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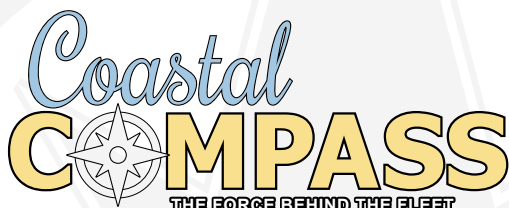
Coastal COMPASS

THE FORCE BEHIND THE FLEET

2022 TECHNICAL DIRECTOR'S CUP



NSWC Panama City Division
Ensuring Warfighting Dominance in the Littoral Battlespace



May - June 2022 | Vol. 10 Issue 3

About the Publication

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On the Cover



X-Department's autonomous vehicle built for NSWC Panama City Technical Director's Cup Challenge where each technical department battles for the winning title.

U.S. Navy Photo
by Cierra Burch



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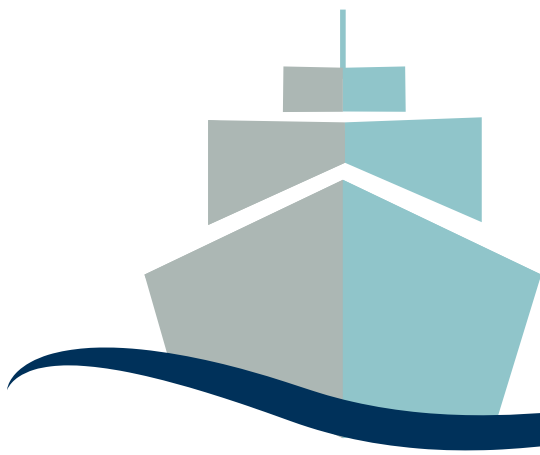
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View from the BRIDGE



Dr. Peter Adair, SES
Technical Director

“ Because of our technical and business professionals across the Command, we had a successful Director’s Cup Event and are looking forward to the innovative successes to come as a result of this year’s win. Bravo Zulu! ”

NSWC PCD Team,

As you’ll see throughout this Coastal Compass edition, the Technical Director’s Cup competition was a big hit this year! Since the Director’s Cup’s inception in 2015, I have led in some capacity at the Command and felt privileged to be a part of the 2020 virtual Director’s Cup between NSWC PCD’s three technical departments and two other Warfare Center Divisions; however, this year was different for me.

The 2022 Director’s Cup was one of the first major, large-scale events that our Command was able to have since the beginning of the pandemic. As your Technical Director, this was my first in-person Director’s Cup event and a lot of time and effort went into this year’s competition to meet the challenge. The windy weather and rough seas were a wildcard for the event day, but the X Department aXolotls demonstrated their resiliency to fight the terrain, water, wind, and surf to score the most points. Needless to say, I was proud of everyone’s tenacity, dedication, and determination.

This event demonstrates everything that we strive to bring to the Warfighter within the scope of our Navy lab—the innovation, the overcoming of challenges, and the rapid delivery of solutions. It also reinforces everything we want to be as a model organization—the building of relationships, the openness to exchange creative ideas and the freedom to take leadership roles regardless of tenure. Winning is important, yes, but at the

end of the day, the most beneficial thing to come from the competition is the experience. Multidisciplinary teams from across our three technical departments gained hands-on experience and learned new skills that will transfer into their future project work in support of the future Navy. For that, I am proud.

Capt. Back and I were honored to be joined by Cmdr. Erich Frandrup, who recently served as Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center [Dive School] commanding officer, as a guest judge to provide warfighter perspective and collaboration with our fellow Navy partners. We also were pleased to host congressional and local leaders, including Congressman Neal Dunn, Bay County Chamber of Commerce, Military Affairs Committee, Bay Defense Alliance, and allied partners. Our partners had a first-hand look at research and development efforts happening at our local Navy Lab which could be used for real-world applications to benefit our Sailors and Marines. It truly felt like a total community event.

Because of our technical and business professionals across the Command, we had a successful event and are looking forward to the innovative successes to come as a result of this year’s win. Bravo Zulu!

Dr. Peter Adair, SES
NSWC PCD Technical Director



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CIVILIAN LENGTH *of* SERVICE



35

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E Department's – "The Swag (SeaWater Air & Ground) Surfers" – amphibious vehicle navigates the second leg of the three part requirement at Naval Support Activity Panama City, Fla., during preliminary trials of the Technical Director's Cup, May 17.

"The Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC) is such a prominent part of E Department, we wanted to incorporate an air-cushioned vehicle when we heard that the competition would involve an amphibious landing," stated E Department Team Mentor Blake Ivy.



The A Department cheer squad arrives to root their team on with red bells and whistles, shirts, cowbells, and signs, May 20.



