

MONTHLY AWARD WINNERS

Weapons Safety Award of Distinction

Sgt Goodermont, SSgt Buffell (AFMC), and SrA Leonguerrero demonstrated sustained technical expertise and professionalism and applied superb weapons safety knowledge while supporting the F/A-22 Developmental and Operational Test and Evaluation during weekend duty. SSgt Buffell's crew was tasked to troubleshoot an elusive malfunction on the right main weapons bay door of F/A-22, 9011. After extensive wire and component continuity checks, SSgt Goodermont's flawless attention to detail led to the discovery of a damaged pin on the difficult to access door safety panel. The crew immediately ordered, removed, and replaced the damaged component. They then performed functional checks on the door safety system, returning the aircraft to fully mission capable status in a truly remarkable 1.5 hours. The decisive actions of SSgt Goodermont, SSgt Buffell, and SrA Leonguerrero enabled Raptor 9011 to successfully complete the next scheduled \$250 thousand vital flight test mission and prevented a disastrous mishap due to potential failure of a weapons bay door safety feature. SSgt Buffell's crew was

called upon once again to perform a critical Technical Order Validation/Verification task on the Common Organizational Level Tester. While performing this labor-intensive task, SrA Leonguerrero noticed substantial chaff residue, including an RR-170 end cap in the AMMO container bay area. He immediately informed SSgt Buffell, who quickly initiated a more thorough Foreign Object Damage (FOD) inspection. During this inspection, they discovered a significant amount of FOD, including chaff residue in the gun bay, a 2-inch plastic dust cover, and pieces of masking tape. Additionally, the crew's comprehensive inspection revealed a loose wire bundle tie-down post in the gun barrel area. SSgt Buffell and SSgt Goodermont instantly requested disposition through the Combined Test Force Production Superintendent on duty. This action led to further exhaustive investigation and inspection of the aircraft Auxiliary Power Unit (APU) area which also revealed damaging chaff migration in the APU area. The superior attention to detail and decisive action of these individuals prevented a \$240 thousand catastrophic gun failure and the potential total loss of a \$2.1 billion aircraft. Their dedication and selfless efforts absolutely epitomizes the Air Force Safety Center's number one goal "to maintain a zero-mishap culture which permeates the Air Force."

**SSgt Michael Goodermont,
SSgt Jason Buffell, and SrA Jonathan Leonguerrero,
31st Test and Evaluation Sqdn., Edwards AFB, California**



ACC Safety Salutes Superior Performance

TSgt James W. Blevins,
Chief, Airfield Management Operations,
2 OSS, 2 BW
Barksdale AFB, LA

A1C Bradley W. Raines,
Dedicated Crew Chief,
46 AMXS
Eglin AFB, FL

