

## Enabling Our Future

Since 2012, the Groton and Quonset shipyards have been evaluating existing shipbuilding capabilities and defining the gaps associated with moving into a two-plus-one-year production rate of the Virginia Variant (VPM) and Columbia Class (CLB) ships. The Facilities Master Plan (FMP) team and the Facilities team, along with multiple Electric Boat stakeholders, have progressed through numerous integrated concepts taking into consideration all aspects of ship construction: fabrication, transportation, material handling, final assembly test and launch. The plan resulted in the detail design and construction of several infrastructure projects totaling over \$1.8B in capital improvements across the Quonset Point and Groton Facilities. I would like to highlight the projects and process changes as they relate to transportation, final assembly, test and launch of the Columbia Class submarine.

Our new ocean transport barge, HOLLAND, will move Columbia and VPM modules between the Quonset Point, Newport News and Groton Shipyards. The HOLLAND was delivered to the Groton Shipyard in November 2021 and has been undergoing testing and training and grooming efforts to support its upcoming first use in November of this year. The new barge has a payload capacity of 5500 tons and will conduct load and off-load operations differently than we have operated in the past with our legacy, Sea Shuttle. The HOLLAND is a self-ballasting barge, meaning for every ton of ship module weight that rolls on/off the barge, a ton of water is pumped on/off simultaneously, unlike the Sea Shuttle which jacks up on underwater pads and becomes a rigid platform. This change was driven primarily by capacity limitations with jacking style barges. When modules arrive in Groton via the HOLLAND, they will be off loaded using new 60-ton-per-axle, self-propelled, modular transporters (SPMT). The transporters purchased in the program are an upgrade in capacity from our existing 40-ton-per-axle units.

Final assembly and test of the transported Columbia modules will take place in our new South Yard Assembly Building (SYAB) which is due to complete in February of 2023. The SYAB was designed and developed around the CLB build strategy and many improvements and lessons learned have been applied from the evolution of Building 260. When Building 260 was constructed in the 1970's, it was "purpose built" to support the Trident Program and predated the modular construction process. Since then, many improvements have been made to Building 260 to maximize Virginia Class modular construction production.

These improvements, as well as others, were integrated into the SYAB from the ground up. The SYABs overall dimensions are 624 feet x 313 feet, it contains three heated bays - two final assembly bays and one module build bay in the middle. The SYAB was designed with uniform floor-load capacity capable of the highest loads associated with CLB module construction. Adjacent to each final assembly bay, there are heated and cooled office spaces on two mezzanines with additional levels for production equipment. The SYAB has a clear span across all bays and has two 100-ton cranes and one 170-ton crane. Additionally, there are two 40-ton cranes to support the mezzanine levels. There is an attached utility building that will provide support services, including a land based steam system, a pure water facility, incoming power distribution center and compressed air generation and distribution.

Roll out and launch of the CLB submarine from the SYAB will be significantly different from past operations. The SYAB has been arranged to allow straight out-of-the-bay roll out; unlike Building 260, which requires up to two direction changes. This design allows us to eliminate the cross-over rails, as seen in Building 260, which is a significant savings on building maintenance. The SYAB includes newly designed and constructed transfer cars with advanced controls and a 400-ton capacity - allowing us to carry the Columbia loads with only two cars per strongback.

Also, unlike the Building 260 graving dock, CLB will roll out and launch using the new floating dry dock ATLAS. ATLAS is under construction and due to arrive at the Groton Shipyard in August of 2024. ATLAS is similar to the ocean transport barge, HOLLAND, in that it is self-ballasting to compensate for weight as the CLB rolls onto the dock. The dock will travel along the south face of the SYAB and can align to either of the assembly bays. ATLAS will translate west of the SYAB to a sinking basin that will require an approximately 900,000 cubic yard dredge scheduled to occur in the 2024-2025 dredge season.

We look forward to the turnover, training and first use to the Electric Boat workforce (beginning the 1st quarter of 2023) and seeing the world's finest shipbuilder's breathe life into the Columbia Class submarine - ensuring our nation's defense for decades to come.

**Devin Xenelis**  
*Director of Real Estate & Project Planning*



## Continuous Improvement

**"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." -John Quincy Adams**

### Lead by Example:

*The Key to Establishing and Maintaining a Continuous Improvement Culture*

Take a second to think about whether you are a LEADER in our organization. If you're in a management position, you are expected to be a LEADER. However, there are hundreds, if not thousands of other LEADERS in our organization. Every one of us who are willing to lend our fellow shipbuilders a hand in developing their skills or finding a better way to approach their job is a LEADER. Those who step up and make sure their co-workers work safe are LEADERS. By that account, every one of us has the opportunity to fulfill a leadership position in our organization.

