News Release

Corrigan Assumes Command of Surface Ship Life Cycle Management Activity

PORTSMOUTH, Va. — Capt. Tim Corrigan relieved Capt. Tom Johnston in a change of office ceremony held today at Norfolk Naval Shipyard, becoming the second director of the Surface Ship Life Cycle Management Activity (SSLCM).

Aligned under the Naval Sea Systems Command Deputy Commander for Surface Warfare (NAVSEA 21), the activity’s mission is to support the level of material readiness that surface ships must achieve to meet their expected service life. Influencing and integrating the necessary maintenance, repairs, and modernization of the surface Fleet before availability allows for better planning and increased cost efficiency; thus providing long-term value for surface ship life cycle sustainment efforts.

“This effort properly resources ships during their maintenance availabilities that take place throughout a ship’s expected service life,” said Johnston. The departing director also noted how SSLCM Activity efforts have helped better define technical requirements to support life cycle readiness, and will continue to be critical in helping to achieve the Chief of Naval Operation’s goal of a 313-ship Navy.

Under his leadership, Johnson’s team released the Technical Foundation Paper (TFP) and ship sheets for Arleigh Burke-class (DDG 51) destroyers.

“The TFP clearly articulates life-cycle technical requirements needed to achieve 35-plus years of expected service life for each ship in the class,” Johnson continued. “Our efforts at SSLCM Activity resulted in the identification of an additional 74,000 man-days of maintenance over each hull’s lifetime.”

In his next assignment, Johnston will lead SSCLM and SEA 21 special projects until his retirement from active duty in spring 2010, after 30 years of naval service.

Corrigan, an engineering duty officer, reported following his previous tour as the chief of staff for the Commander, Regional Maintenance Centers. He noted in his remarks that the SSLCM Activity’s efforts are quickly expanding, and that the activity is on track to roll out the TFP for the LSD 41/49 class in February 2010.
Corrigan added that the SSLCM Activity is also developing TFPs for other ship classes, including the Ticonderoga (CG 47) class and Wasp (LHD 1) class by the end of 2010.

SSLCM has helped execute the complex task of maximizing the material readiness of the Fleet’s assets, according to Deputy Commander for Surface Warfare Rear Adm. Jim McManamon, the change of office ceremony’s principal speaker.

“In doing so, SSLCM has helped ensure that these surface ships reach their expected service life, while ensuring they will support the missions they are called to do, today, tomorrow and well into the 21st century,” McManamon said.

The admiral also stressed the importance of the SSLCM Activity’s continued partnering and teamwork with the Surface Warfare Enterprise, Commander Naval Surface Forces, respective Class Squadrons, Submarine Maintenance Engineering Planning and Procurement (SUBMEPP) activity, Carrier Planning Activity, other NAVSEA directorates, and many other support groups required to achieve long-term readiness.

During the past 10 years, McManamon explained, U.S. Navy non-nuclear surface ships have been maintained under the progressive maintenance philosophy, an approach that supports work on vessels with reduced manning.

“Yet, we still had to meet the requirement to provide additional ship availability to Fleet commanders, while limiting the time ships spent in depot availability periods,” he said.

McManamon noted while SSLCM Activity has only been officially stood up for a short period of time, the activity has made a significant, positive impact in maximizing the material readiness of these naval assets so that they can to reach their expected service life.

SEA 21 manages the complete lifecycle support for all non-nuclear surface ships and is the principal interface with the Surface Warfare Enterprise. The directorate is responsible for the maintenance and modernization of non-nuclear surface ships currently operating in the Fleet. Through planned modernization and upgrade programs, SEA 21 will equip today’s surface ships with the latest technologies and systems to keep them in the Fleet through their service lives. Additionally, SEA 21 oversees the ship inactivation process, including ship transfers or sales to friendly foreign navies, inactivation and/or disposal.