

# The Quill

June 2019

Qualis Teams on \$256M Contract to Support MDA's ARC Cybersecurity and Testing Activities



Qualis Corporation is excited to announce that we will be an integral teaming partner supporting the Missile Defense Agency's (MDA) Advanced Research Center (ARC).

The MDA ARC has supported Missile Defense for more than 40 years

providing systems engineering, development, integration, testing, and analysis of the Ballistic Missile Defense System (BMDS). The 95,000 square feet facility, has been at its current location since 1987, and provides high performance test resources and engineering services for ground and flight test risk reduction activities at its numerous MDA test labs. The facility also allows for unique computer/network capabilities, secure operations and provides synergy between various Missile Defense programs.



A portion of the computing resources that make up MDA ARC. (Source : MDA)

Qualis is part of the DTechLogic LLC. Team, a Huntsvillebased joint venture between Davidson Technologies Inc. and nLogic, LLC. The team will provide requirements for infrastructure and cybersecurity engineering necessary to sup-



MDA ARC facility in Huntsville, AL. (Source: MDA)

port Ballistic Missile Defense System (BMDS) in its current focus of Hardware-in-the-Loop (HWIL) and related Ground Testing in a Continuous Integration/Continuous Agile Testing (CI/CAT) environment.

The five-year IDIQ contract, has a total contract value of \$255.909,986 and will generate new revenue for Qualis by bringing more job opportunities to the Huntsville, AL area. The testing will be critical to deploying new capabilities for the Warfighter.

"We knew from the beginning that this team was loaded with talent and had an excellent technical solution. Seeing the way these companies and individuals worked so well together on a common mission that we are all so passionate about, we knew we had the winning team," said Qualis President Rod Duke.

With performance scheduled to begin this summer, Qualis is eager to contribute to the team providing network and communication support for MDA ARC activities, particularly through our leading edge cybersecurity qualifications.

"We are very excited about performing on the MDA DTechLogic ARC contract," said Duke.

The contract period of performance is scheduled to end June of 2024.

## · DUKE STREET ·

A Periodic Column by Rod Duke, President





(Note: First paragraph to be read very slowly, and pause between each word.)

Beach. Sand. Sea. Pool. Lake. Vacation. Flowers. Fruit. Friends. Baseball. Hot Dogs. Ice Cream. Golf. Tennis. Swimming. Hiking. Fishing. Camping. Schools out! Independence Day. Garden. Heat. Grass. Boating. Sun Burn. 4th of July. Fireworks. Watermelon. Humid. Relaxing. Barbeque. Backyard. Shade. Memories!

I hope above all, each of you are having a safe, relaxing and enjoyable summer so far. I hope the words above brought back good memories for you. Either from last weekend, last week, or even from your childhood. This is a reminder to you, to spend time with your family this summer... and make some memories. When is the last time, you tried something for the first time? Now is your chance! Don't wait until next year.

I consider each of you part of our Qualis Family. And Qualis is making memories as well, not only in the summer but all year long. By the way, my jersey number playing ball (basketball, baseball and soccer) in high school and college was #13. Many of you have joined our LinkedIn Qualis Corporation Employees and Alumni group on LinkedIn to help you stay up with your Qualis Family happenings. I will post things there, as I do on my LinkedIn page that should be of interest to you.

We have an exciting Quill this time. I hope you read it cover to cover. It could be very beneficial to you! From our new opportunities, to our HR Digest, IT Corner, PRIDE Awards, New Hires, Hot Jobs, Referral Bonuses, and Employee Spotlight, you will not want to miss a single word! I promise.

So, thank you for reading DUKE STREET, and as always, thank you again for all you do for our customers, community, country, and Qualis Corporation.

## Qualis Celebrates 26 Years! Happy Birthday Qualis!



Happy Birthday to Qualis Corporation! From Elizabeth Morard (CEO/Founder/Board Chair), Rod Duke (President) and everyone at the Corporate Headquarters!

