



AMARG's got talent; machinist refines A-10 tool for use at Hill

“T hird time’s a charm,” referring to a superstition that after two failures in an endeavor, a third attempt is more likely to succeed. We hear the phrase all the time; however, in the case of an AMARG machinist, his first, second AND third time were all phenomenal successes!

In 2008, Mr. Tommy Rollins, a talented machinist and somewhat humble inventor, designed and developed his first portable A-10 aircraft Wing Station 110 (WS110) milling tool to fix tolerance issues during A-10 wing repairs.

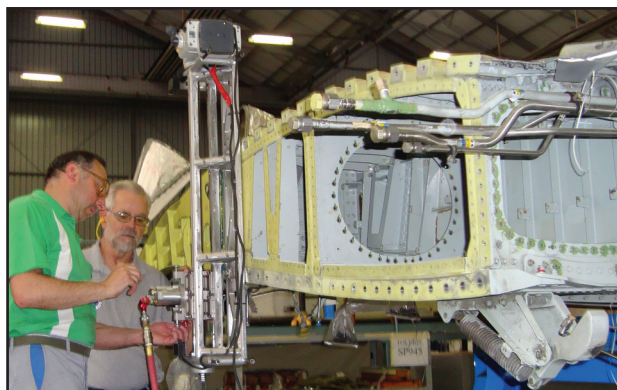
From extensive use, A-10 Wing Station 110 mating surfaces, where the center wing attaches to the outer wings, were no longer within the technical order directives .002 tolerance of flatness and had to be resurfaced or milled back to blueprint specifications.

To preclude the loss of an entire week for an outside machine shop to accomplish the milling repair process on wings, 309 AMARG implemented Mr. Rollins’ tool eliminating down time and saving the Air Force almost \$100K a year.

With a FAROArm ® precision measuring tool, Mr. Rollins gauges the tolerance of the WS110

mating surfaces prior to milling and uses the same tool to verify that the angularity of the WS110 fitting surface cuts are also in accordance to specifications.

With the tool properly positioned on the WS110 mating surfaces, an electric feed motor drives a precision screw shaft, propelling the air motor’s milling cutters along precision rails.



A Belgian machinist is taught the use of Mr. Rollins’ portable A-10 Wing Station 110 milling tool, preparing to mill a replaced center wing flap track surface.

With his invention a proven success and adopted by the A-10 System Program Manager’s weapon systems engineers at Hill Air Force Base in Utah, Mr. Rollins, along with his supervisor, Mr. Tom Picard and Mr. Craig Courson, an aircraft worker, traveled to a Belgium A-10 aircraft contract repair facility in



2010 to train personnel in the use of this critical repair tool.

Photo by T. Bledsoe

In advance of the AMARG team’s arrival to Belgium, the WS110 milling tool was shipped to Europe; and, upon his return, Rollins machined a second tool for use at AMARG.

A third portable milling tool will soon be shipped to Ogden Air Logistics Center’s 309th Commodities Maintenance Group’s A-10 wing repair shop at Hill Air Force Base.

Though this latest model basically works the same as the first two, Mr. Rollins recently demonstrated to the 309 AMARG Commander, Col. Patrick Kumashiro, (photo above) that with thicker tracks for the motors to run on, it’s a more sturdier version and includes built-in features for a more precision cut and easier positioning.

Mr. Rollins’ inventions have earned him a number of monetary awards under the Air Force’s IDEA program while permitting the government to avoid millions of dollars in expense associated with A-10 wing repairs and modifications.

AMARG launched the VPP’s ‘Passport’ last month as part of its campaign to gain eligibility for Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s (OSHA) coveted STAR status.

The Passport is a booklet of activities and courseware from which employees can choose, on a voluntary basis, to complete in order to advance their own knowledge in the environmental, safety and health areas (ESOH). Safety educated employees tend to work smarter and safer, benefiting themselves, their families, their co-workers and their commands.

Some of the ESOH related activities in the VPP Passport include running Command safety checklists, conducting occupational risk management (ORM), auditing HazMat storage, and delivering ESOH briefs to wingmen. The Passport provides all employees the opportunity to gain Air Force ESOH experiences that

they may otherwise not have a chance to perform. The courseware comes from Advanced Distributed Learning Service, OSHA and the ESOH training network.

Employees who want to complete courseware can access a list of courses and their locations under the VPP logo on the AMARG home page. Additionally, AMARG has reserved their computer classroom on the last Friday of every month for employees who may not have easy access to a computer. VPP AMARG will be on hand to assist employees with navigating to and completing courseware.

For more information on OSHA’s VPP, please visit <http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/vpp/index.html>.

AMARG VPP can be reached at 228-9838 or by visiting AMARG VPP at <https://amnet.dm.af.mil/intranet/VPP/>.



Group employees recognized by Ogden's ALC & 309 MXW for outstanding performance

What does a budget analyst and a vehicle operator have in common? Actually, quite a bit!

Propelled forward to compete at the 309th Maintenance Wing-level at Hill AFB, Utah, after winning in their respective categories here, AMARG employees Mr. Gregory Vestecka and Mr. Jonathon Atchison were also chosen in May as the 309th Maintenance Wing's (309 MXW) and Ogden Air Logistics Center's (OO-ALC) Civilians of the Quarter for first quarter 2011.

Mr. Vestecka, a budget analyst assigned to AMARG's Financial Services, was lauded for his flawless administration of more than \$19 million for 31 DoD and non-DoD customers and for his keen oversight in managing funds. He competed in Category 1 for GS-10 and below.

Mr. Atchison, a motor vehicle operator, assigned to the 578th Storage and Disposal Squadron's Motor Vehicle Flight, was praised for his expert heavy vehicle operations skill, the impressive and precision



movement of key aircraft moduling, and a "can-do" attitude that led to certifications on myriad heavy duty vehicles. Mr. Atchison competed in Category III for wage grade employees.

On behalf of the ALC and 309 MXW, Col. Patrick Kumashiro, commander of 309 AMARG, presented each with a certificate and plaque representing their achievements.



Colonel Kumashiro presents both Mr. Greg Vestecka (l) and Mr. Jonathon Atchison with an award certificate and plaque recognizing them as Ogden Air Logistics Center's and 309th Maintenance Wing's Civilians of the Quarter for first quarter 2011.

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AMARG recently joined the millions of other users at Facebook to allow our friends to keep up with us. Now a part of the social networking scene, AMARG is committed to providing frequent updates on AMARG activities, to include aircraft retirements, VIP visits and special events.

Follow us at: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/309th-Aerospace-Maintenance-And-Regeneration-Group/193404834041207?sk=wall> and find out which former linebacker for the Seattle Seahawks recently visited AMARG.



**JOIN
US!**

All Department of Defense military and civilians (plus dependants 16 and older) are invited to sign up for the 309 AMARG Booster Club's First Annual Fun Run/Walk on Saturday, August 27, 2011. Entry fee of \$20 includes a t-shirt. Registration deadline August 12, forms available at <https://dm.eim.acc.af.mil/309AMARG/309SPTS/RMPUBS/default.aspx>. Contact Ms. Morrison at 228-8520 for additional details.



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