

45 MAINTENANCE GROUP

MISSION

45 Maintenance Group is charged with maintaining America's gateway to space. They provide maintenance services essential to the success of the 45 Space Wing and its customers. The 45 Maintenance Group ensures this nation's access to space for DoD, NASA and commercial space lift as well as ballistic missile tests through the operation and maintenance of Eastern Range assets. The 45 Maintenance Group is responsible for two squadrons and two detachments, which operate and maintain mission systems and communications-electronics systems for the Eastern Range.

The primary mission of Det 1, 45 Maintenance Group is to provide telemetry and radar-tracking data to support space launches out of the Eastern Range. When not supporting its primary mission, the unit has the secondary mission of providing radar-tracking data for locating and cataloging space objects in support of U.S. Space Command's Space Surveillance Network. Det 1 is located on the island nation of Antigua, West Indies. Antigua is one of the northeastern most islands in the Leeward Island chain and is approximately 1,250 nautical miles southeast of Patrick AFB. The island is approximately 16 miles across at its widest point east-west, 12 miles across north to south and has a population of approximately 65,000.

The primary mission of Det 2, 45 Maintenance Group, is to provide telemetry and radar tracking data to support space launches out of the Eastern Range. When not supporting its primary mission, the unit has the secondary mission of providing radar-tracking data for locating and cataloging space objects in support of the United States Space Command Space Surveillance Network. Ascension Island is a British territory located in the South Atlantic more than 5,090 miles southeast of Patrick AFB and about 500 miles south of the equator--halfway between South America and Africa. Small and volcanic, the island has the appearance of a rough circle with an estimated diameter of six miles and an area of 34 square miles.

LINEAGE

45 Logistics Group

Redesignated 45 Maintenance Group, 1 Oct 2002

Inactivated, 1 Dec 2003

STATIONS

Patrick AFB, Florida

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

In order to handle space operations more effectively, senior officials at Air Force Space Command, 14th Air Force, the 30th Space Wing, and the 45 Space Wing agreed to fine tune the new standard wing organization in 2003. Following approval at the highest levels of the Air Force, an organizational transformation was implemented on 1 December 2003. As a result of the transformation, the 45 Maintenance Group was inactivated, and the 45 Launch Group was constituted and assigned to Air Force Space Command with further assignment to the 45 Space Wing.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

Created: 25 Jan 2025

Updated:

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency, U.S. Air Force, Maxwell AFB, Alabama.