



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AIR FORCE METROLOGY AND CALIBRATION (AFMETCAL)
DETACHMENT 1, WR-ALC (AFMC)
HEATH, OHIO

Colonel Marvin E. Cook
Director Air Force Metrology
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Dear Colleague

Forty years ago, the United States Air Force went looking for a location that offered ideal conditions for its then-emerging metrology and calibration program. They sought a location that was seismically stable which would provide a solid foundation for the high-tech test and repair equipment that was needed for precision measurement.

Over these past forty years, we've found that when it came to stability, Licking County offered more than just stable soil. Licking County has provided the USAF with a highly-skilled, highly-productive workforce that has been the definition of bedrock stable.

Stability matters. The military is no different than the corporate sector when it comes to wanting to get the greatest return on investment possible. When you attract good people and invest in training and honing their high-tech skills, you want to keep them. AFMETCAL has enjoyed an extremely low turnover rate and has never, in its history, had difficulty finding the skill sets needed to fill vacancies.

Credit for this stability goes to the entire community—people with a strong work ethic, capable schools, accessible government officials, and a diverse quality of life. The Port Authority deserves credit as well by providing access to on-site amenities which truly do provide a “quality of work environment” that has helped us to keep good workers while attracting new ones.

The Air Force's decision to locate here has proven to be a good one and not just for the stability of the workforce. Long before anyone else in the nation was using the buzz word “high tech” to describe an industry, the workers at AFMETCAL were, literally, writing the book on what high tech was all about.

Take it from someone who has seen a variety of different locations in our nation, the kind of deep-rooted high tech experience found here at Heath is not easily duplicated and not often found elsewhere.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can answer any questions or concerns you may have about a site location decision at the Central Ohio Aerospace and Technology Center.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. E. Cook".

Marvin E. Cook, Colonel, USAF
Director, Air Force Metrology