NSWC PANAMA CITY TECHNICAL DEPARTMENTS COMPETE IN TECHNICAL DIRECTOR'S CUP CHALLENGE

By Jeremy Roman, NSWC PCD Public Affairs

U.S. Navy photos by Bob Lindee and Cierra Burch

PANAMA CITY, Fla. – After nearly a year of planning, design and production, three teams from each of Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Division's (NSWC PCD) technical departments clashed for the coveted 2022 Technical Director's Cup Challenge trophy, May 20.

The annual competition charges Departments A- Littoral and Mine Warfare, E- Expeditionary and Maritime Systems and X- Science and Technology, to manufacture an autonomous vehicle to overcome the specific challenges that accompany the respective course. This year, the major challenge was to design a "robot" that could traverse from water to land in order to locate specific areas on the navigation course with speed and precision.

"We design each year's competition to teach teams technical skills they need to support our core mission areas," said Dr. Patrick Walters, NSWC PCD Director's Cup lead. "For example, this year competition focused on our expeditionary maneuver warfare mission area. It also was the first opportunity for many of our new professionals to lead and manage a technical effort."

Director's Cup teams consist of new NSWC PCD professionals with less than five years of experience in the workforce. The competition provides teams with the opportunity to enhance critical thinking and learn skillsets to further research, develop, test and evaluation efforts for the Department of the Navy.

"One of the purposes of this event is workforce development. It gives every competitor the opportunity to learn the skills they can use on future projects," said Melanie MacBain, X Department team captain. "Now that our people have

a bit more background on robot operating systems (ROS), autonomy and the construction of the vehicle, they can be more ready to jump on current or future projects that may need that, as well."

This year, the teams competed in three preliminary trials and two final events in an effort to score the most points and bring the trophy to their respective department with bragging rights. During the final two events, strong wind, currents and waves were a major obstacle the teams had to overcome. A Department's team "The Bandits" created a duck boat design, E Department's "Swag Surfers" created a hovercraft design to meet competition requirements, and X Department's team "The aXolotls" vehicle used tracked wheels. How would each team fare?

"The three designs are very different, not just in terms of physical design, but in terms of computer and software architecture and it was interesting to see how they performed. Building autonomous robots that can perform in the real world is tough, perhaps tougher than it looks," said A Department Team Captain Jared Wampler. "...the experience that new professionals get from being involved with the Director's Cup is tremendous. I think it's the most rewarding way to expose new engineers to real-world engineering and the lessons learned will be invaluable to their careers."

Not only does experience come from this competition, but some of the past designs and elements have gone on to be used in real-world projects according to Walters.

We are hoping to patent the device we created for this competition," said Navy Lt. Tim Grondin, E Department team captain. "It was an honor to be chosen to compete in the Directors Cup, to represent our department



E Department Swag Surfers prepare for their preliminary run, May 17. Three of the five total Director's Cup events were held during the preliminary rounds. The points scored here helped determine the competition order during the final two rounds which were held on May 20.

MEET THE TEAMS

U.S. Navy photos by Cierra Burch





X Department's – "The aXolotls" – amphibious vehicle transitions from water to land during preliminary trials of the Technical Director's Cup. They chose to build an amphibious vehicle capable of autonomous navigation both on land and at sea, quickly transitioning between the two, according to X Department Team Captain Melanie MacBain.

and work with my team, Zach and Justin. I am extremely proud of our innovations and creative contributions to science and technology this year."

"This event encompasses the collaboration of a handful of new professionals who endeavor to develop technical solutions to meet simulated mission requirements. It embodies everything that we want to accomplish at our warfare center," said Dr. Peter Adair, NSWC PCD technical director. "I'm confident the problem solving, the lessons learned and the relationships built throughout the competitive experience will not only serve our personnel well, but also our Command and ultimately the Fleet. The more we engage and learn together, the better we can connect what we do here at the Navy lab with the Warfighters we serve."

The first Director's Cup was held in 2015 and stemmed from a desire to facilitate working relationships across the departments, while also providing each competitor with a unique experience. It forced them out of their comfort zones and provided new opportunities they may not see in their everyday work.

"I think the experience impacted each team differently. For example, I had very little exposure to autonomy prior to this event. Now, I hope to find a bridge between autonomy and the hydrodynamic simulations [I run daily] by using what I've learned about autonomy here to inform...my simulations," said Jonathan Eastridge, X Department team member. "This event has also been really great because it provided an opportunity for people who would not normally work together to come together as a team.

Since we have different work areas within our department, I might not have ever worked with these teammates if not for this competition."

Many of the teams spent approximately 20 percent of their work week over the past 10 months to work on their projects. The Director's Cup is not only a competition to produce an autonomous vehicle, but more importantly, aims to reinforce the infrastructure of and between each department to help the Navy Lab accomplish its mission—Ensuring Warfighting Dominance in the Littoral Battlespace.

