NAVAL WEAPONS STATION SEAL BEACH, SECRETARY OF THE NAVY 2010 SAFETY EXCELLENCE AWARD, INDUSTRIAL CATEGORY A

The Honorable Robert O. Work, Under Secretary of the Navy, presented the 2010 Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Safety Excellence Award, Industrial Category A, to Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Seal Beach, California, 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 NWS was Commanding Officer CAPT Terry Auberry.

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)), NWS Seal Beach Safety Specialist Sadashiv Aranke, NWS Seal Beach Safety Installation Program Director James Olinger, The Honorable Robert O. Work (Under Secretary of the Navy), NWS Seal Beach Commanding Officer CAPT Terry Auberry, 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 Station Seal Beach was in competition with Navy and Marine Corps industrial activities worldwide, with a working population of less than 1,000. NWS Seal Beach, California and its detachments - located in Corona and Fallbrook, California - exist to provide weapons storage, loading, maintenance, assessment, and support to ships of the United States Pacific Fleet. The NWS facilities also support Coast Guard vessels and Marine Corps units stationed afloat and ashore.

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

- Accelerated progress toward achieving Star status under the Occupational Safety and Health Administration Voluntary Protection Programs;
- Launching an innovative ammunitions container labeling system to assist in the reduction of hazardous materials generated by spray painting;
- Continuance of a trend of zero private motor vehicle and fire mishaps; and
- An effective partnering with the local Navy environmental office to initiate a new communication program addressing hazardous materials.
For more news from Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, visit www.navy.mil/local/sealbeach/ or http://www.cnic.navy.mil/sealbeach