and
Development Center

2008 Road Dust Management Practices and Future Needs Conference, San Antonio, Texas

Outline

- **Background**
- > Recent Research
 - > Helicopter Landing Pads
 - >Unpaved Convoy Routes
- > Knowledge Gaps
- > Future Needs



Problem

"Brownout" Conditions During Rotary
Wing Aircraft Landings



Problem

Reduced Visibility During Convoy Traffic



Current Guidance

UFC 3-260-17 16 January 2004

- > UFC 3-260-17
- Last updated in 1987
- ➤ Limited Market Representation

UNIFIED FACILITIES CRITERIA (UFC)

DUST CONTROL FOR ROADS, AIRFIELDS, AND ADJACENT AREAS



APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE; DISTRIBUTION UNLIMITED

Recent Research

- ➤ Field and Laboratory Testing Sponsored by the US Marine Corps Systems Command
- ➤ Goal of Identifying Products and Procedures for Reducing Dust Hazards in Iraq/Afghanistan
- > Included Both Ground and Air Vehicles





Field Testing Evaluate performance in simulated conditions



Field Testing

- ➤ Objective to provide quantifiable product assessment under expected usage conditions
 - Traffic
 - Soil
 - Climate
- > Evaluation Methods
 - Dust particle collection
 - Visual Inspections
 - Soil property measurements

Rotary Wing Aircraft Testing at Yuma, AZ

Conditions

- Live Flight Testing
- Sandy soil
- Hot, dry climate



Product Evaluation



Unpaved road treatment in Douglas, AZ

Conditions

- Lightweight truck traffic
- Clayey gravel soil
- Hot, dry climate



Relative Product Effectiveness









Unpaved Road Treatment at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO

Conditions

- Heavy truck traffic
- Clayey gravel soil
- Temperate climate



Long-Term Performance Evaluation

- > Twenty Five Test Items
- > Periodic site evaluations
- > Quantitative performance comparisons



Data Analysis and Documentation



Training and Evaluation

Limited User Evaluation

- Revise protocol based on user feedback
- Formalize training program



Technology Transfer

- > Field Handbook
 - Complete application procedures for each treatment condition
 - Equipment transportation and maintenance procedures
 - Product descriptions and procurement information
- > Web Site: https://transportation.wes.army.mil/triservice



Knowledge Gaps

- > Dust Control in Non-Traffic Areas
- > Impact of Dust on Air Quality
- Environmental Impacts of Dust Suppressants (limited study performed)
- Erosion Control Capabilities of Dust Suppressants

Future Needs

- > Update UFC Criteria
- Create Qualified Product List for Defense Logistics Agency Procurement
- Define Quality Assurance Procedures For Testing Large Procurement Volumes
- Develop Protocol for Maintaining Air Quality Compliance on Military Installations
- Develop National Protocol for Environmental Acceptance for Dust Suppressants
- Develop Standardized Method for Assessing Product Effectiveness
- Form a Trade Association to Promote Dust Mitigation Technologies

Questions?