

From the President

Wow! It is, July. I know that is not the news to most of you, but for me, I can not believe how fast the year is going. At this point last year, I had already sent the membership about ten emails providing information on the various things that were or were not going on within our association. So far this year, and I am knocking on wood, we have not had any major problems and very few emails.



We had our first Board of Directors meeting in December in conjunction with the Corps of Engineers, Huntsville Center OE Stand Down and approved a budget for CY-05. The budget is tight but allows us to operate effectively without raising dues and continuing our activities within each committee. We will revisit our budget in July at our summer meeting. Without stealing Nelline Scheuer and John Allan's thunder I can tell you that our summer meeting is going to be a first of its kind on technology and include government representatives along with a significant presence from Capital Hill. Be sure and attend or have a representative attend if possible.

We had our Lobby Day (what is now an annual event) February 16th and 17th and it has already produced results. We help to gain exposure for a "Dear Colleague Letter" that is requesting additional Munitions Response (UXO) funding. Our Government Affairs Committee and Lobbyist deserve a great deal of credit along with all of our members that showed up to meet with 47 different Senate, House, and Committee offices. Block some time for mid February 2006 to attend our annual Lobbying Day and see how you can make a difference.

All Board of Directors Meetings are open for attendance by representatives from our member companies. We invite you to attend whether by phone or in person so that you can see how your association is being managed and have an active voice in what goes on.

Our membership continues to grow at an amazing rate. We now have over 50 members a one third increase from the 34 members we had a couple of years ago. I would like to take the credit but I think the real reasons are an increased involvement by many of our new member companies; a real lobbying presence on Capital Hill that has effected policy and budgeting for our industry; and our organization providing a forum for exchange of professional information and business development.

If you have any questions about the NAOC or want to know how you can participate contact any of the Officers, Directors, or Chairpersons listed on our web site at: www.naoc.org

Ben Redmond
President

UPCOMING EVENTS

Joint meeting with
SERDP/ESTCP highlighting
Technology Developments

"Taking new technologies from
demonstration to the field"

July 19 - 21
Aberdeen, MD

**REGISTRATION IS NOW
CLOSED**

*Please feel free to make your
hotel reservations now at:*

**Holiday Inn -
Chesapeake House**
1007 Beards Hill Road
Aberdeen MD 21001
410.272.8100

Group Name:
Unexploded Ordnance Group

Room Rate: \$75 + tax

Room Block: 100 rooms

Cut-off Date - July 1, 2005
**ROOM RATE INCREASES TO
\$114.95 after this date**

NAOC Committees

Operations and Standards

John Bowles, ECC

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email: jbowles@ecc.net

Mission Statement:

To advise government agencies on operations and standards issues in the areas of, personnel, safety, training, and technology as they relate to OE/UXO work sites



Government Affairs

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Mission Statement:

Develop, improve and sustain government-industry partnerships through dialogue and interaction with government agencies and organizations.

Operations and Standards

On December 14, 2004 the DoD Explosives Safety Board voted to approve a major revision to Chapter 12 ("Real Property Known or Suspected of Containing Munitions and Explosives of Concern and/or Chemical Agent"). The Board also approved two new chapters: Chapter 15 - "Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)" and Chapter 16 - "Transfer or Release of Materials Potentially Presenting an Explosive Hazard (MPPEH)." While these chapters were approved, it was subsequently determined that these changes to the DoD Ammunitions and Explosives Safety Standards (DD6055.9-STD) should be submitted to the SD-106 process which provides final DoD coordination before they were "formally" approved for use.

However, due to another pending change to the Safety Standards, it was determined for administrative convenience to consolidate all changes into one SD-106 submission. Unfortunately, the change that was "pending" took significantly longer to approve than expected. Accordingly, all of the changes are expected to be submitted for the SD-106 process in the very near future and are expected to be "formally" approved within the next 30 to 45 days.

In discussions with Army and Navy explosives safety contacts, many of the actual changes are already being incorporated into munitions response guidance. Additionally, for the convenience of our membership, these specific changes are uploaded to NAOE Website's File Manager under the Operations and Standards Committee folder along with recent Army correspondence regarding MR terminology.

DDESB is following through on the actions Ben Redmond shared and discussed after attending the April 21st meeting concerning evaluating and providing "QA" to UXO Technician Level I training programs. I'm tracking these efforts and expect NAOE will have a role in providing input to this process. I also intend to rely on other members of the Committee to ensure we provide as strong a "value-added" input as possible.

Within this newsletter we will work to share news that is of use to all of our members. To ensure we're as focused as we can be on possible issues that matter to you, I would appreciate any feedback or recommendations you might have.

