



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG.

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Command Sergeant Major "Drives" All over Hanover Lab

HANOVER, N.H. – The USACE Command Sergeant Major got a dose of simulation instead of reality when he visited the [U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center](#) laboratory here Sept. 22. During his first visit to the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory [Command Sgt. Maj. Micheal Buxbaum](#) took the opportunity to test his driving skills on the Synthetic Automotive Virtual Environments simulator.

“As strange as it might sound, we lose many more Soldiers due to vehicle accidents than we do in combat,” commented Buxbaum. “The Hanover lab’s SAVE simulator research is right on the money. I’m glad I had a chance to sit behind the wheel. It could offer life-saving skills that can not only help evolve the Army’s training regimens, but it could be incorporated for all the service departments and our allies.”



U.S. Army photo by Peter Smallidge
Research engineer Barry Coutermarsh offers pointers to Command Sgt. Maj. Micheal Buxbaum, Command Sergeant Major U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as he tests his driving skills in the Army’s Synthetic Automotive Virtual Environments research simulator during his first visit to the ERDC-Hanover laboratory Sept. 22.

Research engineer Barry Coutermarsh said, “The program the lab has built is designed to improve safety by allowing drivers to build muscle memory that can react automatically to avoid accidents when they operate military vehicles on surfaces like gravel, loose stones, mud, snow and ice.”

The Command Sgt. Maj. continued, “[Fifty years ago](#), when the lab was created, the focus was on engineering problems that the Army and the nation needed to overcome in cold environments. While it’s still the world’s recognized leader on all things cold, [Hanover continues to evolve](#). The SAVE simulator is only the tip of the iceberg, pun intended. The Hanover team is building answers to overcome challenges ranging from defeating improvised explosive devices to incorporating culturally astute engineering in Afghanistan and gathering and maintaining the nation’s database for levees.”

Command Sgt. Maj. Buxbaum summed it up, “As innovative as all the high-tech gadgets are that the ERDC continues to crank out... the secret is that our people are even better.”

About us –

- The U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center is the premier research and development facility for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, employing more than 2,500 engineers, scientists and support personnel, with \$1.2 billion in facilities and an annual research program of \$1.5 billion. It conducts research in both military and civil works mission areas for the Department of Defense and the nation.
- The Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory, established in 1961, helps solve science and engineering problems in complex environments in all seasons and climates, while retaining unique competencies related to the Earth’s cold regions. Located in Hanover, N.H., CRREL also has field offices in Fairbanks and Anchorage, Alaska.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – ENGINEER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER

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