



**DATE:** August 30, 2012

**TO:** National US&R Response System  
Task Force Program Managers/Training Managers

**FROM:** Tom Niedernhofer, P.E. USACE US&R Program Manager

**SUBJECT:** Structures Specialist 1 Training – Course Announcement

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Response System, in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), has scheduled a Structures Specialist Course (StS1) to be held Sunday October 28 through Friday, noon, November 02, 2012, at the NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, California. **Note this course is a 6-day venue.** This very important training is offered to Task Force Structures Specialist (StS) candidates who have not previously taken StS1. Prerequisites for this course include: must have a current Professional Engineer's License (P.E.) and be practicing in some area of structural engineering. Students must also meet the requirements of his/her Task Force for local training and other participations. Students who are not a licensed P.E., but have been scheduled to sit for their Professional Engineer's exam, and have the support of their Task Force and Task Force StS, may apply for this training.

This course will consist of a series of case studies, lectures, field exercises, and presentations of past rescue incidents. There will be exercises and written examinations throughout the course. The StS candidate will be introduced to the StS "Forms" and monitoring equipment used during deployments, with basic operational training provided on the GPS and Total Station equipment. The StS will also be introduced to the personnel accountability system used in the FEMA National US&R Response System.

Each Task Force will be allowed to send two students, however if space is available more students will be accepted. Names and applications should be submitted to Tom Niedernhofer at [Thomas.R.Niedernhofer@usace.army.mil](mailto:Thomas.R.Niedernhofer@usace.army.mil) and David Hammond, at [djhammond@sbcglobal.net](mailto:djhammond@sbcglobal.net) by September 30, 2012. Task Forces should fill out the attached application form and e-mail as directed on the form. After September 30th, students will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis according to the waiting list. A maximum of 50 students will be allowed to participate. Based on recent class history there should be space for all qualified applicants.

**Application may also be made on DisasterEngineer.org** (See "Training Applications").

The training is provided at no charge to the student however; travel, hotel, and per diem costs will be the responsibility of the student's Task Force using authorized Training Funds. Please note that all meals during training will be provided at a cost of \$200 per student. Students will bring cash or a blank check for meal payment.

Applicants should include a mailing address for the purpose of receiving a "Total Station Training" CD which must be reviewed in its entirety prior to student arrival at Moffett Field on Saturday 27 October by 1530 hours. No exceptions will be allowed.

## TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT

National US&R Task Force Program Managers,  
National US&R Task Force Leaders

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### **Course Logistical Information:**

Dates: October 28 thru November 02, 2012 (assemble at NASA Exchange Lodge Saturday, Oct 27<sup>th</sup> before 1530 hrs).

Lodging Location Option #1: Moffett Field, CA (Mountain View, CA) rooms at the NASA Exchange Lodge, Main Lodge Building. Check in at the NASA Exchange Lodge front desk, Bldg 19, N. Akron Rd, Moffett Field, CA 94035; Phone 650-603-7100. Reservation Code is “US Army Corps of Engineers”. A limited # of rooms is available. Room cost are \$65/night, flat fee (no tax).

Lodging Location Option #2: Moffett Field, CA (Mountain View, CA) rooms at the NASA Exchange Lodge “Annex”, Bldg 583. Check in at the NASA Exchange Lodge front desk, Bldg 19, N. Akron Rd, Moffett Field, CA 94035; Phone 650-603-7100. Reservation Code is “US Army Corps of Engineers”. Rooms available in the Annex @ \$55/night flat fee (no tax). A 2<sup>nd</sup> person can share a room for an additional \$5. A map will be provided upon request.

Free Wi-Fi Internet is available at the Main Lodge and some of the Annex rooms. There are no TVs in the Annex dormitory-style rooms. NASA Exchange Lodge Cancellation Policy: Students with reservations but decide to cancel out of the class will need to notify the Lodge of their cancellation or otherwise will be charged for the first night – no exceptions!

Moffett Field is 10.8 miles north of the San Jose Airport (SJC), 25.6 miles south of the San Francisco Airport (SFO), and 33.7 miles south of the Oakland Airport (OAK). Shuttle service is available from each airport:

Super Shuttle 1-800-Bluevan, (1-800-268-3826); Atlas Express 1-888-467-0000; On Time Shuttle 1-650-207-0221; Best Airport Shuttle 1-866-333-2378; BayPorter Express 415- 467-1800

Students should arrive at Moffett Field by 1530 hrs, Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 for the kick-off information session (highly recommended). A dinner meal will be served. Students will pay for all meals from dinner, Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> thru lunch, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> regardless for a cost of \$200 (cash or check payable to “Golden Harvest”). A receipt will be provided. **Training will end at 1200 hrs on Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> and transportation to the San Jose Airport only will be provided following the lunch hour for those departing that afternoon or evening.** Those traveling home from the San Francisco Airport or traveling home from SJC or SFO airports on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> will need to make their own arrangements for transportation.

NOTE: This training site is within a secure area and temporary passes will be provided for entry. A state driver’s license or other appropriate ID is required for all US citizens. Daily transportation to and from the training site and the Main Lodge or Annex will be provided, and all students will be assigned to a “Team Van” for accountability. The Main Lodge and the Annex are not within the secure boundary, so students may travel to the lodge by private automobile or shuttle. However, all students must travel to and from the training site by the Team Vans. There is ample free (surface) parking at the Main Lodge and Annex.

Clothing: students will wear Task Force clothing during all classroom sessions. Field sessions will require Task Force Field gear or other long sleeved clothing as well as normal Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Shorts, tank tops, and sandals are prohibited at the training site. To ensure that your Task Force has the opportunity to participate in the valuable training please submit your students’ names to Tom Niedernhofer and Dave Hammond by September 30, 2012.



**TRAINING APPLICATION**

(Send completed form to [Thomas.R.Niedernhofer@usace.army.mil](mailto:Thomas.R.Niedernhofer@usace.army.mil) with copy to [djhammond@sbcglobal.net](mailto:djhammond@sbcglobal.net). Add TF designation to **email subject line**. Ex: “AZ-TF1 StS1 Application for John Doe”). Application may also be made on DisasterEngineer.org. See “Training Applications”.

A head shot photo of a size under 1 MB will be required. This is for accountability cards. Photo files will need to be sent by 19 October.

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1<sup>st</sup> STUDENT’S NAME:

MAILING ADDRESS:

CELL PHONE:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

TASK FORCE/AGENCY AFFILIATION:

P.E. LICENSE NO., STATE & DATE ISSUED:

(If have E.I.T, when is P.E. Scheduled?)

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2<sup>nd</sup> STUDENT’S NAME:

MAILING ADDRESS:

CELL PHONE:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

TASK FORCE/AGENCY AFFILIATION:

P.E. LICENSE NO., STATE & DATE ISSUED:

(If have E.I.T, when is P.E. Scheduled?)

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3<sup>rd</sup> STUDENT’S NAME:

MAILING ADDRESS:

CELL PHONE:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

TASK FORCE/AGENCY AFFILIATION:

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