



309th Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Group



309 AMARG Renewing the Force...

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Logistics Compliance Assessment Program (LCAP) focus areas evaluated

September inspection results in a "Satisfactory"

As 309 AMARG progressed through a Logistics Compliance Assessment Team (LCAT) inspection, Col. Sean Cassidy, chief of Air Force Materiel Command's Performance Management Division took a few minutes to provide insight on this improved program now used Air Force wide.

"The Logistics Compliance Assessment Program (LCAP) provides leadership at all Air Force levels, from the shop supervisor to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, with an evaluation of each unit's ability to perform key logistics processes in a repeatable, standard, safe and technically competent manner," Colonel Cassidy said.

Air Force Instruction 20-111 lays out the guidance for the LCAP. The new AFI defines three key areas of compliance: nuclear surety standards, technical regulations and directives, and management of safety programs. Employee proficiency and training, tool accountability, and facilities and equipment maintenance are also designated mission critical compliance areas. The clearly-defined standards both simplify individual commands' abilities to meet the exacting requirements and highlight focus areas for evaluation teams.

"We're seeing a renewed Air Force emphasis on compliance, not just in logistics, but compliance overall," said Colonel Cassidy. He also explained that the Air Force Chief of Staff's emphasis on compliance is what elevated LCAP to an Air Force-level program. It was formerly known as the Logistics Standardization and Evaluation Program (LSEP) and was managed separately at the major command level.



Col. Sean Cassidy, chief of Air Force Materiel Command's Performance Management Division led a team of inspectors during a Logistics Compliance Assessment Program (LCAP) evaluation of 309 AMARG, September 21-24.

LCAP also provides leaders with direction for Air Force standardization that is in accordance with Department of Defense policy. According to Colonel Cassidy it "lays out basic program policy for all of the major commands to work with as a frame work."

Colonel Cassidy noted that his 15-member team of subject matter experts noted both areas requiring improvement, and areas showing positive progression resulting in compliance.

The command's efforts do not end with successful compliance. All areas will continue to be monitored. This both ingrains the compliance procedures into day-to-day operations and helps to align all Air Force commands into a uniform way of conducting operations.

Asked about his personal impressions of 309 AMARG, Colonel Cassidy noted that this evaluation team visit was his first opportunity in a 27-plus year Air Force career to visit to 309 AMARG and Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

Colonel Cassidy learned about 309 AMARG and its multi-faceted mission after receiving his assignment to Air Force Materiel Command last summer.

"My overall impression is not what I expected," he said, noting the diversity of functions at 309 AMARG from aircraft regeneration to C-130 programmed depot maintenance and parts reclamation activities.

"Colonel Schneider [309 AMARG Commander] provided me with a great tour of the facility and I have to say I'm impressed with the daily support to the warfighter and the future of the Air Force," said Colonel Cassidy. "I'm very, very impressed. It's definitely not my daddy's aircraft boneyard."

Hawaii ANG retires last F-15As



Lt. Col. Mark Ladtkow and Maj. Kristof Sills (pictured), both assigned to the Hawaii Air National Guard's 154th Fighter Wing at Hickam AFB, taxied the last two of their F-15As into AMARG on September 23.

According to Major Sills, 76-0032 logged 7,379 airframe hours, the highest flight time of any of their F-15As.

"That's a pretty outstanding accomplishment," Major Sills commented having flown the aircraft from Hawaii to Arizona.

"These aircraft have been great friends to us and they've flown very well; both pilots and maintainers loved the aircraft," said Major Sills as he prepared to sign the plane over to AMARG.

For now, their unit will continue to fly the F-15Cs. As for the future, they look forward to flying the F-22.

578 SDS Disposal Flight making cultural changes; status quo a thing of the past

The Disposal Flight of AMARG's 578th Storage and Disposal Squadron (578 SDS) is racking up an impressive list of efficiencies and saving more than \$120,000 in labor costs as a direct result of more than 14 months of continued process improvement (CPI) events.

Team representing a cross-section of Demil, Can Yard, Radioactive Material (RAD), and Disposal section employees are focusing on optimizing their production routines and applying a variety of Lean methodology tools to achieve their desired goals of efficiency, flexibility and regulatory compliance.

"The Disposal Flight CPI teams led by Mr. Anthony Williams, Mr. Richard Ruley, Mr. Thomas

Chavez and Mr. Dennis Varney are generating the ideas that create the momentum needed to make change," said

introducing orderliness, making a place for necessary items and equipment and removing things no longer required.

This month, the same team wraps up the latest of six rapid improvement events (RIE) where they brainstormed to develop a standardized, prototype process for the demilitarization of aircraft using problem solving tools and the OODA loop process. This RIE, though considered one of their simpler undertakings, establishes an important standard that is specific in detail on how aircraft are dismantled, inspected and documented for the disposal process.

Additional transformational tools such as value stream mapping, and point-of-use or just-in-time concepts,

are also proving beneficial to this team of change makers.



Disposal team member, Mr. Phil Kovaric, places aircraft components removed from a F-101 "Voodoo" in a trailered container designed to transfer and securely store items prior to final demilitarization.

Mr. Gregg Barnes, 578 SDS Disposal Flight Chief.

Applying the principles of 6S (visual management) last January, the Disposal team swept through their primary work centers reorganizing and

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Determining too much travel time was wasted between separate work centers and the field to acquire the right tools and equipment to do the job, two portable storage trailers were refurbished and centrally located in the desert storage area. Additionally, the team recognized the need to provide standardized tool kits specifically designed for aircraft demilitarization activities. As a result, 20 individual tool kits (ITKs) consisting of a variety of different tools were consolidated into five standardized composite tool kits (CTKs), thus eliminating over 2,000 unnecessary tools. These CTKs were then housed in brand new mobile trailers allowing quick and efficient transition from job site to job site.



Mr. Manny Guaman and Mr. Chris Hodgson (r) retrieve specialized tools from one of five portable trailers housing composite tool kits (CTKs) specifically designed for aircraft demilitarization activities.

To resolve a roadblock in achieving AS9100 certification, a desired

removed aircraft components awaiting demilitarization resulting in conformance with AS9100 requirements

and ultimately clearing AMARG for certification.

A profound number of intangible results are surfacing as the team continues to move forward with a mindset towards continual process improvement. The most apparent being the elimination of non-value added wait times, increased safety practices, increased flexibility during production, increased employee morale and consistent quality of work.

Of course, managerial buy-in is extremely important to sustain the benefit of this team's efforts, and AMARG leadership appreciates and understands that these problem solving techniques lead to exceptional performance, less waste and better return on investment.

"We could not have realized any of our achievements without our squadron director and commander's support," said Mr. Barnes. "There's a necessary commitment a unit must undergo to stand down, evaluate, fund and implement these initiatives. Disposal's success was truly a team effort throughout AMARG."

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