



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS BALTIMORE DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

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Army, GM sign lease to build test track complex at Yuma Proving Ground

BALTIMORE — The U.S. Army and General Motors Corporation signed an agreement June 5 to create a world class, joint-use, hot weather test complex at U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz. The emphasis will be on improved safety testing of all types of vehicles at high speeds and high temperatures both on and off road. General Motors will be responsible for developing the \$100 million complex within 2,400 acres of the installation as part of the Army's Enhanced Use Lease program.

Yuma Proving Ground is the Department of Defense's lead for testing vehicles in hot weather. Currently, the installation has a critical need for additional and improved test tracks, as its only paved test course is a single straightaway built in the 1950's for low speed testing. Improving the ability to test new vehicles has grown especially critical as increased over-the-road speeds have become a key in defending against roadside ambushes in current and potential military operations environments worldwide.

The Army's portion of the new Hot Weather Test Complex will include:

- A high-speed (90 mph), dual-lane paved oval test track more than four miles long that can accommodate the Army's tracked and heaviest wheeled vehicles
- A high-speed gravel oval test track more than four miles long that will accommodate all the Army's wheeled and tracked vehicles
- Upgrading of other facilities to include improvements such as perimeter fencing

The stand-alone General Motors facility will be a major complex with a wide range of capabilities for testing the full range of vehicles the corporation produces.

As the first totally joint use government-industry EUL to date, each partner has the right to use the other's facilities.

The EUL program is a tool used by the federal government to attract private sector capital and expertise to acquire, construct or upgrade facilities. To date, the Army Corps of Engineers oversees 55 active and proposed Enhanced Use Lease projects at 56 installations around the country.

Additional information about this Enhanced Use Lease is available at <http://eul.army.mil/yuma>

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