



**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Fort Worth District**

News Release

Release No. CESWF-PA-06-006 Contact: Judy Marsicano

For Release: Immediate 4 Nov 05 Phone: (817) 886-1517

Seymour native honored as U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civilian of the Year

FORT WORTH, Texas – Michael J. Mocek, a native of Seymour, Texas, was selected as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civilian of the Year for 2005. He received the Lt. Gen. John W. Morris Civilian of the Year Award at a ceremony held in Grapevine, Texas recently. This annual award recognizes the civilian determined to have achieved the highest overall standards of excellence as a Corps employee and who individually has made the most significant and noteworthy contributions to the mission, prestige, and reputation of the entire Corps of Engineers.

According to Col. John Minahan, Fort Worth District Engineer, Mocek has attained the highest level of excellence and accomplishments as the District's Deputy District Engineer and Chief of Programs and Project Management Division.

“Over the past year, he has guided and overseen the management of one of the largest and most challenging Civil and Military programs in the Corps. His leadership has been instrumental in the success of these programs,” said Minahan.

Mocek has worked on diverse projects such as the \$89 million 4th Infantry Division Modularity Project which will provide temporary and permanent construction for Soldiers at Fort Hood, Texas. He was instrumental in the construction of the Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, and planning for the Dallas Floodway and Floodway Extension Projects and multi-purpose reservoirs throughout Texas. Adapting to

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the changes of time, he established the Architect-Engineer Resource Center, a “one-stop” engineering center for the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Mocek attributes the successes he has achieved in his professional life to his passion for what he does. “I truly believe that the Civil, Military, and Support for Others projects we deliver are important to the people of our nation. We add value to this country that no other public or private organization, in my opinion, could do better,” said Mocek, the son of Lillie Mae and Jerry Mocek of Seymour.

He added that he is keenly aware that it is practically impossible to single out one “outstanding” civilian in an organization of more than 35,000 employees doing great things all over the world.

“In that light, I will be honored to accept this award on behalf of the many, outstanding civilian members who make the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers such a great organization.”

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Writer's Note:

The Civilian of the Year award was named for Lt. Gen. John W. Morris who graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. in June 1943 and was commissioned in the Corps of Engineers. During World War II, he commanded an airfield construction company in the Western Pacific. After the war, he served in the Philippines and Japan, in the Corps' Savannah District, and as area engineer at Goose Bay, Labrador. In 1960-62, he commanded the divisional 8th Engineer Battalion in Korea. Morris headed the Corps' Tulsa District in 1962-65 as it improved navigation on the Arkansas River. During the peak years of the Vietnam War, he was the Army's Deputy Chief of Legislative Liaison (1967-69), and he commanded the 18th Engineer Brigade in Vietnam (1969-70). He was then Missouri River Division Engineer for two years, the Corps' Director of Civil Works for three years, and Deputy Chief of Engineers in 1975-76. As Chief of Engineers from July 1, 1976 to September 30, 1980, Morris convinced the Army to include the Corps of Engineers among its major commands. Lt. Gen. Morris was selected as Construction's Man of the Year for 1977 by “Engineering-News Record” magazine.

Visit the Fort Worth website at www.swf.usace.army.mil .

Mocek Photo outline

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Michael J. Mocek, native of Seymour, Texas, Deputy District Engineer and Chief of Programs and Project Management Division for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, is given the Lieutenant General John W. Morris Award for Civilian Employee of the Year by Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Carl A. Strock at a recent Senior Leader Conference in Grapevine, Texas.