



## 200th RED HORSE Squadron 2016 Barrier Team

The 200th RED HORSE Squadron (RHS) barrier team, has been active in the installation and support of aircraft arresting systems around the globe for over 40 years. This year was no different with the barrier team mobilizing to four locations across Michigan, Ohio, and Tennessee in support of the Blue Angels, F-22, and F-35 Demo teams.



The team mobilizes in advance of the show to facilitate the preparation and installation of Aircraft Arresting Systems (AAS) for various Jet Demo teams. AAS's are required within up to 80 nautical miles for most Jet demonstration teams to perform aerial maneuvers safely. The 200 RHS barrier team utilizes two different types of barrier systems; the BAK-12 barrier system and the Mobile Aircraft Arresting System (MAAS). The BAK-12 AAS is an expeditionary system requiring earth anchoring plates and fairlead beams for tracking of tapes. The MAAS system is a mobile type of system which sits next to the runway and utilizes a KM stake line during installation.

The 200 RHS barrier team consists of members from the Power Production and Airfields shops. The Power Production members spearhead the installation and maintenance of the AAS. The Airfields shop members move the arresting systems using tractor trailer, and provide necessary excavation with backhoe support. Additionally, Engineering Assistants align and position the arresting systems during initial installation.

This year began with a team of five Airmen performing a joint expeditionary MAAS installation with the 134<sup>th</sup> Air Reserve Wing/CES at McGee Tyson, Tennessee in support of the Navy Blue Angels for their demonstration during The Smoky Mountain Air Show in Knoxville, Tennessee. With little to no time for rest and relaxation back home, the team deployed eight Airman to install a MAAS system in Smyrna, Tennessee to support the F-22 Demo team's performance at The Great Tennessee Air Show.

Upon returning from Tennessee the barrier team was able to perform expedient maintenance on the MAAS system before departing with seven Airmen for Traverse City, Michigan. Upon arrival in Traverse City the team efficiently worked to install the MAAS for the performance of the Blue Angels Demo team at The Traverse City Cherry Festival.

The team finished off the year with a close to home installation of the BAK-12 system with Fairlead Beams in Youngstown, Ohio. A team six Airman installed the arresting systems for the performance of The Blue Angels F-22 Demo team and F-35 Heritage Flight team.

The 200 RHS barrier team is able to sustain their exceptional expertise through their yearly commitment to support the airshow AAS requirements of the best flying demonstration teams in the world, at both civilian and military airports. This commitment ensures critical safety requirements are met while providing the 200 RHS barrier team the training that sustains their capabilities.



*(The 200<sup>th</sup> RED HORSE Squadron, Ohio Air National Guard, is based out of Camp Perry and Mansfield Ohio, story by MSgt Mark Burgin and TSgt Isaac Strickler)*