"The teams worked though many challenges throughout the course of the year, refining their design and coming together as a team," said Walters. "I want the competitors to walk away with confidence in their abilities. It is not an easy task to design and build an unmanned system this unique over a short period of time. Each team overcame many challenges to field a competitive platform."

When the dust and the waves settled, X Department's "aXolotls" scored the most points and was named the 2022 Technical Director's Cup champions. ●

Dr. Patrick Walters, NSWC PCD Director's Cup lead and Dr. Joshua Weaver, NSWC PCD, X Department senior scientist for autonomy, measure the distance from the aXolotls' vehicle to the intended course target. This round tested teams on their craft's precision to autonomously navigate the course to get closest to the final target.

A Department's – "The Bandits" – amphibious vehicle transitions from water to land during preliminary trials of the Technical Director's Cup.

"The basic concept of our robot is a duck boat. The challenge involved transitioning from sea to land and we approached this with an amphibious design. In essence, it's a pontoon boat with wheels," stated A Department Team Captain Jared Wampler.



NSWC PANAMA CITY DIVISION ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH SPOTLIGHT: **DANIEL COATS**

By Shauna Love-vonKnoblauch, NSWC PCD Public Affairs

U.S. Navy photo by Anthony Powers

PANAMA CITY, Fla. – Daniel “Dan” Coats, the Ship to Shore Connector (SSC) In-Service Engineering Agent electrical lead at Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Division (NSWC PCD), takes pride in his Korean heritage.

As a Panama City native, Coats graduated from Florida State University with a bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering.

“My father was in the Air Force for 20 years and I was the retirement baby,” Coats said. “I grew up mainly in the local area, but I also lived in Georgia for a period of time.”

Coats visited South Korea when he was about 4 years old and met some of his Korean relatives for the first time. He returned to learn more about his family’s heritage and lineage after embarking on duty overseas.

“I never had plans on going back to South Korea, but the opportunity arose in 2015 after completion of a temporary duty assignment,” Coats explained. “I met up with my uncle and he put together a great itinerary for me highlighting parts of South Korea’s culture and ancestral history. At the time I only knew of the Korean War, but soon learned that South Korea’s great history goes back some 3000+ years.”

With the assistance of his uncle, Coats was immersed with his Korean heritage, visiting famous historical sites, as well as modern structures.

“I got to see the famous (rebuilt) Gyeongbokgung Palace, visit Namhansanseong Mountain, a Hanbok Village, and modern places like Seoul Tower,” Coats said. “I learned about King Sejong the Great, who created the modern day Korean alphabet, and the famous Korean Admiral Yi Sun-Shin

who fought off the Japanese invasion during the 1590s.”

Cuisine is also part of experiencing Korean heritage and Coats seized the occasion to sample the fare.

“I did get to eat a lot of really good food, partake in karaoke and even try something called ‘chimaek,’ also known as chicken and beer,” remarked Coats. “It was a great experience and I’m thankful for the opportunity to revisit South Korea. I have a newfound pride in Korean history after that trip.”

Currently, as the ISEA Electrical lead for the new SSC, Gen 2 Landing Craft Air Cushion, Coats works with a team of electrical engineers and electrical technicians to develop solutions for urgent needs that arise from testing, sponsor directed tasks, and improving on the current design.

“A career highlight was being part of the U.S. Marine Corps Modernized M9ACE program and I got to see firsthand the Defense Acquisition University training come into play,” said Coats. “I was on the program and participated as engineering support for testing and production.”

In his current role, Coats provides troubleshooting support and technical solutions with the SSC platform.

“I have had the opportunity to work side by side with on-site support representatives and Sailors from Assault Craft Unit Four in identifying issues, developing solutions and providing training,” he said. “During my career here I’ve also received three team patent awards.”

Coats has been with NSWC PCD for 13 years and his ambition for life-long learning has made him a valuable member of the NSWC PCD workforce. ●



PANAMA CITY ENGINEER WINS TOP NAVY AWARD



By Cierra Burch, NSWC PCD Public Affairs

U.S. Navy photo by Eddie Green



PANAMA CITY, Fla. — Andrew Bouchard, an engineer at Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Division (NSWC PCD), was recently selected as a recipient of the Individual Engineer Award for 2022 by the Assistant Secretary of the Navy Research, Development and Acquisition (ASN RD&A) Dr. Delores M. Etter Top Navy Scientists and Engineers Awards committee.

Presented annually in June, this coveted award recognizes the top Naval engineers and scientists who demonstrate superior technical merit, innovation and operational impact in alignment with ASN RD&A priorities.

