



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Headquarters**



COVE POLICY LETTER # 2019-03

July 17, 2019

SUBJECT: Value Engineering (VE) Achievement Awards & Recognition

1. **PURPOSE:** The purpose to this memorandum is to provide an overview of the USACE Value Engineering Achievement Awards Program to include other structured recognition opportunities, as well as a schedule for nomination and selection of awardees.

2. **BACKGROUND:** The USACE Value Program is the cornerstone for delivering maximum value to our customers and the taxpayer; this program is an extension of



our unique expertise and a critical function to ensure the efficient and effective business of the Corps of Engineers. As such, our VE Achievement Awards program is designed to recognize significant contributions to the Value Program success over the last fiscal year or more. The USACE VE Achievement Awards align with the requirements for other Department of the Army and Department of Defense Value Engineering Awards programs, and awardees are utilized as direct feeders to those programs.

All USACE programs/projects, individuals, teams, and organizations may be considered for these awards. Nominations must demonstrate consistent and progressive performance completed with the highest level of professionalism as to bring credit upon USACE and the Value Engineering Program. Note that all categories are not required to be selected or referred each year.



3. **CATEGORIES FOR THE AWARDS PROGRAM:**

(1) Value Engineering Professional of the Year (Individual) – Recognizes an individual who has made an exemplary contribution to the USACE Value Program over the previous 12 month period. Eligible nominees should have a sustained and progressive VE performance record.

- (2) Program/Project – Recognizes specific project VE activities/efforts that have generated significant quality improvements and/or validated Cost Savings on a specific contract/project, system, item, or family of items executed within the last 12 months. Multiple awardees may be selected from this category for recognition.
- (3) Team – Recognizes any team who have made a noteworthy contributions to the implementation/application of VE activities performed and/or contracts executed within the last 12 months.
- (4) Organization - Recognizes and organizational element with a distinct title that has made a noteworthy contribution to the application/implementation of VE to areas under their cognizance within the last 12 months.
- (5) Special - Recognizes outstanding contributions to the VE Program that demonstrate innovative approaches and applications and/or expand the benefits of VE. Contributions worthy of this special recognition may be drawn from those Value Activities performed during the last five fiscal years. This includes qualitative and quantitative value activities.
- (6) Rising Star Award - Recognizes a USACE professional whose contributions to the VE Program are exceptional in their early years of service to the V-CoP; and consistently demonstrate dedication and drive to deliver the highest value to customers. This category is selected & awarded at the discretion of the CVO, and does not require official nomination.
- (7) Wild Duck Award - Recognizes an individual who has made exemplary and sustained contributions to the Value Profession and the success of the USACE Value Program over the course of their career. This category is selected & awarded at the discretion of the CVO, and does not require official nomination.

4. **NOMINATION AND SELECTION:** Nominations are accepted through the USACE Value Engineering Achievement Awards website (<https://veawards.erdcdren.mil/Default.aspx>) through 15 April each year. District nominations must be endorsed by Commander and by MSC or one level above the nominating office; MSC nominations must be endorsed by the Regional Business Director (RBD), or equivalent, and the MSC Commander. Nominations must include a narrative statement describing the achievement(s) and the results obtained from the nominee's actions, who or what the action benefited, how the achievement(s) supported the mission, and how the nominee exhibits potential for future achievement. Narrative justifications should be complete yet succinct, not exceeding three pages in length. As part of the nomination process, submitters must provide a proposed citation, short executive summary (paragraph) and completed Form DA1256 (Incentive Award Nomination and Approval), signed by the appropriate Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) official and endorsing official(s).

Judging and ranking of the USACE award nominations are performed by the VE Program advisory panel consisting of V-CoP Staff & MSC VE representatives. Recommendations are presented to the CVO for final selection. Awardees may be considered for inclusion in the DoD awards nominations. USACE level awards are considered for presentation at the annual Executive Governance Meeting (formerly the Senior Leadership Conference).

Nominations for the DoD VE Achievement Awards are submitted by the HQUSACE CVO to the DoD VE Management Advisory Group (MAG) for final selection. Specifics vary each year, however they are normally presented in a formal ceremony at the Pentagon.

5. **SAVE INTERNATIONAL® AWARDS:** SAVE International® recognizes successful contributions to the Value profession from industry, government, and value analysis providers. Honors and award nominations presented at the annual SAVE Value Summit (<http://www.value-eng.org/?page=HonorsandAwards>).

6. **HONORARY AWARDS:** Honorary awards (ER 672-1-18, Honorary Awards) and De Fleury medal from the Army Engineer Association (armyengineer.com) should be considered in addition to USACE VE recognition as appropriate.



Any questions should be directed to the undersigned to the Office of Value Expertise (OVx).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffery T Hooghouse".

Jeffery T Hooghouse, RA, DBIA, CVS
Chief Value Officer (CVO) & SAO for VE
US Army Corps of Engineers, HQ