



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND
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IN REPLY REFER TO

NAVSEAINST 4710.15A
Ser 392A3/7070
19 AUG 97

NAVSEA INSTRUCTION 4710.15A

From: Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command

Subj: IMPLEMENTATION OF SUBMARINE (SSN/SSBN) MAINTENANCE
STANDARDS PROGRAM (NON-NUCLEAR)

Ref: (a) SUBMEPP Technical Specification 4730-012-0629
Requirements for Preparation of Submarine Maintenance
Standards

1. Purpose: To provide instructions and assign responsibilities for implementation of the Maintenance Standards (MS) Program for nuclear submarines (SSN/SSBN).

2. Background:

a. A MS provides the minimum standards of acceptance for the maintenance of submarine non-nuclear equipment and components.

b. The MS replaces the current Technical Repair Standard (TRS) and Maintenance Requirement Procedure (MRP).

c. Since 1967, Submarine Maintenance Engineering, Planning and Procurement (SUBMEPP) Activity, has been assigned responsibility for preparation and maintenance of MSs for submarine equipment and components.

3. Policy:

a. When invoked, MSs will be used by activities performing work on submarine non-nuclear equipment and components as follows:

(1) MS geometric standards (e.g., surface finish requirements, acceptable surface defects, minimum and maximum part dimensions, minimum and maximum clearance dimensions between parts) will be the sole acceptance/rejection standards, except that conflicting standards, if any, provided in Unrestricted Operation to Design Test Depth/Maintenance Requirements Cards (URO MRCs), Submarine Safety (SUBSAFE) and the General Overhaul Specifications for Deep Diving Submarines (DDGOS) documents take precedence when invoked.

(2) MS test requirements (e.g., hydrostatic, pneumatic, operational, performance, and non-destructive testing) shall be



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the sole acceptance/rejection test standards, except that conflicting test standards, if any, provided in URO MRCs, SUBSAFE documents, and the DDGOS take precedence when invoked.

(3) Material listed in the MS may be upgraded to current Allowance Parts List (APL) material for corresponding parts without customer authorization. More stringent material composition standards, if any, provided in SUBSAFE documents, Level I material instructions or the DDGOS take precedence when invoked.

NOTE: Requirements for the preparation and maintenance of MSs provide reasonable assurance that conflicting requirements among aforementioned documents are minimized. The exceptions are noted in recognition that as technical requirements change, conflicts may exist until such time as all affected documents are revised.

b. Acceptance criteria may be less than, but will never be more stringent than, original drawing requirements unless dictated by the requirements of Alteration and Improvement (A&I) items, ShipAlts, NAVSEA directives or the DDGOS.

c. Where a MS user activity considers any MS standard to be too stringent or lenient or if the MS criteria conflicts with criteria of URO MRCs, SUBSAFE documents or the DDGOS, that activity shall forward the recommended change to SUBMEPP along with supporting engineering rationale. SUBMEPP will evaluate, notify the user activity and the person who originated the deficiency report of the results of that evaluation and make any necessary changes to the MS.

d. The use of submarine MSs does not in any way authorize the extension of production or test schedules for the conversion, refurbishment or overhaul of submarines.

4. Responsibilities:

a. The Deputy Commander for Submarines, (SEA 92)

(1) Exercises overall headquarters policy and guidance for the submarine MS program.

(2) Approves the number and type of submarine MSs to be prepared.

(3) Budgets for submarine MS program.

(4) Monitors the progress of developing new or revised MSs.

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(5) Incorporates the requirements for use of MSs in overhaul specifications.

(6) Obtains SEA 08 concurrence in matters concerning nuclear propulsion plants where the reactor plant may be affected in accordance with NAVSEAINST C9210.4 (Series).

(7) Obtains SEA 03 concurrence with the invoked specifications, engineering criteria, and system alterations for those MSs which deviate from the original system design, in accordance with NAVSEAINST 5400.61A.

b. The Deputy Commander for Ship Design and Engineering, (SEA 03)

(1) For Hull, Mechanical and Electrical (HM&E) systems and components; support SEA 92, as requested, by providing concurrence and/or comments for those MS (or MS changes) which invoke specifications, engineering criteria or alterations which deviate from the original system design.

(2) For HM&E system or component MSs which deviate from the original designs, obtain SEA 08 concurrence in matters concerning nuclear propulsion plants where the reactor plant may be affected in accordance with NAVSEAINST C9210.4 (Series).