The metamodel created by Bouchard in collaboration with numerous researchers locally and at other Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) warfare centers deconstructs complex systems into independent capabilities enabling fundamental research to create system models and analytical tools to support verification efforts of autonomous systems. Expanding upon the fundamental breakthrough in research will reduce the trust gap between existing and future autonomous systems, ultimately reducing the number of humans required to participate in life-threatening missions.

Bouchard, initially shocked when notified that he had won, is already brainstorming future engineering efforts to further support the Navy.

"I was surprised and grateful, I didn't even know I was under consideration for the award," said Bouchard. "I'm grateful because this work is something I am passionate about. I plan to attend the ceremony and discuss future collaboration efforts with other organizations in the Navy and outside of the Navy to continue to advance autonomy for the United States."

Dr. Richard Tatum, NSWC PCD Automation and Dynamics branch head, collaborated on the work and is the namesake of part of the model. He explains

the magnitude of Bouchard's research within his profession's field.

"Due to Andrew's leadership and contributions, we have an improved view of the verification of autonomous systems," said Tatum. "Monolithic systems are nearly impossible to verify due to the complex, innumerable test cases that must be generated and understood. Now, we can look at autonomous systems as collections of capabilities that can be independently verified, reducing the complexity of the verification problem."

Tatum went on to commend Bouchard on his accomplishment.

"Andrew's winning of this prestigious award is a proud moment for NSWC PCD, and in particular, our autonomous systems researchers," said Tatum. "As autonomy draws upon many different disciplines in science, mathematics, and engineering, I am hopeful others from across these disciplines will be encouraged to join our ranks in solving some very important problems related to autonomy."

Capt. David Back, NSWC PCD commanding officer, echoes the significant impact of Bouchard's contributions.

"After further testing and studies, these findings have the opportunity to be life-saving in the Fleet," states Back. "Fully autonomous systems will finally remove Sailors and Marines from these threat areas, improving the future safety for our brave men and women and blazing the trail for future improvements in autonomy."

Bouchard will formally be recognized for his development, which has the potential to change the way that autonomous systems are developed and tested, during a ceremony held this month in Maryland.

The award — sponsored by the ASN RD&A — is named for the Honorable Delores M. Etter, who served as U.S. Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Science and Technology from 1998 to 2001 and ASN RD&A from 2005 to 2007. ●



NSWC PANAMA CITY LEADER OPENS DOORS TO A NEW CHAPTER IN LIFE

By Shauna Love-vonKnoblauch,
NSWC PCD Public Affairs

U.S. Navy photo by Eddie Green

PANAMA CITY, Fla. — Robert Walker, deputy technical director for technical excellence at Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Division (NSWC PCD), is beginning to write the next chapter of his life. After 35 years of devoted service to the federal government, he is saying farewell to friends and team at NSWC PCD.

When asked what he liked most about NSWC PCD, he said hands down, the people.

“I have been blessed beyond measure to work with great people my entire career at the command. From my first day on the job until my last, people are what makes the difference,” Walker said. “Of course, I enjoyed the challenge of the work and the satisfaction of serving our country and the service members that protect the freedom we all enjoy; but the people are the ‘secret sauce’ that makes it all possible.”

Walker, a native of Ozark, Ala., received his Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Engineering from Auburn University. He began his professional career in 1987 with the Naval Coastal System Center in Panama City, Fla. as a computer engineer and software developer. Early assignments

included the design and development of real-time software, modeling and simulation, and hardware integration.

Walker’s career has allowed him numerous highlights throughout the years, starting with the Countermeasure Evaluator (CME), then in the Expeditionary Warfare mission area where he was a lead software developer, senior systems engineer, branch head, project manager and ultimately the program manager responsible for all aspects of the Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC) program at NSWC PCD.

Walker said the most memorable part of his career was working directly with Fleet personnel. Walker served as a part of the LCAC program for 11 years.

“Throughout those years, I routinely interacted, on a personal level, with many fleet personnel across the country and around the world. Whether eliciting their needs for a new system, working hand in hand on user interface design, conducting underway training for navigators or teaching maintenance personnel how to repair their systems; it was all very rewarding,” stated Walker. “This direct



interaction with our warfighters brings what we do as engineers into a laser sharp focus. What we do is not just a job; it is truly a calling—a calling that will always be the most memorable part of my career.”

Additionally, over his course of duty to serve the mission and the warfighter, Walker completed eight years of service in line management positions within the Mine Warfare mission area, completing assignments as division head and deputy department head. He then went on to serve as NSWC PCD Chief Engineer (CHENG) where he led the command’s quest for Technical Excellence.

“I really enjoyed every role I held, but I would have to say the years I served as the command CHENG was my favorite role,” Walker said. “While I truly enjoyed a wide breadth of roles in my career, the CHENG role required me to focus my efforts on things that affected all of the technical efforts executed across the command.”

Walker said his main objective in the CHENG role was to ensure NSWC PCD implemented sufficient technical rigor through

repeatable processes to enable delivery of consistent quality products and services to support the warfighter.

