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Road to The Future



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102nd MPAD, Camp McGovern



Cpl. Weston Farnsworth of the 43rd CEC and equipment supervisor for the road project sprays the Soil Sement using the 6000 gallon water distributor.



The 43rd Combat Engineer Company (CEC) in conjunction with the 49th Armored Division (AD) is helping the soldiers of Camp McGovern to see more clearly, literally.

"The dust clouds from the fast cars passing down this road prevent the guards in the towers from seeing," said Cpl. Weston Farnsworth of the 43rd CEC, equipment supervisor for the project. "That's mainly why we are doing this project."

This road paving project should provide dust control for Camp McGovern, because the cars and trucks passing at a fast pace kick up more dirt than the vehicles on the camp, according to Capt. Ken Booth, construction officer for the 49th AD.

This project has been going on for the last six weeks, and it encompasses the area from the North Gate to the South Gate of Camp McGovern. The roadwork began about three weeks ago, when extra gravel was brought and mixed in with the previous gravel to level the road. Then, the road was smoothed out with a grader and mixed in with sandlike gravel, called fines, and then it was shaped. After the road was shaped, a glue-like mixture called Soil-Sement® was sprayed over the road by a 6000-gallon water distributor.

"This is the first time Soil-Sement® has been used in Bosnia," said Farnsworth. "We are trying it to see how well it works here so we can use it other places in Bosnia. It's kind of a test project."

After Soil-Sement® is sprayed, it is left to cure/soak for 24 to 48 hours. The time it takes to soak depends on weather conditions; if it is sunny and dry, it will probably only take 24 hours, said Farnsworth. The area they are treating is 2,975 feet long, and so far it has taken 105 55-gallon containers of Soil-Sement®.

"We should be finished August 1st, depending on the weather," said Spc. Brad Pardi, heavy equipment operator for 43rd CEC.

The right side of the road is pretty much done. After the Soil-Sement® soaks into the road, they will pass the grader over it again and smooth the road over. However, the other side has to be done also, hence the August 1st completion date.

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