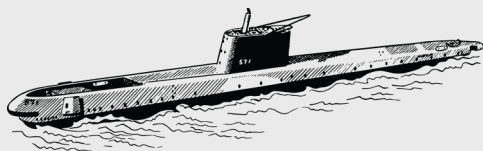


As LEADERS we have a critical role to play in the evolution of our business. We must lead by example in establishing and fostering an environment of continuous improvement. The most effective way to do this is to participate in continuous improvement ourselves and engage or join those whom look to us as LEADERS in resolving the problems and inefficiencies they are encountering.

When we do this, when we actively participate in process improvement within our organization, the return on our investment stands to be culturally and monetarily exponential. As we lead by example, we inspire our fellow and new LEADERS alike to do the same. An engaged workforce makes for a happier workplace and that has an incredible positive affect on all of our wellbeing. So don't be afraid to step up as a LEADER. Don't be afraid to challenge the status quo. Be innovative and above all else be a role model and step up as a LEADER for your fellow shipbuilders.

### Interesting EB Trivia:

When did construction on the first nuclear-powered submarine, Nautilus, begin?



Answer: 1951

**Have a process improvement idea, or simply just want a board to bounce ideas off? Discuss your idea with your supervisor. If additional resources are required for implementation, your supervisor can contact Process Engineering.**



# GIVE BLOOD

In Honor of EB Employee  
Scott Hutzal

**DONATIONS SAVE LIVES**

## Tuesday, October 18, 2022

**WATERFRONT WAREHOUSE W7**

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

**60 SIDE WAREHOUSE W6**

8:00 am - 2:00 pm

5:00 pm - 11:00 pm

12:00 am - 3:00 am

**BLOODMOBILE @ BUILDING 9A**

8:00 am - 2:00 pm

## Wednesday, October 19, 2022

**WATERFRONT WAREHOUSE W7**

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

5:00 pm - 10:30 pm

**60 SIDE WAREHOUSE W6**

8:00 am - 2:00 pm

**BLOODMOBILE @ BUILDING 9A**

5:00 pm - 11:00 pm

## Thursday, October 20, 2022

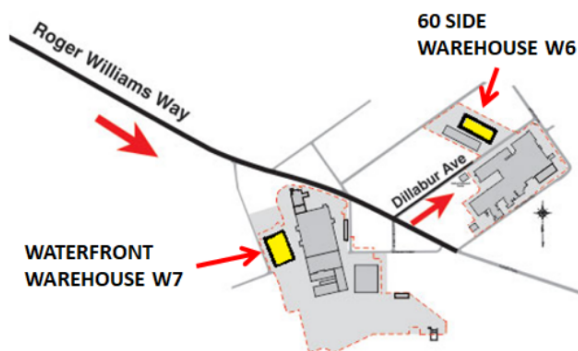
**60 SIDE WAREHOUSE W6**

8:00 am - 2:00 pm

5:00 pm - 11:00 pm

**BLOODMOBILE @ BUILDING 9A**

8:00 am - 2:00 pm



All presenting donors will be automatically entered to win a pair of tickets to see the New England vs. Indianapolis football game on November 6, 2022!

## **APPOINTMENTS ENCOURAGED**

Walk-ins will be welcomed if availability permits at time of arrival.

[www.ribc.org/drives](http://www.ribc.org/drives) to book

**Sponsor Code 0044**

Eat, hydrate, bring identification with you.



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- Creep it real with our Jolly Roger zip-up hoody! In stock for Halloween!
- Classic, comfy EB Logo sweatpants starting @ \$32
- NH Live Free or Die L/S & Hoodies back in stock!
- SSN 571 Nautilus Coins going fast!!

Hours of Operation

7:30 am to 4:00 pm

7 am on Wednesdays 10/5 & 10/26

**Electrical Safety Stand Down**  
Inspection to take place  
Thursday October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022



**GENERAL DYNAMICS**  
Electric Boat

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

Week 42

**FLU SHOT CLINICS STARTING OCTOBER 5TH**

**1st Shift Van Pool Looking For Riders!**

**Starting Point:** Jewett City, CT

**Travels through:** Voluntown, CT

**Current last stop before EB:** Exeter, RI

**Shift times:** 6:00am - 3:00pm

If interested in signing up or have any route questions, please contact driver

Ron Brenek at 860-376-4165