“The intent here was never perfection, but rather regular evaluation of how we are doing followed by deliberate action to incrementally get better each time,” said Walker. “Technical Excellence is foundational to the future of NSWC PCD and it is what each of us should strive for in all we do.”

Walker shared some advice to those following in his footsteps: “Be true to yourself and do not let someone else decide on your future or be limited by others.”

Among an extensive list of pearls of wisdom he has gleaned throughout his career, Walker advocates in growth, perseverance, discipline, and having a healthy work-life balance.

“I encourage everyone to establish a North Star and continuously adjust course because you will get knocked off track. Invest in good mentors and be a good mentor to another – iron sharpens iron,” said Walker. “I have learned the importance of maintaining discipline in life throughout my career.

Maintaining a healthy work-life balance is crucial. Do not put success at work ahead of success at home.”

In February 2020, Walker was temporarily appointed as acting NSWC PCD Technical Director. Before that, in June 2017, he was selected for the Senior Scientific Technical Manager (SSTM) position as the NSWC PCD Deputy Technical Director for Technical Excellence, a position he has held until his retirement.

Walker expressed gratitude to the NSWC PCD team and his appreciation to serve.

“Thank you for what each of you do. Your service to our country is a high calling that few answer. I appreciate the opportunity to work alongside such a great group of dedicated people over the last 35 years,” said Walker. “It has truly been an honor. You have great leadership and your future is bright. Embrace it and keep charging! May each of you have fair winds and following seas.” ●



NAVY ACCEPTS DELIVERY OF SHIP TO SHORE CONNECTOR, LCAC104

By Team Ships Public Affairs

U.S. Navy photo by Eddie Green

The Navy accepted delivery of the next generation landing craft, Ship to Shore Connector (SSC), Landing Craft, Air Cushion (LCAC) 104, June 9.

LCAC 104's delivery follows the completion of Acceptance Trials with the Navy's Board of Inspection and Survey to test the readiness and capability of the craft and to validate requirements.

"These next generation craft provide our Navy and Marine Corps team with essential agility and speed to complete their missions," said Capt. Jason Grabelle, program manager, Amphibious Assault and Connectors Programs, Program Executive Office (PEO) Ships. "The reliability and flexibility of the LCAC make them an

essential asset to the fleet – protecting the maritime domain now and in the future."

LCACs are built with similar configurations, dimensions, and clearances to the legacy LCAC, ensuring the compatibility of this next-generation air cushion vehicle with existing well deck-equipped amphibious ships.

The LCAC program is currently in serial production on LCACs 105 – 116 at Textron Systems.

As one of the Defense Department's largest acquisition organizations, PEO Ships is responsible for executing the development and procurement of all destroyers, amphibious ships, special mission and support ships, boats and craft. ●

NSWC PCD HOSTS PANAMA CITY BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

U.S. Navy photo by Ronnie Newsome

PANAMA CITY, Fla.— We were PCD proud to host the Panama City Beach Chamber of Commerce for a tour and command overview June 29! The group learned about Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Division's vast mission and impacts locally and internationally in support of the Navy. Strengthening relationships with our regional partners is important to building a better Bay County and fostering collaboration between industry, academia, and our command. ●



NSWC PCD HOSTS OPNAV N95

U.S. Navy photo by Anthony Powers

PANAMA CITY, Fla. — Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Division (NSWC PCD) hosted Rear Adm. (Select) Josh Jackson, acting director, Expeditionary Warfare Division (OPNAV N95) June 21-22. Jackson received briefings and tours of NSWC PCD's mission areas throughout the technical departments including mine warfare, mine countermeasures, expeditionary warfare, diving and life support, unmanned systems, science and technology, to better understand the work the command does in support of OPNAV N95. •



NAVSEA NEXT GEN GROUP VISITS NSWC PCD

U.S. Navy photo by Ronnie Newsome

PANAMA CITY, Fla. — Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Division (NSWC PCD) hosted Team Three from Naval Sea Systems Command's (NAVSEA) Next Gen program the week of June 27. Next Gen Team Three performed an analysis on NSWC PCD as part of their capstone project. During their visit, the team had the opportunity to tour major facilities across the command to help better understand the type of technical work at NSWC PCD and which mission areas are supported.

