The Honorable Robert O. Work, Under Secretary of the Navy, presented the 2010 Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Safety Excellence Award, Non-Industrial Category B, to Naval Base San Diego (NBSD), at the 4 October 2010 awards ceremony. The ceremony was held at the Navy Memorial and Naval Heritage Center Theater, Washington, DC. Receiving the award on behalf of NBSD was Mr. Scott Poston, NBSD Safety Manager.

From left to right are: BG Gary L. Thomas (Assistant Deputy Commandant for Aviation), The Honorable Jackalyne Pfannestiel (Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Energy, Installations & Environment)), Mr. Scott Poston (NBSD Safety Manager), The Honorable Robert O. Work (Under Secretary of the Navy), and VADM John Bird (Director, Navy Staff).

The Safety Excellence Awards were established in 2002, by The Honorable Gordon R. England, who twice served as Secretary of the Navy. The awards recognize Navy and Marine Corps commands that demonstrate “extraordinary excellence by sustained mission success with simultaneous exemplary safety performance.” In addition to a citation and plaque, SECNAV Excellence Award winners receive the Secretary’s distinctive Safety Flag. They are entitled to fly the flag for one year from the date of presentation.
Naval Base San Diego was in competition with Navy and Marine Corps industrial activities worldwide, with a working population of 801-2000. The mission of the base is to deliver the highest standard of support and quality of life services to the Fleet, Fighter and Family and this is echoed throughout the Safety Department through its innovative policies and events open to all commands located on the base.

Naval Base San Diego’s philosophy of “lead by example” enables them to continually pursue excellence and be the best in all that they do. Working as one team with one mission, they are responsive to the needs of the Fleet, Fighter and Family and efficiently deliver top quality capabilities.

The base operates with a vision focusing on service and support and from that, their labors demonstrate effective stewardship of the resources entrusted to them to support the fleet.

Some of the 2009 safety successes that led to the command’s selection include:

- Prototyping and launching of standard operating procedures for Command Duty Officers to aid in executing the Duty Section Safety Petty Officer and Zone Inspections.

- Significant downward trends in the Civilian Total Case Incident Rate, Military On-Duty Total Case Incident Rate, and Military Off-Duty Total Case Incident Rate.

- A reduction in private vehicle mishaps of 60 percent.

For more information on this success story, please contact the Naval Base San Diego Safety Office at: (619) 556-0728.