



CTT CAREER PATH
(IW/SW/AW/SG/NAC/EXW)



Cryptologic Technician Technical (CTT). CTTs perform a variety of technically-intensive duties, both afloat and ashore, associated with processing and interpreting RADAR emissions for tactical and strategic value. They operate Electronic Intelligence (ELINT)/Electronic Support (ES) receiving/processing systems and peripheral equipment to provide threat assessments, situational awareness and Indications and Warnings (I&W) in addition to formulating Electronic Attack (EA) techniques and tactics. Additionally, CTTs record and analyze RADAR data to develop and maintain RADAR libraries for strategic analysis and development of deception techniques. They operate and maintain ES and EA systems permanently installed on ships. CTTs perform their duties on ships, submarines, aircraft, patrol craft and at shore commands in the U.S. and overseas. CTTs also augment U.S. Special Operations Forces and Expeditionary Warfare forces abroad.

| YEARS OF SERVICE | CAREER MILESTONES | AVERAGE TIME TO ADVANCE | COMMISSIONING OR OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS | SEA/SHORE FLOW | TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| 26-30 | CTTCM | 23.2 Yrs | CSEL | 36 | Sea or Shore Tour Billet: Staff Duty, ECM, CSEL. Duty: OPNAV, BUPERS, FFC, CPF, CNSWC, PEO, TYCOM, NIWDC, CID, NIOC, Numbered Fleet. |
| 23-26 | CTTCM CTTCS | 23.2 Yrs 20.4 | CSEL, CWO | 36 | Sea or Shore Tour Billet: Dept LCPO, Staff Duty, CSEL, ECM, Senior Detailer. Duty: OPNAV, BUPERS, FFC, CPF, CNSWC, PEO, TYCOM, NIWDC, CID, NIOC, Numbered Fleet, Aircrew |
| 20-23 | CTTCM CTTCS CTTC | 23.2 Yrs 20.4 14.3 | CSEL, CWO | 36 | 5 th Sea Tour/4 th Shore Tour Billet: Dept LCPO, LCPO Afloat, Staff Duty, Detailer. Duty: Ship, Submarine, Aircrew, NIOC, NIWTG, CID, ATG, RTC, NSW, NPC, CPF, Numbered Fleet. Qualification: Senior Enlisted Academy, IOWO, CICWO (CVN), Shipboard SWC, AWC. NEC C05A. |
| 16-20 | CTTCS CTTC CTT1 | 20.4 Yrs 14.3 7.5 | LDO, CWO, OCS, MECP, CSEL | 36 | 4 th Sea Tour/3 rd Shore Tour Billet: Dept LCPO, LCPO Afloat, Staff Duty, Detailer. Duty: Ship, Submarine, Aircrew, NIOC, NIWTG, CID, ATG, RTC, NSW, NPC, CPF, Numbered Fleet. Qualification: Senior Enlisted Academy, IOWO, CICWO (CVN), Shipboard SWC, AWC. NEC C05A. |



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| 12-16 | CTTCS CTTC CTT1 | 20.4 Yrs 14.3 7.5 | LDO, CWO, OCS, MECP, CSEL | 36 | 2 nd Shore Tour/3 rd Sea Tour Billet: LCPO Afloat or Ashore, Department LCPO, Afloat Staff, Instructor, DIRSUP Supervisor, TIO Analyst or Operator, Detailer. Duty: Ship, Submarine, Aircrew, NIOC, NIWTG, ATG, RTC, NRD, CID, NSW, CID, NPC. Qualification: Warfare Qualifications, MTS, IOWO, CICWO (CVN), Shipboard SWC, AWC. NEC C05A. |
| 8-12 | CTTC CTT1 CTT2 | 14.3 Yrs 7.5 3.0 | LDO, CWO, OCS, MECP, CSEL | Operator-36. Maintainer-36. | 2 nd Sea Tour/2 nd Shore Tour Billet: LPO afloat, LCPO Afloat, Afloat Staff, Instructor, DIRSUP Operator and/or Supervisor, TIO Operator/Analyst. National Systems, TECHELINT. Duty: Ship, Submarine, Aircrew, NIOC, NIWTG, ATG, RTC, NRD, CID, NSW. Qualifications: ASST IOWO, EW Supervisor, Air Warfare Coordinator, Ship's Weapons Coordinator, MTS, Warfare qualifications. NEC's C17A, C07A, C05A, C06A . |
| 4-8 | CTT1 CTT2 CTT3 | 7.5 Yrs 3.0 1.9 | STA-21, OCS, MECP MESAP (NEC C22A) and MOSAP (NEC C09A) internships. | 36 | 1 st Shore Tour/2 nd Sea Tour Billet: EW Systems operator and/or maintainer. EW Journeyman, EW Supervisor. DIRSUP submarines operator and/or supervisor. National Systems Operator, TECHELINT Analyst. TIO Operator/Analyst. Duty: Ship, Submarine, Aircrew, NIOC, NIWTG, ATG, CID, NSW. Qualification: EW Operator, EW Supervisor, National Systems Analyst/Supervisor, Warfare Qualifications. ASST IOWO, NEC's C07A, C17A, 5306/5307, C01A, C00A, C02A, C03A, C04A, C06A, C15A. |