### **PRIDE Awards**

March Laura Hardin Cam Kitts

Alice Masengale C.B. Alsobrook Jason Mann

Les Johnson Steve Howell <u>May</u>

Greg Reighter Ben Vennefron Dana Chandler

Angela Trawick Tracy Barnes Paul Carothers

Sterling Rinehart April Scot Williams

Cam Kitts Jon Roberts Kevin Diaz

Jason Mann Lem Vaughan

Nan Sullivan Kenneth Bell

### **Welcome New Hires**

<u>March</u> Kenny Frank Geoffrey Doback

Bruce MacDougall Cassie Segretti Azadra Whitman

Dejournette Walker Shaina Harris Anna Underwood

Gerard Crump May Jamie Boswell

Helen Foor Jennifer Calardo William Spurgeon

Johnathan Garner Ryan Harris Lorenzo Javier

April Kristian Miasek Matthew Ehrhardt

Joseph Russell Allison Helmbrecht Teri Ferguson

Leroy Salinas Zachary Taylor Regina Walsh

Jason Williams Matthew Bader Joseph Villareal

John Celani <u>June</u> Phyllis Hovey

Ryan Steele James Isley Brooke Leavins



### **Employee Spotlight**

The Qualis Employee Spotlight is a way to highlight employees and to become better acquainted with the entire Qualis network, at various locations. If you are interested in nominating a co-worker to appear in our next newsletter, please email your Program Manager.

### **Teaching Beyond Borders**

By: Anna Katherine Underwood, Intern

Gena Dalton is a prime example of a Qualis employee who strives in and out of the workplace to be a great leader and role model. Dalton works for Qualis as a chemist at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center



supporting the International Space Station (ISS) by making drinkable water for astronauts and has gone above and beyond to be an active leader not just in her local community but abroad.

### **STEM Lab Presentation at Creekside Elementary**

In April, Dalton showcased a STEM Lab presentation at Creekside Elementary School in Harvest, AL where she answered questions from inquisitive third through fifth graders about what she called the "Orbital Outhouse." The presentation included topics such as how astronauts use the bathroom in space; what astronauts need to live in space; and how to recycle water. The kids even got some first-hand instruction and practice with a tutorial on how astronauts wash their hands in space onboard the ISS.

Creekside Elementary later posted on their Facebook about the impact Dalton made during her visit with the kids: "We



Gena Dalton at Creekside Elementary (Source: Facebook)

are so thankful for NASA scientist, Gena Dalton for coming to teach our third graders today in our STEM lab about Space Travel and recycling in space."

### Long-distance Learning with Kids at Aviano AFB, Italy

In May, Dalton continued teaching eager children about STEM and about her job as a scientist. This time she connected with a group of children at Aviano U.S. Air Force Base in Italy via Skype with a discussion centered around the scientific concepts of evaporation and condensation and how they are the first steps in purifying urine into drinking water to hydrate astronauts on their long missions while in space.

"It was a honor to speak, via Skype, to a room of future scientist at the Aviano US Air Force Base in Italy... I was thrilled to volunteer to speak to these schoolchildren today," Dalton said after the event.

The event was held for the group of Aviano students during their Space Week Finale and hosted by the 31st Force Support Squadron.

We are so proud of the great leadership and initiative shown by her, and cannot wait to see what's next!





Dalton teaching via Skype to kids at Aviano AFB, Italy (Source: Facebook)

### Innovation on the Move

By: Allison Helmbrecht, Intern

Paul Carothers has worked as a mechanical technician with NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center's (MSFC) for 20 years and has been with Qualis for 14 of those years. Over the course of his career, he has managed to



leave a lasting mark on the field of Human Spaceflight and Exploration through his invention of the Quick Connect Movable Clamping Device. Used by the human factors group, this versatile device could be used by any NASA department that uses an 80/20 T-slot Aluminum extrusion.

Carothers and his team use the device to easily and efficiently connect palettes together to build systems without needing tools, saving time and energy. The clamps have been used to join sliding doors for convenient storage units, connect folding tables with adjustable heights, and fasten multipurpose attachment points within the Habitat, a three-level simulation that serves as a workspace and living area. The device, consists of only of three parts; utilizes a simple 90-degree bolt turn of a bolt and tightening of a nut, and has made a huge difference in the team's building process. The human factors group offers solutions that make operations more accessible and convenient for those occupying the Habitat.