Government Affairs

2005 has been a busy year for governmental affairs. Our efforts began with Lobby Day, February 2005. Working with our lobbyists, Charles Monfort and Patty Lewis, we had 18 member companies participating in 47 meetings with both Congressional and Committee staff. This year, NAOE decided to seek funding to "buy-out" the munitions response (UXO) sites located on the 1988 BRAC installations, increased funding for UXO remediation, and increased funding for UXO technology research and development. This was a timely request since we could articulate to Congressional staff the magnitude of cleanup remaining at previous BRAC sites — especially with BRAC 2005 looming. Working with the offices of Representative Blumenhauer and Representative Manzullo, we are able to garner 40 signatures on the "Dear Colleague" letter distributed during our visits.

However, our efforts to seek this funding failed during the appropriations process. Representative Blumenhauer was undeterred and offered an amendment to allocate money from the BRAC 05 account for environmental cleanup at the installations closed in BRAC 1988. The amendment failed by a margin of 171-254. Although not successful, the Blumenhauer amendment represents the first vote by either the House of Representatives or the Senate on the issue of defense environmental cleanup specifically linked to UXO. The 171 votes in favor of this amendment provide us a springboard for efforts later this year and next.

If any members have questions or would like to participate on this committee, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Technology

Greetings members! It's a busy time for the Technology Committee as we prepare for our summer meeting at Aberdeen, Maryland on July 19, 20, and 21st. Our Board of Directors meeting, open to the entire membership, will take place on July 19th.

This meeting, our technical program, will be a technology transfer workshop with SERDP/ESTCP. The object of the workshop is to showcase MEC technologies developed through the SERDP/ESTCP program, that SERDP/ESTCP feel are mature, have been successfully demonstrated and are now ready for transition to the field. The meeting format will be a half day conference room meeting at the Battle HEAT Center, (thank you Steve Downes), at Aberdeen followed by afternoon field demonstrations at the Aberdeen Proving Ground UXO test site. A social gathering will be held that evening in the Holiday Inn. Next morning we will venture to the HEAT Center for software demonstrations followed by a panel discussion discussing the technologies that were demonstrated. Panelists will include representatives from industry (NAOC members), Army and Navy representatives, EPA, and state regulatory agencies. Response for attendance has been excellent, and as of "press time" we were close to the capacity of 150 people. This should be one of our best meetings.

Additionally, events of the past few months included a congressional staff visit to an active MEC remediation project at Ft. Belvoir, VA in April. This event was arranged jointly by the Technology and Government Affairs Committees. A group of staffers were given a tour at Ft. Belvoir in preparation for the construction of the extension of the Fairfax County Parkway to Interstate 95. Charles Monfort reports very positive feedback from the visit.

Continuing our ongoing interaction with the SERDP/ESTCP program, Jim Putnam, Jonathan Sperka, and I attended their In-Progress Review (IPR) meetings in May. We then hold meetings with SERDP/ESTCP management to provide feedback on behalf of NAOC on the direction of the government R&D Program. Also, the proceedings of the IPR's are posted on the Technology Committee page of the NAOC website to inform member companies of the various R&D projects. That's all for now, see you in Aberdeen.

Member Services

Things are humming in Membership Services corner. As of the time of this writing, we have 12 new members in 2005, bringing us to a record count of 52 member companies!

The summer meeting in Aberdeen, Maryland (described above in the Technology report) is generating a lot of interest and promises to be one of our best meetings yet. The government attendance list is a who's who of government clients, and the technology demonstrations should be excellent. We have found a way to expand the meeting capacity and hope to be able to accommodate all who would like to attend. Although the cutoff date was June 15th, contact Katherine Perdue (kperdue@hgl.com) with any inquiries regarding attending. In the event that you cannot join us for the meeting or technology demonstrations, please join us for the Board meeting at the BEST Center on Tuesday July 19 and the social gathering on Wednesday evening at the Holiday Inn – Chesapeake. Let me know if you plan to attend.

The fall meeting plans are also taking shape. It will be held in early November in a western location. So if you have ideas for our fall meeting or would like to help out, please let me know.

New Members since November 2004:

Advent Environmental, Inc.; American EOD Services; Bhate Environmental Associates, Inc.; Booz Allen Hamilton ; Bristol Environmental & Engineering Services; Lakeshore Engineering Services, Inc.; Marsh, Inc.; Med-Eng Systems; Ninyo and Moore; PIKA International, Inc.; Texas Engineering Extension Services; US Land Solutions, Inc.; Willis Risk and Insurance Services of Los Angeles; Zonge Engineering and Research Organization, Inc.

Special thanks to Connie Birner of USA Environmental for keeping up our membership list.

NAOC Committees



Technology

John Allan,

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email:

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Mission Statement:

Promote the research and development of promising technologies and the successful transfer of validated technologies for improved, safe, and cost-effective MEC detection, discrimination, and remediation solutions. Encourage synergy between government, industry, and academia to advance technologies for performing MEC-related site cleanup.

Member Services

Nelline Scheuer,

Malcolm Pirnie

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Mission Statement:

Show maximum value and benefits of membership to retain existing members and attract new members by providing: a) access to industry shapers, b) mechanism for promotion of industry, and c) opportunity to impact breaking industry events and information.

2005 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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