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|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|
| 1-4 | CTT2 CTT3 | 3.0 Yrs 1.9 | STA-21, Naval Academy, NROTC, OCS, | Operator–42. Maintainer-48. | 1 st Sea Tour Billet: Fleet EW Systems Operator and/or Maintainer, DIRSUP submarines operator, Aircrew, ELINT analyst. Duty: Ship, NIOC, Submarine, Aircrew. Qualification: EW Operator, EW Supervisor, Submarine Systems operator, Aircrew, National Systems Analyst, Warfare Qualifications. ASST IOWO, NEC C15A, C06A, C07A, C01A, C00A, C02A, C03A, C04A. |

Notes:

1. “A” School required.

2. Sea/Shore Flow for CTTs is 36/36 with the following exceptions: Sailors in the 6YO Advanced Electronics Field, a maintenance technician’s initial sea tour will be 48 months. All other CTTs will complete a 42-month initial sea tour. Initial sea tours for Naval Special Warfare (NSW)-Tactical Information Operations (TIO) are 5 years with a potential 3 year NSW shore duty follow-on tour. In addition, anyone selected for Military ELINT Signals Analyst Program (MESAP) or Military OPELINT Signals Analyst Program (MOSAP) internships are required to fulfill a three-year payback tour upon completion of their internship. MESAP graduates should expect to be assigned to an NSA Shore site in a C22A billet. MOSAP graduates should expect to be assigned to an appropriate C09A billet. Following the payback tour, they are eligible and expected to return to their regular sea/shore rotation.

3. When discussing career enhancing milestones and tours, it is important to understand the effects of the 2003 CTT/EW merger. Prior to the merger, CTTs specialized in both OPELINT and TECHELINT areas, the merger resulted in three distinct areas of focus (adding EW), and today’s CTT has the additional opportunity to augment Special Operations Forces. The rating as a whole benefits from both the CTTs that are diverse and understand all missions of the rating, but also those that are specialized in just one or two areas. Sustained superior performance has always been the key to success, the CTT that is selected for advancement should be the one that has consistently broken out, whether assigned to surface ships, submarines, aircraft, special forces, as an operator, analyst, technician, or maintainer.

4. At the Apprentice and Journeyman levels CTTs are assessed as operators, operator/maintainers, or analysts. No two CTTs will follow identical career patterns; however, on the average, the successful CTT will meet most of the career milestones illustrated in Career Path Continuum in the sequence indicated.

5. TIO billets are sea duty billets that augment Special Operations Command in support of Navy SEAL teams, Special Boat Teams, and other Special Mission Units. This duty is extremely demanding and leadership opportunities may be limited due to the independent nature of the duties assigned. Due to specific training and operational requirements, some CTTs will remain assigned to this functional area based on their technical expertise and corporate knowledge. This is usually a five-year minimum obligation.

6. Air/Subsurface Direct Support billets are sea duty billets that augment aircraft/submarines in support of Fleet and CNO directed special operations. This duty is considered arduous and extremely challenging; some CTTs will remain confined to this functional area based on their technical expertise and corporate knowledge and multiple tours should not be viewed negatively.



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7. Consideration should be given to CTT's who demonstrate rating involvement through participation in important rating modernization functions, including Occupational Standards Review, PQS Development, Navy Tactical Techniques and Procedures revisions, Naval Warfare Publication revisions, Joint Publication revisions, Advancement Exam Readiness Review, Course Curriculum Development and Training Readiness Reviews.

