

27 September 2011

SERMC Code: 106

Waterfront Maintenance Note Number 4

SERMC Personnel Working Aloft

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5100.19D, Appendix C8-A, NAVOSH Program Manual for Forces Afloat.
(b) NAVSEA S0400-AD-URM-010/TUM, Tag-Out Users manual
(c) Joint Fleet Maintenance Manual (JFMM)
(d) 29 CFR Part 1915, Occupational Safety and Health Standards for Shipyard Employment

1. Purpose: To establish procedures for SERMC personnel working aloft aboard ships IAW refs (a-d).

2. Background: Some repairs require SERMC personnel to go aloft aboard ships to remove or install components, perform tests, or to troubleshoot equipment. This waterfront maintenance note describes responsibilities and procedures to help ensure the safety of SERMC employees while working aloft.

3. Procedure:

a. Ship's Force (S/F) shall:

(1) Complete a checklist that contains all of the elements included in appendix C8-A of reference (a).

(2) Departments concerned shall ensure that all radio transmitters and radars that pose radiation hazards are placed in the stow/off position and a sign placed on the equipment that reads:

"SECURED. PERSONNEL ALOFT. DATE_____ TIME_____ INITIALS_____."

(3) Antennas, radars, and fire control systems in the aloft zone where SERMC personnel will be working shall be tagged-out with a red DANGER tag IAW ship's working aloft instructions.

(4) Inform ships in the vicinity that personnel will be working aloft to ensure they take appropriate action on operation of electrical or electronic equipment.

(5) Prior to commencement of work and every 15 minutes thereafter, pass a verbal warning over the 1 MC IAW ship's working aloft instructions.

(6) Position a safety observer on deck near the work being performed. Outfit the safety observer with a safety harness, lanyards, Dyna-Brake, and climber safety sleeve to permit rapid emergency assistance aloft if required. The safety observer shall keep the deck area beneath the work aloft free of unnecessary personnel and maintain effective communication with personnel working aloft.

b. SERMC shall:

(1) Review and sign the shipboard checklist/aloft request. Discuss with S/F the location of work and verify that all affected equipment is secured prior to going aloft.

(a) For all equipment that must be placed in the "STOW/OFF" position, verify that appropriate sign has been placed over the equipment.

(b) For work performed on/in the vicinity of antennas, radars, and fire control systems, per reference (d), SERMC workers will fill out a Work Authorization Form (WAF) and provide a copy to the WAF coordinator per reference (c). Sign as the Repair Activity (RA) on all required tags and in the required blocks on the Tag-out record Sheet (TORS) or Line Item Record Sheet (LIRS) per reference (b).

(2) Use a parachute type safety harness with a Dyna-Brake safety lanyard, working lanyard, and climber safety device when going aloft where a climber safety rail is installed. If a climber safety rail is not installed, use a double lanyard configuration. Only use SERMC provided fall protection equipment which can be checked out in the SERMC safety office.

(3) Conduct MRC on all safety climber equipment used IAW MIP 6231 to ensure proper operation before working aloft.

(4) Verify with the Combat Systems department prior to going aloft each time to ensure conditions have not changed (e.g. prior to start of work each day, after breaks and lunch). Ensure safety observer is in place prior to going aloft.

(5) SERMC workers will request tags to be cleared and sign required blocks on the Tag-out record Sheet (TORS) or Line Item Record Sheet (LIRS) per reference (b) when going aloft is no longer required.. Inform Combat Systems department when SERMC work is completed so that S/F may secure from working aloft.

4. Points of Contact: For further guidance or information, contact the SERMC ESH Office at 904-270-5126 x3047 or x3204.