Mission

To provide technical support capabilities and develop and deploy innovative solutions for the USACE Dredging Program.

Description

Dredging Innovations Group (DIG) was formed to address identified gaps for providing solution development and deployment, technical implementation support, and program-level services in the scopes of existing Dredging Operations Programs. DIG provides proactive delivery of innovative solutions to the most pressing problems and emerging issues affecting the efficient execution of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Navigation Dredging Program. DIG leverages current R&D products and engages USACE interests through the Dredging Operations Technical Support (DOTS) Program and the Navigation Community of Practice to provide technology development and deployment, actionable program information and implementable strategies. DIG is responsive to evolving needs at all organizational levels that address management priorities for supporting a sustainable marine transportation system through an efficient USACE Dredging Program.

Goals

- Anticipate and identify priority problems, needs, and opportunities
- Address challenging Field and Program requirements
- Infuse R&D knowledge and technologies into practice
- Lower technical execution barriers under changing conditions
- Inform decision-making with credible, defensible science
- Build and sustain USACE institutional capacity

Priority Focus Areas

Cost Efficiencies - DIG identifies driving factors of cost increases and leverages knowledge, expertise, and technology to develop and deploy technical, operational, and programmatic solutions to lower costs across the Dredging Program.

Channel Availability - DIG provides technical assistance and solution delivery to Districts, Divisions, and Headquarters for the development of sustainable dredging and dredged material management strategies.

Dredge Fleet Utilization - DIG investigates multi-level constraints on the USACE Dredging Program, such as equipment availability and environmental restrictions, for the development of recommendations to optimize fleet utilization regionally and nationally.

Workforce Capabilities - In partnership with DOTS, DIG supports “building the bench” through development of education and training tools and technology transfer activities.

Addressing complex dredging challenges and building institutional capacity for long-term mission sustainability.