



EB Successfully Completes NAVSEA 08 Evaluation

During the week of May 13th, a team of specialists from Naval Reactors headquarters and the local Naval Reactors Representative Office evaluated one of the company's most important core competencies – our ability to perform naval nuclear work.

The Naval Reactors team not only evaluated our core nuclear and radiological programs but also extended across all facets of our business including operations, facilities, safety, supply chain, test programs, quality and engineering. The team inspected work sites, observed work-in-process, and interviewed employees to evaluate the company's performance to Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program standards and improving our overall performance. Naval Reactors' thorough inspection is extremely important and helps validate our procedures, processes, training and quality of the work done by the men and women of Electric Boat. Feedback from the evaluation team's interactions with the Electric Boat employees was very positive. They were impressed and appreciative with your willingness to be open, self-critical, share information and to learn and improve.

Although the Naval Reactors team of approximately 28 subject matter experts was onsite for one week, the inspection began several months ago with submittals of requested information, execution of exercises, practical and written examinations, and demonstrations in the performance of nuclear work. There is a tremendous amount of work that goes into preparations prior to, during and following this inspection and I would like to personally thank all shipbuilders for their time and support of this evaluation. Your hard work, dedication and strive for excellence resulted in Admiral Houston extending our license to perform nuclear and radiological work for another year.

In addition, during the out brief with the Admiral, he referred to EB as a "pocket of excellence in a tiny corner of New England". He stated the excellence

that EB shows day to day is our asymmetrical advantage over our adversaries and our commitment to excellence gives the Navy the ability to dominate the undersea battlespace.

The importance of the work we do here is vital to the shipbuilders, to the sailors who operate these warships and to the nation whose freedoms these warships are bound to protect. Every one of us should be proud to be the best shipbuilders in the world.

Judy Ruthko
Director of Nuclear Quality Control and
Audit & Assessment



Continuous Improvement Non-utilization of Talent



Unfortunately, it is rare to come to work and not deal with a problem or problems; big or small. Fortunately there is a vast resource available to us to solve those problems: our work force. This applies throughout the organization, as we all play a part and we all have insight into the challenges we may face each day. Very often overarching, high level problems are a culmination of problems faced by a group of employees. It is when those who put their hands on the product are not consulted to solve problems that this waste of human talent and ingenuity occurs.

The leveraging of one another's talents and insight are critical to effective, efficient problem solving. Every one of our employees must have the opportunity to contribute to the solving of the problems which they encounter and offer their insight and ideas to broader, higher level problems. When we do not respect the idea that every employee brings not only a set of hands, but their minds to work, we do ourselves a great disservice.

This concept is central to the grassroots continuous improvement program. When we do not listen to those who do the work or when we do not ensure that our peoples skills and knowledge are being fully utilized we are not operating to our full potential. Therefore, it is extremely important that each of our voices is heard and we work as a team to solve the problems which stand in the way of our goals.

I am reminded of an article by Bob Lutz which truly embodied the concept of non-utilization of talent.

To paraphrase: In the early 2000s, American automakers had fallen behind every other major automobile manufacturing region in final assembly quality. Bob Lutz, vice chairman of product development at the time, requested of the president of assembly that GM cars be competitive in final assembly quality. The president of assembly immediately stated that millions of dollars in new assembly equipment would be needed. GM cars were soon competitive with all other car makers in terms of assembly quality, but the request for capital was never made...

What occurred? Assembly technicians and their supervision were presented with the problem first. They were able to make the needed adjustments and process changes needed to solve the problem without millions in ultimately needless expenditure.

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.



I WANT YOU TO STAY HYDRATED!

Invite EB Wellness to your crew during the months of **June, July and August** to give a 10-minute wellness break about hydration.

For the first 10 crews to sign up, we will raffle off a water bottle at EACH wellness break (\$40 value!).

Contact: Don Black
Health Promotion Specialist
Phone: 952-205-6067
Email: donald.blackjr@optum.com



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Bldg 4: 9:30a to 4p
Bldg 104: 8a to 4p (6a to 3p Wed.)
New London: 7a to 2p
7a to 1:30p Th.



Weekly Safety Briefing

05/26/2024 – 06/01/2024



BACK TO WORK, BACK TO SAFETY

Emphasizing Safety Habits After Time Away From Work

First/Second Leadership Stand Downs for all Operations Employees

GENERAL DYNAMICS
Electric Boat

EBP-02852: EB has established health and safety as the company's number one priority.

Week 22

