



US Army Corps
of Engineers ®

Navigation Program Strategic Planning Workshop **March 13 – 14, 2012**

Mission: Provide safe, reliable, efficient, effective, and environmentally sustainable waterborne transportation systems for movement of commerce, national security needs, and recreation.

Executive Summary

The Navigation Business Line Manager, Jim Walker, of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers hosted a second Strategic Visioning Workshop in an effort to update the initial Navigation Strategic Vision and to frame a plan of action and monitoring approach to ensure continued implementation. The meeting was held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on March 13 – 15, 2012. The primary objectives of the workshop were to build common understandings of the current program drivers, validate the shared vision, build consensus on critical priorities on which to focus coordinated activities, and align with and inform Campaign goals, Civil Works plans, and current Navigation initiatives.

The 40 workshop participants represented USACE Districts, Divisions, Headquarters, and key stakeholders. The workshop opened with participants reviewing success stories and accomplishments of the program and waterborne navigation over the past two years. Jim Walker then provided an update and status of current activities as a starting point for further discussions. Highlights of the first day included roundtable discussions on current trends and factors influencing navigation, a group activity defining what success looks like, and tasks exploring core values, USACE competencies, challenges, and opportunities ahead.

A review of the 2011 Strategic Vision report provided a forum for validating and modifying the strategic focus areas on the second day of the workshop. Once consensus was reached, participants again broke into discussion groups to frame each focus area identifying outcomes, current status, key players, and resources needed. After lunch and a tour of the Dredge McFarland docked at Fort Mifflin, concrete recommendations and suggestions were made for each focus area as discussion groups briefed participants.

The workshop participants agreed the Navigation Program and its vision are well aligned with national priorities and should continue to address the 2011 strategic focus areas with some modifications to approach and content with more emphasis on modernization and engineering with nature. The focus areas include:

- *Promote the Value of the Navigation Program*
- *Efficient Navigation Mission Delivery*
- *Navigation Integration and Freight Movement*
- *Develop Navigation Knowledge & Workforce*

A Corps-only session was held on Thursday, March 15, to discuss the current strategic navigation initiatives (SNIs) and define the path forward. The Corps attendees, consisting of the Division Navigation BL manager and two District representatives, will become the group that oversees selection, prioritization, support, and implementation of the SNIs. The attendees selected the top ten SNIs to start work on immediately. Two MSC Navigation Managers will champion each focus area and oversee the SNIs aligned under them. They will monitor progress, be responsible for initiative completion, and assist in implementation. MSC Operations Chiefs are envisioned to serve as the executive directors for this effort, in a role similar to the IMTS Board of Directors. Progress will be tracked and an initial report provided at the next National Dredging meeting. For more information and specific results of the workshop visit: <http://operations.usace.army.mil/conference.cfm?CoP=nav&Id=12marnpsp&Type=Conf>