

AIR FORCE AIR WARFARE BATTLELAB



LINEAGE

Air Expeditionary Force Battlelab
Air Warfare Battlelab

STATIONS

Mountain Home AFB, ID

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The mission of the Air Warfare Battlelab was to identify and rapidly prove the worth of innovative ideas for the employment of Air Expeditionary Forces for Global Engagement throughout the entire spectrum of warfare. These ideas focused on six phases of AEF operations: readiness, employment, redeployment, deployment, sustainment and reconstitution.

The mission of the Air Warfare Battlelab is to improve expeditionary combat capability through innovation. To complete this mission, the Air Warfare Battlelab focuses on ideas that are able to:

- Reduce deployment response time
- Reduce deployment support structure
- Increase combat capability and effectiveness

After demonstration of an initiative, the Air Warfare Battlelab makes a recommendation to senior Air Force leaders and the Air Force acquisition community. The recommendations help determine whether or not the Air Force should procure the items, move forward on an idea, or wait for future technology improvements. The Air Warfare Battlelab can accept ideas from any source. We accept ideas from an airman or sergeant on the flight line, from civilians and from members of other military services. Contractors interested in gaining an entry point into the Air Force modernization process can present ideas through our Broad Agency Announcement in Commerce Business Daily.

Once an idea passes our screening and initial research, we validate and outbrief the concept in about eighteen months. The advantages for both the military and industry are tremendous. For industry, we provide analysis of the idea based on the expertise of subject area specialists and identify potential customers while guaranteeing that all ideas selected for evaluation will be visible to senior Air Force leaders and the acquisition community. Any proprietary information provided to the Air Warfare Battlelab will be safeguarded. From the military standpoint, ideas worked by the Air Warfare Battlelab directly impact the Air Force and joint operations, improve efficiency and effectiveness for the warfighter, and introduce new technologies, tactics, procedures, architecture and/or doctrine into the Air Force.

The Air Warfare Battlelab is aligned under Air Combat Command's USAF Warfare Center at Nellis AFB, Nev. It conducts the USAF's most advanced weapons and tactics training, including Red Flag and the USAF Weapons School. It also conducts operational testing and tactics development and evaluation for combat weapons systems, as well as supports combat search and rescue and unmanned aerial vehicle reconnaissance operations worldwide.

The Air Warfare Battlelab consists of 30 military and civilian personnel, augmented with temporary duty experts or contractor support. A limited budget, for day-to-day operations and demonstration execution, is provided in yearly operations and maintenance dollars.

The USAF Air Warfare Battlelab, formally known as the Air Expeditionary Force Battlelab, was one of seven Air Force battlelabs established by the chief of staff of the Air Force. In July 1997, the Air Expeditionary Force Battlelab activated as one of six Air Force battlelabs, designed to identify innovation ideas and measure how well those ideas subject matter experts.

In Feb 2003, the Air Expeditionary Force Battlelab was realigned under the USAF Warfare Center, Nellis AFB, NV, to better match its operational and testing functions giving the Air Expeditionary Force Battlelab a direct window into the AWFC and its subordinate units. The realignment coupled with the standup of the Air Mobility Battlelab drove the need to reorganize the AEF Battlelab.

As of 1 Oct, 2004, the AEF Battlelab became the Air Warfare Battlelab, commanded by Col Ernest L. Parrott, focusing on enhancing the deployability, sustainability, survivability and lethality of contingency Air Expeditionary Forces for Global Engagement. The battlelab was redesignated to better reflect the lab's mission since its realignment in 2003 under the Air Warfare Center at Nellis AFB, Nev., said service officials. The change also reflects the shift of mobility and deployment aspects to the Air Mobility Battlelab, said Col. Ernest Parrott, the Air Warfare Battlelab commander. "The mission is still innovation to improve the combat effectiveness of our warfighters," Parrott said. The emphasis, he said, will shift toward "offensive capability, which equates to more bombs on target."



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Sources