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LOCAL NEWS

F-16 team builds torque motor test station

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Workers in the Hydraulics division have again proven that a team approach is the best way to do business.

Technicians responsible for the overhaul of the F-16 Integrated Servo Actuator continually had trouble with one of the sub-assemblies, a mini-torque motor. A bad motor was not evident until a final test was conducted.

With no available information and no vendor support, technicians Randy Barney and Clifford D. McKaughan, and their Branch Chief, Andy Volpe, decided to work with a qualified vendor to resolve the problem.

As a result, Chant Engineering Co. Inc., and the F-16 ISA team successfully designed and built a Torque Motor Test Station which tests these sub-assemblies. The

statement of work was developed by Bill Leverton. These units can now be thoroughly tested and even finely tuned prior to being released for final assembly and test.

With this test station, all accurate measurements are displayed by digital means from the electronic signals generated through a Laser/Micrometer measuring device. At the same time, hydraulic pressures and flow, response times, voltage and amperage and magnetic fields strengths in the magnets are displayed and recorded.

So much information is generated that the technicians have several parameters that they can fine tune. This gives the technicians the ability to tweak the unit, which results in a more stable and accurate operational torque motor.

The net result of this effort has cut production time, increased end-item acceptability and

reduced annual production time by 2,700 man-hours. This has

resulted in a monthly labor saving of \$28,000.



U.S. Photo by Henry Walker

Maj. Gen. Eugene L. Tattini, SM-ALC commander; Bill Leverton, a planner for the Hydraulics division; Clifford McKaughan, pneudraulics systems mechanic, Pneudraulics division; Andy Volpe, production branch chief, Pneudraulics division; Randy Barney, hydraulics technician, Pneudraulics division; and James Barone, SM-ALC executive director, are seen with the Torque Motor Test Station, which tests torque motors on the F-16 Integrated Servo Actuator.