Baron Services to provide weather radar services in northern Alaska

Huntsville, ALABAMA, FEBRUARY 24, 2015 – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Alaska District, based in Anchorage, Alaska, selected critical weather intelligence provider Baron Services of Huntsville, Ala., for award of a contract to provide weather radar capabilities at the U.S. Army Cold Regions Test Center.

The Cold Regions Test Center’s mission is to plan, conduct, and report developmental and operational tests, assessments and experiments with an emphasis on Soldier system integration and participation in the snow, extreme cold and sub-arctic natural environment in order to provide timely, accurate and relevant information to Army, sister services, Department of Defense, U.S. Government, international and commercial customers.

The radar will be located within the Fort Wainwright’s Donnelly Training Area and near the Fort Greely military installation, located 100 miles outside Fairbanks, Alaska. It is expected to be installed and fully operational by October 2015. Baron was selected through a low-cost, technical bid process. The company prides itself on its customer support and expertise with radar capabilities, particularly in remote locations.

“All technical proposals were evaluated for acceptability in accordance with evaluation criteria stated in the solicitation,” said Mark Coburn, program manager in the Corps’ Military Construction Branch. “Of the proposals found to be technically acceptable, the award is made to the lowest priced proposal. In this case, Baron Services received the contract amount for $1.38 million.”

The new radar will replace the Donnelly Training Area and Fort Greely’s existing Doppler radar with a more comprehensive and accurate X-band Dual Polarization radar. It will also feature Baron’s newest Auto Calibration techniques, a technology that ensures the most reliable radar returns without requiring any manual manipulation of the equipment. Other facilities to be constructed include a tower, radar support building, obstruction lighting, lightning protection, installation of operator console at a remote command building, and electrical and data connection services.

The radar will enhance knowledge of weather patterns that have potential to adversely impact operations at the site. Subsequently, the new equipment will provide vital decision support for the test center’s mission.
“The combination of Dual Polarization radar, which delivers in-depth storm detail, with the high sensitivity and short range of X Band radar, providing increased resolution on developing weather situations, will give the Cold Regions Test Center enhanced situational awareness,” said John Ellis, manager for Engineering and Radar Systems, Baron Services. “Ultimately this enhanced decision support data will help them fulfill their mission of testing U.S. Army equipment under the most extreme cold weather conditions as effectively as possible.”

“We are honored to have been selected for this Dual Polarization upgrade,” said Robert Baron, Jr. “It speaks well of the track record we’ve established in this area, particularly in the delivery of superior radar performance and actionable weather radar analysis. We look forward to the possibility of expanding Dual Polarization radar upgrades to additional U.S. Army ranges in the future.”

About Baron
Baron’s meteorological hardware, software and data are indispensable tools for organizations, businesses and individuals critically impacted by weather conditions. Baron’s world-class scientists are continuously inventing new and more effective ways to collect, interpret, package and display real-time, hyper-local meteorological information so that those who depend on the most precise weather intelligence for their safety and livelihood have access to professional decision-making solutions. Baron delivers Critical Weather Intelligence when precision matters. For more information, visit http://www.baronweather.com.

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About Baron Services
A leading weather technology company, Baron Services specializes in providing critical weather intelligence to governments, businesses and media outlets. With numerous patents in weather technology, Baron serves the industry as experts in weather integration, data analysis, modeling and radar manufacturing.

In 2013, in partnership with L-3 STRATIS, Baron Services completed an upgrade of the United States' system of 171 NEXRAD weather radars to dual-polarity for the National Weather Service, Federal Aviation Administration and Department of Defense.

A partnership with SiriusXM Radio makes graphical weather data from XMWX Satellite Weather available in general aviation aircraft and personal watercraft. Also delivered through SiriusXM is NavWeather, which provides weather and road conditions to automobiles using Baron’s Threat Matrix technology.

Through the Velocity Weather API, Baron Services also offers web-delivered meteorological data streams for integration into a range of devices and services, such as smart phone/tablet apps, websites, multi-function displays, chart plotters and more. Baron Services is headquartered in Huntsville, Alabama. For more news and information on Baron Services, please visit http://www.baronweather.com

About the U.S. Army Cold Regions Test Center
The U.S. Army Cold Regions Test Center is located in the interior of Alaska on Fort Greely and on Fort Wainwright's Donnelly Training Area and is comprised of over 670,000 acres of range, controlled airspace and support facilities. The CRTC is the Department of Defense’s only cold weather natural environment test organization and is a national asset designated as part of the DoD’s Major Range and Test Facility Base. The CRTC plans, conducts and reports results of natural environment cold weather testing for the Army, other Services, government agencies, allied nations and private industry.

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