Considerations for advancement from E6 to E7

1. Sea Assignments

a. PCS Afloat

- LPO with mission and leadership impact
- EW Supervisor qualified with operational impact
- Combat Systems Training Team (CSTT) and or other training team member with documented impact (Sailors led/trained, events executed, etc.)
- Information Operations Watch Officer (IOWO) qualified should be considered a plus
- Enlisted Warfare Qualifications are expected when available
- 3M Assistant qualified
- Active First Class Petty Officer Association (FCPOA) member
- SAILOR 360 involvement
- Command Collateral with documented impact

b. Direct Support Subs or Surface

- LPO with mission and leadership impact
- Electronic Support Measure (ESM) Supervisor (POS 8) qualified (**Subs only**)
- Qualified National OPELINT Analyst/Battle Force ELINT Analyst or IOWO with operational impact (**Surface only**)
- Performance Information Memorandum (PIM) or Evaluation documents successful team integration with Ship's company
- Documented deployment time
- Enlisted Warfare Qualifications are expected when available
- Active FCPOA member
- SAILOR 360 involvement
- Command Collateral with documented impact

c. Aircrew

- LPO with mission and leadership impact
- Aircrew Training Continuum (ACTC) Level 400 Instructor with successful deployment showing ability to lead/train
- Documented deployment time
- Enlisted Warfare Qualifications are expected when available
- Active FCPOA member
- SAILOR 360 involvement
- Command Collateral with documented impact

d. Naval Special Warfare (TIO)

- Documented technical acumen and leadership
- Documented deployment time
- Enlisted Warfare Qualifications are expected when available
- Active FCPOA Member
- SAILOR 360 involvement



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2. Shore Assignments (all)
 - a. Consider positions in which enlisted leaders develop subordinates and mentor them in proper career progression with emphasis on continuing technical development, leadership development and Sailorization. Also consider positions in which impact on Fleet readiness is demonstrated.
 - b. Shore duty billets are primarily at Naval Information Warfare Training Group (NIWTG), Afloat Training Group (ATG), Information Warfare Training Command (IWTC) Learning Centers, Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) Fleet Information Operations Center (FIOC), Regional Maintenance Center (RMC), Commander, Operational Test and Evaluation Force (COTF), Naval Special Warfare (NSW), and Staff commands.
 - Should show strong documented leadership while serving as LPO, NCOIC, Instructor, Mission Supervisor or leading watch teams/sections
 - Should show strong documented technical knowledge in assigned billet
 - Should show documented instructional time if in an instructor billet
 - Demonstrated operational and/or command-wide impact
 - Demonstrated impact on Fleet readiness
 - Master Training Specialist/Afloat Training Specialist (MTS/ATS) and Enlisted Warfare Qualifications are expected when available at commands. CTTs serving in a National Cryptologic School (NCS) billet should qualify Adjunct Faculty or Faculty Certification
 - Active FCPOA Member
 - SAILOR 360 involvement
 - Command or Asst. Collateral duty with documented impact

Considerations for advancement from E7 to E8

1. Sea Assignments

- a. PCS Afloat
 - LCPO with mission and leadership impact
 - Should be qualified OOD (in-port) and other station outside the normal scope (ie: Anti-terrorism Watch Officer)
 - Surface Warfare Coordinator and/or Air Warfare Coordinator qualified and or IOWO qualified with operational impact
 - CSTT and or other training team member with documented impact (Sailors led/trained, events executed, etc.)
 - Enlisted Warfare Qualifications are expected when available
 - CPOA involvement (leadership roles in CPOA should be considered a plus)
 - Sailor 360 involvement (leading a committee should be considered a plus)
 - Command Collateral with documented impact
- b. Direct Support Subs or Surface (Information Operations Planner)
 - LCPO with mission and leadership impact
 - ESM Supervisor (POS 8) qualified with mission impact as a Chief (**Subs only**)
 - Qualified IOWO with operational impact (**Surface only**)
 - PIM or Evaluation documents successful team integration with Ship's company
 - Documented deployment time
 - Enlisted Warfare Qualifications are expected when available
 - CPOA involvement (leadership roles in CPOA should be considered a plus)
 - Sailor 360 involvement (leading a committee should be considered a plus)
 - Command Collateral with documented impact
- c. Aircrew