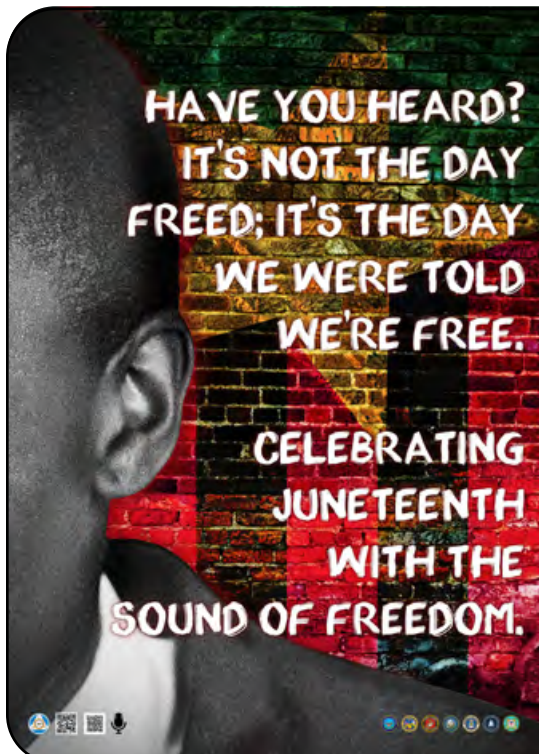




DEPUTY COMPTROLLERS FACE-TO-FACE TOUR

U.S. Navy photo by Ronnie Newsome

We were PCD proud to host Deputy Comptrollers from across Naval Sea Systems Command Warfare Centers June 15 for a familiarization tour of technologies and facilities highlighting NSWC PCD mission areas. The team is visiting for a face-to-face meeting to further foster collaboration and share best practices among sister warfare center divisions.



JUNETEENTH RECOGNITION

U.S. Navy Graphic

The Juneteenth National Independence Day Act passed the Senate by unanimous consent on June 15, 2021, and the House on June 16, 2021, and was signed into law as Public Law 117-17, designating June 19th as a federal holiday.

President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, announcing, "that all persons held as slaves" within the rebellious areas "are, and henceforward shall be free." On June 19, 1865, General Gordon Granger announced General Order No. 3, which stated: "The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free..."

In 2021, Juneteenth National Independence Day was declared a federal holiday and a Presidential Proclamation was issued on June 18, 2021. Juneteenth honors the end to slavery in the United States and is considered the longest-running African American holiday. Most importantly, it represents victory over the institution of slavery and the beginning of the fulfillment of America's promise of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for African Americans.

For more information see the Congressional Record:

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/475/text>

MAY 12-15

Six NEN members traveled to North Alabama for a hiking tour through Stephen's Gap, Dismals Canyon, and the Natural Bridge - the longest natural land bridge east of the Rockies. They were able to time the trip to include a night tour of the Dismals Canyon to see the glowworms found in few places outside of Australia and New Zealand.



NEW EMPLOYEE NETWORK

RECENT OUTINGS

Courtesy Photos

The New Employee Network (NEN) has hosted several more travel trips among the usual monthly events they hold to help new employees build a network on base and acclimate to the area.

Although events are targeted towards new employees, they are open to anyone that would like to join. Other monthly events include trivia and game nights, dinners, luncheons, nature walks, local festivals and attractions, sports, and much more.

For more information about the NEN, contact Jackie Zbranek at jacquelyn.m.zbranek.civ@us.navy.mil.

NEN members at Stephen's Gap.



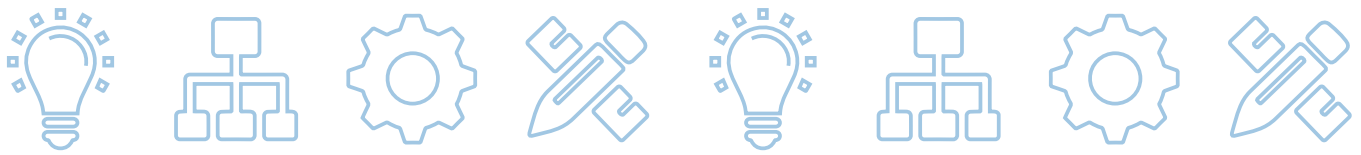
APRIL 9

A large group went hiking at Falling Waters State Park.



JUNE 11

NEN members made the day trip to the Florida Caverns State Park in Marianna, Fla. to explore the underground caverns and state park hiking trails.



STEM OUTREACH

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAREER FAIR

SAN DIEGO, Calif. – Jason Boxerman, Supporting Office of Naval Research (ONR) Code 32 project lead, participated in Clay Elementary School's [San Diego] Career Fair event.

He spoke about his job and how he supports the U.S. Navy with science by working for ONR. He had the kids explore the concept of buoyancy with some common objects in a tray of water, then challenged them to build a boat with tin foil in order to hold as many pennies as possible! It was great fun, and prizes were awarded for top boat-builders!

Courtesy Photos



RESPECT

DIGNITY

SERVICE

PRIDE MONTH

Celebrating diversity, inclusion, and respect in the workplace by recognizing the contributions made by Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) service and community members. It is important to raise awareness for LGBTQ equality in the military and it's a key aspect of maintaining a welcoming environment in consistency. Show your pride in who you are, in your community and in your fellow seaman. Pride is Pride.

