

The Pacific Edge

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Prepared to Prevail



Andersen begins major environmental clean up
Page 9



April is Month of the Military Child
Page 10-11



Base intramural basketball playoffs end, finals tonight
Page 20

UCI countdown: 31 days

Everyone should be fine-tuning their checklist. If you are still researching, you are behind the power curve! The inspectors will start arriving 12 May. Are you ready?

Monthly flying hours

	Hours	Sorties
Goal	288	55
Flown	185	21
Remaining	103	34

Current as of April 12



Andersen Hangar Renovation Complete

- Page 3



Airman 1st Class Cody Lambright and Senior Airman Sasha Ghazarian, both from the 36th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, wash aircraft 1004, the first B-52 to use the wash rack. Contractors completed the \$3.6 million renovation project in under one year. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Brian Bahret/The Pacific Edge)

\$3.6 million hangar renovation complete

BY TECH. SGT. BRIAN BAHRET
The Pacific Edge

Hangar 2 reopened Tuesday after contractors completed \$3.6 million in renovations upgrading the hangar's capabilities.

The renovation project will save the Air Force money, improve morale and help maintainers repair and return aircraft to the flight line more efficiently, said Tech. Sgt. Damon Tofte, 36th Maintenance Squadron structural maintenance technician.

Aircraft deployed to Andersen must be washed every 30 days to prevent corrosion, he said.

Before the renovation, only one wash rack was available; it was outside, on the flightline near Hangar 5. Maintainers often had to wait until night to wash the aircraft due to the excessive heat, according to Sergeant Tofte.

He added that the outdoor wash rack provided no overhead lights and the light-alls only offered harsh lighting from the sides.

The hangar lighting system was upgraded and the interior of the hangar was painted in a scheme designed to reduce power usage and increase visibility, he said.

"The white paint reflects the light, maximizing the usage of light we have," he said. "This is going to improve the maintainer's visibility during the day or night," said Sergeant Tofte.

"Now we can wash the aircraft any time day or night," said Master Sgt. John Thomas, 36th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron night-shift production superintendent.

Other added features include six remote equipment modules, each offering two washing agents and a high-pressure

water system for rinsing aircraft.

The hangar also sports a new ventilation system designed to speed the drying process, according to Kirk McCutcheon, Jacobs Engineering Guam Program Manager.

"This is nice," said Airman 1st Class Christopher Forehand, 36th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron sheet metal technician, who was on the first crew to use the renovated facility Tuesday evening. "It's going to drastically cut our wash time."

He estimated that using the new system would reduce the wash time from eight hours to two or three hours.

An additional benefit were the added safety features installed that will help reduce risk and maintenance time.

Up to 21 people can now be secured by an overhead fall restraint system.

"We didn't have fall protection before,"

said Sergeant Tofte.

He explained that anytime maintainers had to work on top of the aircraft, they'd have to use a B-5 stand. When maintainers moved from one location to another on top of the aircraft, they'd have to climb down, move the stand and relocate it.

"Now you can work the entire aircraft without being disconnected from the fall restraints," said Sergeant Tofte.

Each element of the system will help save time and energy, he added.

Impressed with the speed at which Jacobs Engineering finished the project, Brig. Gen. Douglas Owens, 36th Wing commander, offered the company kudos as he addressed the maintainers in the ribbon cutting ceremony.

"This is all about turning the aircraft and keeping the mission going," he added. "They'll have a big job ahead of them, because we'll put this to good use."



 **36th Maintenance Hangar**

U.S. AIR FORCE

- Highlights
- Built 1980—opened first full CCF cap.
 - 40,000 foot floor space; 600 foot office
 - Proved design against typhoon-seismic
 - Shelter-MX haven (B1/B2/B52/KC135)
 - Fire suppression/oil water separator/ventilation
- \$3.6M renovation
- Replace heated power wash capability (6 stations)
 - Fall restraint for B1, B2, B52, and KC135
 - Installed drain pretreatment plant
 - Upgrade lighting-add reflective floor/interior white

Integrity - Service - Excellence