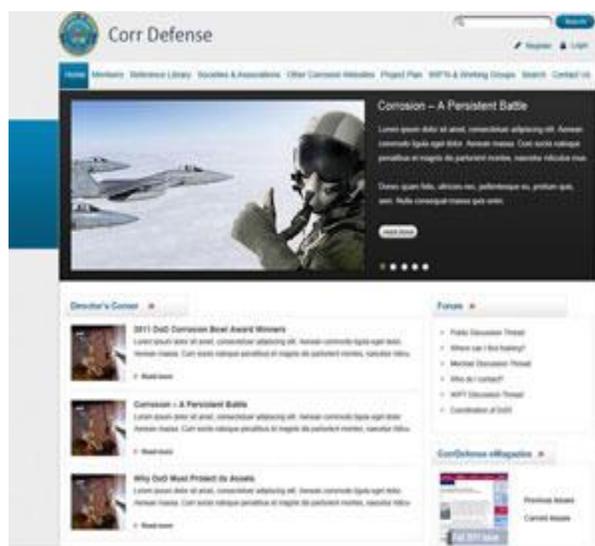


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## CorrDefense Web Site to Get a Facelift and More...

By Chris Grethlein



Version 2.0 of the CorrDefense Web site will bring a fresh look and feel to the home page, and will be reorganized to accommodate new features.

For more than four years, [www.CorrDefense.org](http://www.CorrDefense.org) has served as the DoD Corrosion Policy and Oversight Office's official presence on the World Wide Web. A centerpiece of the defense and corrosion communities, *CorrDefense* provides members inside DoD, industry, and academia with access to valuable technical, program, and policy information on corrosion's impact on the nation's defense assets.

In the coming months, the Corrosion Office will roll out version 2.0 of *CorrDefense*, which will represent the most significant change to the Web site since its initial launch. The new version will be dynamic and up to the minute, featuring a news crawl on the home page, a more versatile discussion forum that welcomes experts inside and outside government, more prominent placement of features from *CorrDefense E-Magazine*, and less reliance on Webmasters for day-to-day updates.

"We want to make the site more responsive to changes in the field, and we would also like to decentralize much of the dialogue within the corrosion community, thus making its information resources more accessible to the public," said Paul Chang, CorrDefense Webmaster and consultant at LMI Government Consulting, who maintains the site for the DoD Corrosion Office.

Among the new version's dynamic features is the capability of updating much of its own content automatically, to include drawing new information from a variety of sources. "By adding a news crawl to the home page, we will be able to provide the latest corrosion-related news stories as they develop," said Chang.

### **"Town-Square-Style" Discussion Forum**

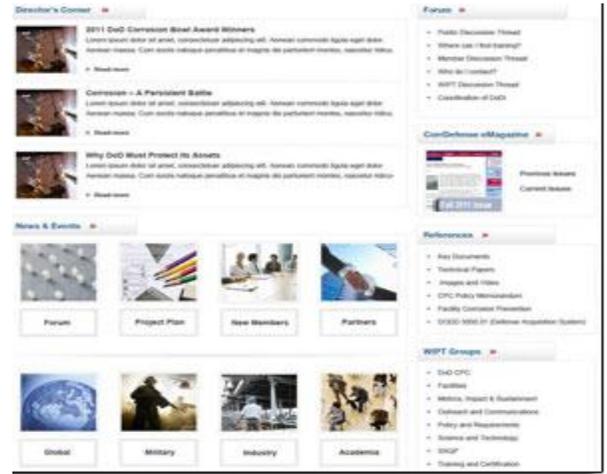
*CorrDefense* serves as a portal to experts in myriad fields of corrosion science within DoD, other government agencies, and industry. Under Version 2.0, the site's portal will feature an enhanced platform that simulates a town square format, which will make collaboration and document management more open and accessible both inside and outside government. Through the site's existing collaboration tools, members will be able to work together from disparate locations by sharing and exchanging information with other members.

“At present, almost all of the collaboration on the site takes place in the working group sections under the Corrosion Prevention and Control Integrated Product Team (CPC IPT), and these sections are restricted to the members of those groups,” explained Chang. “By decentralizing the dialogue, we would provide that same type of functionality on the open portions of the site, thus inviting and encouraging users who are not associated with the Corrosion Office to participate collaboratively with others in the greater community.”

Within this new “town square-like” discussion forum, users may congregate to share ideas, make comments, ask for advice, or provide advice to other users, explained Chang. “The conversation will be self-sustaining; and the utility will be available to members and the general public, allowing persons not affiliated with the government to benefit from learning about how the DoD battles corrosion. Conversely, public users may be able to offer members potential solutions to some of their nagging corrosion problems as well, bringing a fresh perspective from industry. Like the working groups section, the discussion forum can be partitioned into areas focused on specific topics of interest.”

“When we were designing CorrDefense prior to its 2007 launch, we laid out a number of long-term objectives for the site, with the hope that accomplishing each one of them would fulfill some facet of the Corrosion Office charter,” said Chang. “We have met many of those objectives these past four years, creating information resources, collaboration tools for the working groups, a calendar of events, links to other organizations, and community awareness.”

“The coming changes to [www.CorrDefense.org](http://www.CorrDefense.org) will better serve the corrosion communities of interest by staying up to date with developments within the corrosion world,” said Chang. “The new site’s features will make it easier for all interested parties to participate in combating corrosion—now and in the coming years.”



*The new discussion forum at CorrDefense.org will welcome the public and members, and will be moderated by staff in the DoD Corrosion Office.*