ALL TOGETHER
PRIDE MONTH • JUNE



COMPTROLLER

SUPERVISOR SPOTLIGHT



Kenyatta Bennett

*Administrative Technician, Supervisor
Employee Services Division*

Code 01
Comptroller

Division 013
Employee Services

I'm married with four boys and two dogs. I'm a diehard Dallas Cowboys and Georgia Bulldog fan who loves spending time with family and working on small projects. I completed my Master of Business Administration this year and was recently promoted to the Employee Services Division Head, which has been the biggest highlight of my civilian career.

What do you do in your job? What is the impact?

As the Employee Services Supervisor, I'm responsible for leading both branches ensuring proper policy is in place, and that all related services are operating efficiently under the most current regulations available. I'm also responsible for developing a culture that promotes professional development internal to the Employee Services division personnel that ensure only the best customer service to our command's staff.

How long have you worked at NSWC PCD?

I retired from active duty in 2015 after 24 years of service, and relocated to Panama City from South Florida to work as a contractor for Chenega LLC, and then Seneca. I was converted to an Administrative Assistant in 2016, and an Administrative Technical Specialist in 2017. My entire six to seven years as a DoD civilian, I have been attached to NSWC PCD.

What does your division do in support of NSWC PCD and the Navy?

Employee Services is made of two branches Code 0131 Travel Support Office, and 0132 Civilian Pay (Payroll). The travel support office is responsible for management of the Government Travel Card, Defense Travel System, and Official (No-Fee) Passports services used when conducting official travel in accordance with their daily missions. NSWC PCD civilian employees utilize the Defense Travel System to create travel authorizations and vouchers to process claims when conducting official travel contiguous United States or outside contiguous United States. Our passport agents also provide service to both civilian and military personnel in the surrounding Panama City area from the other nearby military and government installations as well.

Our Payroll office consist of two DoD civilians who enter, review, and process civilian pay NSWC PCD workforce utilizing the Navy ERP and Defense Civilian Pay System (DCPS) platforms. They are also responsible for processing employee reimbursable expenses that are non-travel related, but cost incurred while conducting official government business. The payroll office is also responsible for processing special pay incentives to include Royalty or Patent type payments to entitled personnel who has earned these types of pay incentives.

DIVISION SPOTLIGHT

CODE 0121

Alyssa Luster

Accountant

Division 01

Comptroller

Code 0121

Corporate Financial Accounting



What do you do in your job? What is the impact?

In my position, I am responsible for the command's property, plant, and equipment accounting, as well as reviewing, reconciling, and researching the financial impacts of everyday operations within the command. I work to ensure that our financial reporting is accurate and reflected appropriately within the command's financial statements and any issues/discrepancies I discover are researched and resolved appropriately. This helps to ensure that the command's financial position is accurately reported and that we are maintaining accountability of all financial resources.

What does your division do in support of NSWC PCD and the Navy?

The Accounting Division provides financial support and reporting for the command to ensure financial status is reported accurately, timely and in compliance with all regulatory guidance. We also review and reconcile dormant accounts, shipping, and Military Standard Requisitioning and Issues Procedures (MILSTRIP) charges. Additionally, accounting division provides guidance and recommendations to the technical departments for researching, analyzing, and resolving financial issues. We also perform contract vendor payments for all of the materials and services procured by the command to support the Navy and warfighters.

What does your branch do?

The Corporate Accounting branch handles the financial impacts of operations within the command to include monthly financial statements, asset accounting, labor analysis and reporting, cash management, and audit compliance. We also assist in the research and resolution of financial issues that arise within in other areas of the department (travel, payroll and budget) while maintaining compliance with all regulations and policies.

Why did you decide to work at NSWC PCD?

I decided to work at NSWC PCD because I liked the culture of professional development and continuous learning that seems so ingrained/encouraged in everyone here. I knew that I would always be presented with opportunities for learning, growth, and professional evolution at this command.

How long have you worked at NSWC PCD?

Two years, five months.



Dr. Kerry Commander

NDIA Martell-Bushnell Award

Andrew Bouchard

DON Dr. Delores M. Etter Top Navy Scientists and Engineers Individual Engineer Award

