



COLUMBIA RV Offload - Program Principles at Work

The Groton Shipyard landscape is steadily changing in support of the new COLUMBIA class submarines to be built by Electric Boat. As the Groton Shipyard eagerly awaits the completion of the South Yard Assembly Building (SYAB) in February 2023, the COLUMBIA production work will accelerate over the next year. Numerous large components are scheduled to arrive by truck and rail to be outfitted within these new facilities. In early January of this year the COLUMBIA Reactor Vessel (RV) arrived by railcar - the first major nuclear component to be delivered to Groton.

The RV was subsequently off-loaded and transported to the Major Component Assembly (MCA) building in February. This milestone signified the official start of Reactor Plant Module new construction activities. The learning from this event is a lesson which transcends across the shipyard. Behind this evolution were key elements from the work model we all use to execute work successfully:

- 1) **Planning and Preparation**
- 2) **Procedure**
- 3) **Training**
- 4) **Supervision**

Engineering, Nuclear Ship's Management, Operations and other support organizations held meetings as far back as July 2021 to discuss component receipt and offload evolutions. Daily meetings commenced in January with stakeholders to plan for successful execution of component delivery/receipt, RV offload from the railcar, and lowering of the RV into the fixture stand and transportation of the assembly to the MCA. The evolution was to take place in a large portion of the South Yard traffic area with the use of vendor crane services. These meetings factored in the program's principles to include:

- Arranging a team consisting of newer and experienced engineering and operations personnel
- Conducting a thorough read-through of the Technical Work Document with key stakeholders to validate the feasibility and understanding of the work instructions.
- Utilization of the Outside Machinists Active Learning Center to conduct hands-on proficiency tasks with use of critical fasteners

- Development of a configuration drawing identifying physical layout for the entire evolution from railcar laydown area to RV travel path to MCA in the South yard.
- Establishment of the risks and mitigating actions with performing this first-of-a-kind evolution outdoors in the elements utilizing vendor cranes in the normal south yard travel lanes.
- Development of a detailed schedule that was challenging and achievable yet minimized the impact of other south yard
- Providing a forum for oversight agencies to participate and provide real-time technical feedback for a first of a class evolution

On February 27th, 2022 the COLUMBIA team successfully executed a first time evolution with the use of two vendor cranes, a comprehensive spatial layout plan, a first-use technical work document, and New England weather. Strong central technical control, involvement by senior leadership, training and qualification of the best people, formal documentation and communication are some of the attributes Naval Nuclear Work was founded on and are highlighted during the performance of this job.

The COLUMBIA RV offload was a first-of-a-kind evolution here in Groton with many more challenges to come this year. The blueprint for success in performing these high risk evolutions is well documented. Proper planning, communication and teamwork. Adhering to these attributes when planning ANY job will allow EB to deliver the nation's most important strategic deterrent in decades.

John Donohue

Nuclear Construction Project Manager

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The Groton WIB is produced by EB Communications.
To submit ideas, contact rmarques@gdeb.com



Continuous Improvement

The Eight Types of Waste



Waste is any action or step in a process that does not produce value, meaning that the customer (in EB's case, the Navy) is not willing to pay for it. There are eight types of waste that can best be remembered by the acronym **DOWNTIME**:

- D** efects: Any kind of rework, incorrect information, or scrap
Example: Failed welds, RIPOUTS, TIR UNSATs
- O** verproduction: Producing too much of a product before it is needed
Example: Ordering more material than what is required
- W** aiting: Wasted time waiting for the next step in a process
Example: A trade waiting on a support service to start work
- N** on-Utilized Employees: Underutilizing people's talents, skill, and knowledge
Example: An experienced mechanic performing paperwork
- T** ransportation: Unnecessary movement of products or material
Example: Moving items from a shop to storage to a shop
- I** nventory: Excess products and materials not being processed
Example: A bin with 10 times more parts than needed
- M** otion: Unnecessary movement by people
Example: Walking material from one side of a shop to another
- E** xtra Processing: More work or higher quality than is required by the customer
Example: Over welding. Producing welds larger than the plan requirement

Do you recognize any of these types of **waste** in your area? What can you do to help **eliminate** it? How can you **improve** your work area? In future WIBs, we will discuss each of the eight wastes in more detail, with potential solutions to minimize their impact.

Have a process improvement idea? Talk to your Supervisor

**Thank you to all Electric Boat welders!
We appreciate your skills and commitment
to excellence in building world class
submarines!**

**NATIONAL
WELDING MONTH**





- **COLUMBIA Hoodies** are back in stock! Grab yours while they last!
- **Tons of boots!**
- **Carhartt & Timberland** apparel
- **Custom Order Jackets, Rainwear, Boots, etc.**

Hours of Operation

Bldg 88: 10am to 4pm

Bldg 104: 8am to 4pm

New London: 7am to 2pm (T&W)

7am to 1:30pm (Th)



EB Weekly Safety Briefing
04.10.22 – 04.16.22



Protect your hands, they are the only ones you will ever have.

**HANDS ON WORK...
PUT GLOVES ON
YOUR HANDS!**

Week 15

GENERAL DYNAMICS
Electric Boat

Policy Statement # 13: Electric Boat Corporation has established Occupational Health and Safety as the Company's Number One Priority.

Refer to your PPE Matrix to find the proper gloves for your job!

How Physical Therapy Can Help Strengthen Your Musculoskeletal System

Often times when people think about physical therapy, they see it as a service needed after an obvious injury or when recovering from a surgical procedure. While these are good reasons to see a physical therapist, there are many more!

A few notable things a physical therapist can help with are:

- **Reducing or eliminating pain.** Therapeutic exercises and manual therapy techniques such as joint and soft tissue mobilization or treatments such as ultrasound, taping or electrical stimulation can help relieve pain and restore muscle and joint function to reduce pain.
- **Help you avoid surgery.** If physical therapy helps you eliminate pain or heal from an injury, surgery may not be needed.
- **Improve your mobility.** If you're having trouble standing, walking or moving—no matter your age—physical therapy can help. Stretching and strengthening exercises help restore your ability to move.

How do I know it's time to see a physical therapist?

If you have constant, persistent pain in an area of your body that is making it difficult for you to live a normal life, this may be the most clear sign you may want to see a physical therapist. Some other things to consider are:

- Nothing else you've tried has helped such as over the counter medications, trying different forms of exercise, or heat and ice aren't helping.
- If there is any noticeable visible changes such as swelling or bruising

If any of the above sounds like you and you'd like to set up time for a consultation, call the EB Family Wellness Center at 860-629-8272 and ask about physical therapy.

You don't need a referral or prescription for your first visit. You must be on an EB UnitedHealthcare medical plan to use this benefit. Visits for Physical Therapy are only a \$25 co-pay until you meet your deductible or out of pocket maximum.