Carothers said his favorite thing about his job is that every day is different. He added that each project is something unique to build, and that he never knows what the next one is going to be. He enjoys having the freedom to complete projects the way he envisions and lives by one of his favorite quotes, "If you love what you do, you will never work a day in your life."





Quick Connect Movable Clamping Device (Source: P. Carothers)

### **HR Digest**

A Monthly Column by Keanna Nichols, Director of Human Resources

### What Age, What Test?

Early detection is the key to fighting many diseases. Getting the right tests at the right time can increase chances of treatment success and survival. Before hav-



ing any tests performed, review your benefits to see which tests are covered by your plan.

Here is a guide to help you know:

**Dental:** It is recommended that adults and children have a dental visit annually, although they can be more frequent. Your dentist can help you determine how often your teeth should be cleaned. Children should have their first dental visit by age one.

**Vision:** Adults should have an eye exam every two years or as recommended by a health professional. Children should have their vision tested before age five.

**Diabetes:** Adults who have symptoms of diabetes, or who have blood pressure readings higher than 135/80 mmHg, should have their hemoglobin A1C checked every three years. More frequent testing may be needed for individuals at higher risk.

**Colorectal:** Individuals 50 years or older should be tested for colorectal cancer. Those who are at increased risk should speak to their doctor about earlier testing

**Pap smear:** All women age 21 or older should have a pap smear every one to three years. Women aged 30 or older may also choose to have a pap smear in conjunction with the human papillomavirus (HPV) test every five years.

**Mammogram:** The US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends mammograms every two years for women aged 50 to 74 years. The decision to start screening mammography prior to age 50 should be an individual one. Women who place a higher value on the potential benefit than the potential harm may choose to being screening mammograms at age 40.

**Osteoporosis:** A bone density test is recommended for women under 65 who have at least one risk factor, and for women over 65 who have never had a bone density test. The interval between tests can be two or more years.

**Prostate:** Men over 50, and high-risk men 45-50, should speak with their doctor about their prostate health.

**Blood cholesterol:** To reduce risk of heart disease, periodic screening of cholesterol levels is recommended for men ages 35 and older, and women and younger men who are at risk for cardiovascular disease.

### Lisa's IT Corner

A Monthly Column by Lisa McNabb, Systems Administrator

### Cybersecurity Tips for International Travelers

When traveling internationally, re-

member that your mobile phone and other personal communications devices transmit and store your personal information.

#### Before you go

Take proactive steps to secure your devices and your personally identifiable information before you travel. Leave at home any electronic equipment you don't need during your travel, and if you take it, protect it. Be sure you:

- Back up your electronic files.
- Remove sensitive data.
- Install strong passwords.
- Ensure antivirus software is up-to-date.

#### While traveling

Be vigilant about where and how you use your devices, and don't be lulled into a false sense of security. Make sure you:

- Keep your devices secure in public places such as airports, hotels and restaurants.
- Be aware of your surroundings and take care that nobody is trying to steal information from you by looking at your device screen when you use it.
- Consider using a privacy screen on your laptop.

#### Avoid using public Wi-Fi

Some threats – device theft, for example – are obvious, but others will be invisible, such as data thieves trying to steal passwords to compromise your personally identifiable information or access your accounts. You may be especially vulnerable in locations with public Wi-Fi, including internet cafes, coffee shops, book stores, travel agencies, clinics, libraries, airports and hotels. Some helpful tips:

- Don't use the same passwords or PIN numbers abroad that
  you use in the United States.
- Do not use the public Wi-Fi to make online purchases or access bank accounts.
- If you must log into any public network, turn off your phone's auto-join function.

If using a pubic Wi-Fi network, periodically adjust your phone settings to forget the network, then log back in again.

Try purposely logging onto the public Wi-Fi using the wrong password. If you can get on anyway, that's a sign that the network is not secure.

