



## The Importance of Testing

The Test organization at QP (D972) consists of Mechanical and Electrical testing and Preventative Maintenance for Ships Components. The test organization has been its own organization at QP for about 10 years now and will be relied on more heavily as the facility moves forward with the addition of COLUMBIA Class construction.

Currently we perform hydrostatic testing of tanks, flasks, penetrations, flex hoses and piping as well as piping system flushes, air tests, tank calibrations, along with continuity and resistance checks. With COLUMBIA, we will do those same tests like we do on VIRGINIA but, will be adding medium/high voltage testing along with energized testing of some components in the Motor Module. It will be very important to keep safety first as we get into these first time evolutions at QP.

*So, why do we test and why is it so important?*

In general, testing is an integral part of quality control and construction. Hydrostatic tests are performed to determine the structural integrity and fitness for use of a variety of components. The test works by filling the item with water until it's completely full and then pressurizing it—ensuring that it can hold up under pressure without failure of the components, welds, and joints under test. Additionally, a hydrostatic test can expose any structural defects within the exterior or interior surfaces of the component/system under test that may lead to failure in the future. Hydrostatic testing provides us a level of confidence that the component will perform satisfactorily under normal operating conditions for the life of the submarine.

A continuity and resistance testing are quick checks to see if a circuit is open or closed or contains faults.

Only a closed, complete circuit (one that is switched ON) has continuity. Continuity testing is performed by sending a small current through the circuit to ensure it complete. Resistance testing will indicate the resistance to flow through the circuit. COLUMBIA will bring an increase in the amount and scope of electrical testing to be performed at QP, requiring a heightened awareness for electrical safety while completing our normal work.

Testing is an important and critical process that provides us assurance that the components and systems on our submarines will operate safely in an environment that would otherwise not sustain human life.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bill DeSandre".

**Bill DeSandre**

Senior Manager of Engineering

### FOLLOW ELECTRIC BOAT SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS

Facebook: General Dynamics Electric Boat

YouTube: GD Electric Boat

Twitter: @GDElectricBoat

LinkedIn: General Dynamics Electric Boat

Instagram: gdelectricboat

EB Landing: www.EBLanding.com

## Continuous Improvement



**Do you know what is  
expected of you at  
work?**

People need to know whether they're making progress or marking time. Goals serve that function, but it's not enough simply to know that we want to make it to the summit. We need to know if we're still climbing, or if we're sliding downhill.

### **SMART GOALS ARE SPECIFIC, MEAASURABLE, ACHIEVABLE, RELEVANT AND TIME-BOUND**

#### **S.M.A.R.T. stands for:**

**S = Specific** - It is perfectly clear to everyone who must be involved in its achievement. It is clear and unambiguous. Most of the problems with goal achieving stem back to a lack of clarity in setting the goal in the first place.

**M = Measurable** - It can be defined in numerical or financial terms. It can be broken down into steps, each of which can be measured as well. The more clear the measures, the easier it is to focus and concentrate on achieving those numbers.

**A = Achievable** - It can be accomplished within the constraints of time, money, the external environment, the economy, the skills and abilities of the team members .

**R = Relevant** - It is within the bounds of reality and is something that people can develop a high level of confidence in achieving. In goal setting, many goals are "merely aspirational." They do not reflect reality. They are more wishes and hopes than goals.

**T = Time-bound** - When you have specific schedules for the attainment of each part of the goal, and the completion of each part of the task, it is much easier for people to achieve the goal on schedule.

#### **4 Powerful questions you should ask yourself everyday.**

1. Do I know what is expected of me today?
2. Do I have the material and equipment I need to do my work right?
3. Do I have the opportunity to utilize my skills every day?
4. In the last 7 days, have I either given or received recognition or praise for good work?

**Your Job is to understand what is expected of you and to do the best you can to meet those expectations. As Bill would say "Just Do Your Job."**

# SWSS Record Improvements:

Ambient Temperature Dates and Times on 2552 Forms must match ERS Records In accordance with SSP 22.01

AMBIENT DATE and TIME do not match

- Mismatches between 2552 Forms and ERS result in an Administrative Kick to Trades
  - This delays record closeouts
  - Results in additional comments required

Additional ERS Comments Required to address mismatch. Results in delayed closures and Administrative re-work by QAR and Trades

Working Copy Printed 11/09/2021 Verify Rev/On-Line changes prior to use

SSP 22.01  
REV R  
PAGE 42 OF 71

FIGURE 11. Final Weld VT Complete Screen

1. Enter the date the weld went to ambient temperature. (The default is the date the sign-off occurs.)
2. Enter the time the weld went to ambient temperature in military time (default is the time of sign-off). See note 10.

Note: ERS default will fill the current date and time. Therefore, the VT inspector needs to verify the AMBIENT DATE and TIME is correct prior to signing record.



**2021 Christmas Ornaments are available!**



- Tons of boots!
- Gifts from Stonewall Kitchen, Corkcicle, and more!
- Carhartt & Timberland apparel!
- Custom order jackets, rainwear, boots, etc.

Hours of Operation

7:30 am to 4:00 pm

6:30 am (every other Wednesday)

2021 Employee Incentive Program – Quonset Point	As of October 2021
Achieve 25% improvement in the first time quality of MT welding.	High Risk
Receive at least 2 continuous improvement ideas per employee; achieve incentive by 80% participation with at least 1 idea per employee.	At Risk, but Achievable
Improve schedule performance by reducing work order delinquency by 25%.	On Track
Complete and ship SSN 801 Section 6/7 to Groton by May.	Achieved
Complete and ship 5 outfitted missile tubes to the UK by November.	Achieved
Complete CLB Quad 1 fabrication and ship to paint by December.	On Track

**Never modify any tools issued to you! This is dangerous and can often result in injury!**

**Submit proof of vaccination to: [ProofOfCovidVaccination@gdeb.com](mailto:ProofOfCovidVaccination@gdeb.com)**

This December keep the “Happy” in the “Holidays!” Your On-site Wellness Coaches encourage you to practice an attitude of gratitude to help counter stress and enjoy this time of year to the fullest.

Teaching yourself to become more grateful can make a huge difference in overall happiness. People that feel and express gratitude experience more optimism and positive emotions, better health, improved sleep, better relationships, less anxiety and depression.

Participate in this month’s wellness activity The ABC’s of Gratitude to focus on things you are thankful for.

**All participants are entered into this month’s raffle for a chance to win a \$100 gift card!**

**Three ways to participate:**

**Contact a Wellness Coach today for more info or to enroll:**

**Quonset Point/NEO**

**[Jennifer.Fine@plusone.com](mailto:Jennifer.Fine@plusone.com)**

**401-465-1097**

15-Min Department Wellness Break (Group)	A, B, C’s of Gratitude Activity (Individual)	One-on-One Wellness Coaching Session
Invite your coach out to your team for a 15-minute wellness break to learn about the benefits of gratitude in improving wellbeing. The perfect way to share the gift of good health with your entire team! All attendees will be entered into this month’s wellness raffle.	Contact your coach to receive a playing card. Complete the card on your own or with a group of friends or family during the month of December. Return your card for a chance to win this month’s giveaway!	Give yourself the gift of good health and schedule up a no-cost 1:1 coaching session, in-person or by phone to improve any area of wellness: nutrition, exercise, sleep, stress, family wellness, heart health and diabetic lifestyle. Make an appointment for a chance to win this month’s prize!

**No Parking/Traffic Announcements**