Joseph Bray

Navy Civilian Service Commendation Medal

UPCOMING AWARDS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 7/14 Navy Community Service Program Awards | 9/15 Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Professional/Technical Achievement/Literary Awards |
| 7/15 Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers Technical Achievement Recognition (STAR) Awards | 9/16 BEYA Science Spectrum Trailblazer |
| DoD Chief Information Officer Awards | BEYA Modern-Day Technology Leaders |
| Warner W. Stockberger Achievement Award | 9/30 Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (Polya/DiPrima/Reid Prize) |
| 7/19 Outstanding Early-Career Investigator Award | Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics- Ralph E. Kleinman Prize |
| 7/22 National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) Lt Gen Thomas R. Ferguson, Jr. Systems Engineering Excellence Award | 10/14 DoD Defense Standardization Program Achievement Awards |
| 7/27 DoD STEM Education and Outreach Advocate of the Quarter Award | 10/27 Women in Technology Leadership Awards |
| 8/17 Black Engineers of the Year Awards (BEYA) Professional and Academia Awards | Quarterly- Nov/Feb/ May/Aug Department of Defense Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education and Outreach Advocate of the Quarter |
| 9/01 American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Freeman Scholar Award | Continuous DoN Agility Awards (Formerly SECNAV Innovation Awards) |
| DoD High Performance Computing Modernization Program Hero Awards | |

Dates provided are due dates for completed package(s) to be received.
Contact *Cierra Burch* at W_PNMA_NSWCPCD_PAO@navy.mil
for nomination requirements, forms and questions.

Upcoming awards are regularly updated on: <https://wiki.navsea.navy.mil/display/PCD103/Awards>

**Non-government agency award submissions now require approved public release documentation.*



NSWC PCD PERSONNEL SECURITY (PERSEC) BULLETIN

May - June 2022

ADJUDICATIVE GUIDELINES

The Personnel Security Adjudicative process is a determination that an individual is an acceptable security risk for access to classified information.

The 13 Adjudicative Guidelines, A – M, of Security Executive Agent Directive 4 (SEAD 4) - National Security Adjudicative Guidelines, provide the concerns and conditions that are evaluated.

For more information, email nswcpc_security@navy.mil

GUIDELINE I – PSYCHOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

Concern:

Certain emotional, mental, and personality conditions can impair judgment, reliability, or trustworthiness. A formal diagnosis of a disorder is not required for there to be a concern under this guideline.

Examples of Conditions to be Evaluated:

Behavior that casts doubt on an individual's judgment, stability, reliability, or trustworthiness

- Emotional, mental, or personality condition, including, but not limited to, irresponsible, violent, self-harm, suicidal, paranoid, manipulative, impulsive, chronic lying, deceitful, exploitative, or bizarre behaviors.
- Voluntary or involuntary inpatient hospitalization.
- Failure to follow a prescribed treatment plan related to a diagnosed condition, including failure to take prescribed medication or attend required counseling sessions.
- Pathological gambling - the associated behaviors of which may include unsuccessful attempts to stop gambling, concealing gambling losses, borrowing or stealing to fund gambling.
- No negative inference concerning the standards in this guideline may be raised solely on the basis of mental health counseling.



NSWC PCD
DAWIA
Defense Acquisition
Workforce Improvement Act

Mike Monroe,
DAWIA Program Manager
850-230-7913

ALL ACQUISITION WORKFORCE (AWF) MEMBERS

Will remain certified and will be grandfathered over as required.

To check if a completed course will be a predecessor course, go to: <https://icatalog.dau.edu/onlinecatalog/courses.aspx>

Continuous Learning Points Cycles

will remain the same with the 80 CL point requirement in a 24-month-cycle period. Dates do not reset.

The certification roadmap contains new course requirements and extended grace periods for our Functional Areas (Career Fields).

Functional Area certification requirements can be found at:
<https://icatalog.dau.edu/onlinecatalog/CareerLvl.aspx>

All DAWIA legacy certification timelines (prior to 1 February 2022) have been reset to the 1 February 2022 date and respective grace periods.

Additional FAQs can be found at

https://icatalog.dau.edu/onlinecatalog/faq_catalog.aspx

SAFETY

Prepared by: Patrick Beacom, NSW PCD Safety Specialist



DISTRACTED DRIVING:

BREAKING BAD HABITS

New technology in vehicles is causing us to become more distracted behind the wheel than ever before. Fifty-three percent of drivers believe if manufacturers put "infotainment" dashboards and hands-free technology in vehicles, they must be safe. With some state laws focusing on handheld bans, many drivers honestly believe they are making the safe choice by using a hands-free device. But in fact, these technologies distract our brains even long after you've used them.

MULTITASKING TECHNOLOGY IS ABOUT
**CONVENIENCE,
NOT SAFETY.**

Things that can affect your focus when driving:



the weather



**road
conditions**



traffic



Construction



Pedestrians



**food
& drink**



**music
or radio**



**setting
gps**



cell phone

These are in your control,
and none are worth a
crash, injury or a life.

WHY IT MATTERS

Driving Distracted in 2019:

3,142

lives were lost

424,000

people were injured

1 in 5

deaths were
pedestrians

3x

more fatal for
teens, than for
drivers 20+

responsible for

>58%

of teen crashes.

**EVERY DEATH
IS 100%
PREVENTABLE**



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Distribution A -
Approved for public release