Remember also to avoid using public equipment – such as phones, computers and fax machines – for sensitive communication.

### When you get home

Electronics and devices used or obtained abroad can be compromised. Your mobile phone and other electronic devices may be vulnerable to malware if you connect with local networks abroad. Update your security software and change your passwords on all devices on your return home.

### Working Greener:

### Tips on Going Green in the Workplace

- Reduce or eliminate your paper usage. Print on both sides of paper. Recycle your paper scraps. And keep things digital when possible.
- Keep used coffee grounds to nurture your indoor and outdoor plants. They add nutrients to the soil. They're also a great addition to your compost pile.
- Pack your lunch for work in reusable containers. If you order delivery, place a large order with your coworkers. Carpool, bike or walk with others instead of driving, if possible.
- Set your computer to an energy-saving mode and shut them down when you leave for the day. Devices such as printers and scanners that you only use occasionally can be unplugged until needed. And of course, turn off lights when you're not using a room.
- Request to be removed from paper mailing lists from conferences, trade publications, etc. If you still want to hear from them, opt for electronic delivery instead.
- Reuse old file folders. If you flip them inside out, you've got a fresh folder and tab to use, rather than trashing them for new ones.



### Team USA Places 3<sup>rd</sup> in Toyota Jr. World Cup



By: Azadra Whitman, Intern

Michaela Morard, daughter of Qualis Founder, CEO and Board Chair Elizabeth Morard, placed first in the long drive competition as one of three American junior golfers selected to represent the United States of America Team at the 2019 Toyota Junior World Cup in Nagoya, Japan. The event was held

at the Chukyo Golf Club's Ishino Course in Toshitomo-cho Fukada, Toyota-shi, Japan on June 18 - 21.

"It is a great honor to represent the United States of America in the sport that I love," said Michaela, "I know that there have been some great players to represent this team in the past; and being able to follow in their footsteps is exciting and a great opportunity."

Team USA placed third in the Toyota Junior World Cup competition which included teams from Japan (first), Mexico (second), Australia, Spain, South Africa, Sweden, Korea, Columbia, Argentina, Canada, Denmark, Italy, Morocco, New Zealand and Thailand.

Michaela will enter her senior year this fall at Randolph School and has plans to play for the University of Alabama after graduation, as she is thought to be the youngest verbal commit (age 14) that the university has had for any sport.

Her achievements include AJGA Rolex All America Team (4); AJGA Junior All-Star Team (3); AJGA Champion (6), including the 2017 Justin Rose Invitational and the 2018 AJGA Girls Championship; 6A-7A AHSAA State Individual Champion (2). After sitting out a year, she let her school Randolph to the AHSAA 4A-5A State Championship in 2019 as well. She is an Alabama State Girls Junior Champion (3); and Alabama Women's Amateur Stroke Play Champion (2), setting an all-time scoring record of 63-66-66 = 195 -21 under par in 2018. Most recently, she defended her title and won the 56th State of Alabama Girls Junior Championship on June 26.

Congratulations to Michaela and Team USA!

### **Career Opportunities at Qualis**

### **Qualis Referral Bonus Program**

Congrats to those who referred employees and received payouts recently:

Jeff Estep

Aixa Leon

**Dave Cowart** 

**Tom Whittington** 

Alice Masengale

### Remember our Employee Referral Bonus!!!

Qualis Employee Referral Bonus Program: Employees are encouraged to recommend and refer qualified candidates. A monetary bonus is offered for referral of candidates who are ultimately hired for open positions.

#### Featured Jobs at Qualis

Cyber Security Engineer - Hickam AFB, HI - #962405

Document & Configuration Management Support – Eglin AFB, FL - #998409

GIS & Telecommunications Locator – Eglin AFB, FL - #1040529

Cyber Analyst - Kirtland AFB, NM - #942306

Operations Analyst - Peterson AFB, CO - #963539

Senior Systems Engineer – Naval Support Activity Orlando, FL - #1025617

View current openings at https://www.qualis-corp.com/careers/ Equal Opportunity Employer/M/F/V/D and a participant in E-Verify