



# News Release

## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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### **GOOD IDEAS NET TWO CAFB SERGEANTS \$10,000 EACH**

**CHARLESTON AIR FORCE BASE, S.C.** – Two staff sergeants, one from the 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron and one from the 373<sup>rd</sup> Training Squadron, Field Training Detachment 5, were recently awarded \$10,000 each for suggestions submitted to the Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program.

Staff Sergeants Stephen Daggett, readiness technician, and Jason Hanks, C-17 propulsion instructor, found flaws in the way they were doing business in their respective career fields.

Daggett said his suggestion to consolidate readiness materials on a CD-ROM came to him when his unit deployed to Albania.

“We had to carry our own equipment. We ended up paying more for excess baggage than we did for our tickets,” Daggett said.

Almost all of the publications, forms and checklists needed to perform the readiness job were already electronic, according to Daggett. “I was tired of having to download the publications every time and check for updates,” he said.

Daggett made copies of the program and passed the idea on to other bases. “Some of the other bases used it during IG (Inspector General) evaluations and got high marks,” he said.

**(more)**

All told, Daggett's suggestion should save the Air Force \$87,602, according to the analysis submitted by Master Sgt. Samuel Love, Air Force-level IDEA program evaluator.

The program isn't used often enough, according to Daggett. "More people should use it for any idea they might have that could save money. Mine was a pretty straightforward idea, I just put it in there."

For Hanks, the opportunity for improvement was presented when United Airlines, the contract holder for off-wing repair of the F117-PW-100 engine used on the C-17, noticed a trend in damaged wiring harnesses. The contractor contacted Hanks.

"The number one corrective action taken by United on engine reverser assemblies was the core wiring harness," Hanks said.

"They asked me 'What are you guys doing to the harness?'" said Hanks. "The problem was, out on the line, maintainers only troubleshoot enough to find out what assembly is not working properly and replace it. We didn't realize the harness was being damaged until United brought it to our attention."

Hanks submitted a suggestion to add two steps to the C-17 Power Plant General job guide, which eliminated the damage to the harness.

By eliminating the damage to the wiring harness, Hanks' suggestion will save the government \$103,300 annually.

**(For more information or to set up interviews, contact Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith at 963-5589)**