(3) As requested by SEA 92, periodically audit submarine MSs for technical adequacy, applicability, proper engineering judgment, and conformance with invoked specifications.

(4) Report comments and recommendations resulting from the MS audit to SEA 92 and SUBMEPP.

c. SUBMEPP

(1) Exercises technical management of the submarine MS program.

(2) Maintains the technical specification for MS (reference (a)).

(3) Prepares MSs, MS revisions and MS changes per reference (a) when authorized by NAVSEA.

(4) Conducts technical review and acceptance of new and revised MSs including MS changes except selected MSs requiring NAVSEA approval.

(5) Prints and distributes submarine MSs, including changes and revisions.

(6) Maintains and distributes the index of submarine MSs.

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(7) Maintains a program to ensure that submarine MSs are maintained current through the evaluation and incorporation of feedback information supplied by user activities.

(8) Monitors schedules and progress of submarine MSs preparation to assure that program objectives are met.

(9) Prepares and submits program status reports to NAVSEA when requested.

(10) Provides other management and technical assistance as requested by NAVSEA.

(11) Recommends to NAVSEA the number and type of submarine MSs to be prepared.

(12) Develops MSs for the refurbishment of submarine rotatable pool components.

(13) Maintains liaison with NAVSEA and other activities as required to assure timely resolution of problems related to Submarine MS Program.

(14) Evaluates the use and effectiveness of MSs by surveys at activities.

d. The activity responsible (Naval Shipyard or Supervisor of Shipbuilding) for planning the Depot Level Availability

(1) Develops local work authorizations that require components be maintained to MS requirements per paragraph 3a.

(2) Confirms that each submarine MS invoked applies to the installed shipboard equipment/component.

(3) Processes non-conformances to MS standards as specification departures in accordance with applicable directives. This does not apply to recommended procedures or methods included in MSs. These are included in MSs for guidance only.

(4) Submits a change recommendation to SUBMEPP in accordance with paragraph 3.c if the proposed non-conformance is such that the MS should be changed. Specification departure approval requests are required only if the MS change recommendation is not approved by SUBMEPP.

e. Submarine Antenna Restoration Activities

(1) When authorized by customer, use MSs to maintain submarine antenna systems and components.

(2) Provide MS Material Condition/Performance Feedback data only where specifically required in maintenance specifications, work packages or contracts.

f. Advanced Equipment Repair Program Refurbishment - Facilities

(1) Use MSs to refurbish program components as directed by SUBMEPP.

(2) Provide MS Material Condition/Performance Feedback data required in maintenance specifications, work packages or contracts.

g. All activities using MSs

(1) Perform maintenance work on equipment or components using MSs as the minimum acceptance standard under local work authorizations.

(2) Obtain and provide mandatory and contingency material necessary to restore an item in accordance with the applicable MS.

(3) Obtain and maintain current copies of all MS reference materials.

(4) Develop, as necessary, supplementary documents required for MS accomplishment (e.g., repair methods and procedures restoring parts that fail to meet MS acceptance standards, test methods and procedures to assure MS test requirements are satisfied). Supplemental documents which alter the technical requirements of the MS are expressly prohibited.

(5) Process non-conformances to MS standards as specification departures in accordance with applicable directives. This does not apply to recommended procedures or methods included in MSs. These are included in MSs for guidance only.

(6) Submit a change recommendation to SUBMEPP per paragraph 3.c if the proposed non-conformance is such that the MS should be changed. Specification departure approval requests are required only if the MS change recommendation is not approved by SUBMEPP.

(7) Review all Category I MS revisions and changes which have been issued subsequent to the Work Definition Meeting to determine any impact on the cost of the availability, rework, or the availability schedule if the MS is authorized. This information must be forwarded to the customer. Customers will authorize specific use of MSs.

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(8) Activities implementing MSs will notify NAVSEA, Type Commander (TYCOM), and SUBMEPP when the use of a specific MS will incur excessive costs or undue delay for the scheduled availability or overhaul. The notification will identify specific MS requirements which account for the excessive cost or delay.

(9) Provide MS Material Condition/Performance Feedback data required in maintenance specifications, work packages or contracts.

5. Exceptions: These instructions do not apply to nuclear work under the cognizance of SEA 08 or Special Projects equipment/systems.



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