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- LCPO with mission and leadership impact
 - ACTC Level 400 Instructor with successful deployment showing ability to lead/train
 - ACTC 500 Weapons and Tactics Instructor is highly regarded for the entire Aircrew community
 - Documented deployment time
 - Enlisted Warfare Qualifications are expected when available
 - CPOA involvement (leadership roles in CPOA should be considered a plus)
 - Sailor 360 involvement (leading a committee should be considered a plus)
 - Command Collateral with documented impact
- d. Naval Special Warfare (TIO)
- Documented technical acumen and leadership
 - Documented deployment time
 - Enlisted Warfare Qualifications are expected when available
 - CPOA involvement (leadership roles in CPOA should be considered a plus)
 - Sailor 360 involvement (leading a committee should be considered a plus)
2. Shore Assignments: (all)
- a. Consider positions in which enlisted leaders develop subordinates and mentor them in proper career progression with emphasis on continuing technical development, leadership development and Sailorization. Also consider positions in which impact on Fleet readiness is demonstrated.
- b. Shore duty billets are primarily at NIWTG, ATG, NPC, IWTC Learning Centers, NIOCs, FIOCs, RMCs, COTF, NSW, and Staff commands.
- Should show strong documented leadership while serving as LCPO, NCOIC, Instructor, Mission Supervisor or leading watch teams/sections
 - Should show strong documented technical knowledge in assigned billet
 - Should show documented instructional time if in an instructor billet
 - Demonstrated operational and/or command-wide impact
 - Demonstrated impact on Fleet readiness
 - MTS/ATS and Enlisted Warfare Qualifications are expected when available at commands. CTTs serving in a NCS billet should qualify Adjunct Faculty or Faculty Certification
 - CPOA involvement (leadership roles in CPOA should be considered a plus)
 - Sailor 360 involvement (leading a committee should be considered a plus)
 - Command Collateral duty with documented impact

Considerations for advancement from E8 to E9

1. Sea Assignments

- a. PCS Afloat
- CVN LCPO with mission and leadership impact
 - CVN Combat Direction Center Watch Officer qualified and/or IOWO qualified with operational impact
 - CSTT and or other training team member with documented impact (Sailors led/trained, events executed, etc.)
 - Enlisted Warfare Qualifications are expected when available
 - CPOA involvement (leadership roles in CPOA should be considered a plus)
 - Sailor 360 involvement (leading a committee should be considered a plus); high emphasis on chairing or co-chairing SAILOR 360
 - Command Collateral with documented impact



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- b. CCSG Staff
 - LCPO and Surface Electronic Warfare Officer/Asst. Electronic Warfare Officer with Strike group-wide mission and leadership impact
 - IOWO qualified with operational impact
 - Enlisted Warfare Qualifications are expected when available
 - CPOA involvement (leadership roles in CPOA should be considered a plus)
 - Sailor 360 involvement (leading a committee should be considered a plus); high emphasis on chairing or co-chairing SAILOR 360
 - Command Collateral with documented impact
 - c. Naval Special Warfare (TIO)
 - Documented technical acumen and leadership
 - Documented deployment time
 - Enlisted Warfare Qualifications are expected when available
 - CPOA involvement (leadership roles in CPOA should be considered a plus)
 - Sailor 360 involvement (leading a committee should be considered a plus)
2. Shore Assignments (all)
- a. Consider positions in which enlisted leaders develop subordinates and mentor them in proper career progression with emphasis on continuing technical development, leadership development and Sailorization. Also consider positions in which impact on Fleet readiness is demonstrated.
 - b. Shore duty billets are primarily at NIWTG, ATG, NPC, IWTC Learning Centers, NIOCs, FIOCs, NSW, and Staff commands.
 - Should show strong documented leadership while serving as LCPO, NCOIC, Instructor, Mission Supervisor or leading watch teams/sections
 - Should show strong documented technical knowledge in assigned billet.
 - Demonstrated operational and/or command-wide impact
 - Should show documented instructional time if in an instructor billet
 - Demonstrated impact on Fleet readiness
 - MTS/ATS and Enlisted Warfare Qualifications are expected when available at commands. CTTs serving in a NCS billet should qualify Adjunct Faculty or Faculty Certification
 - CPOA involvement (leadership roles in CPOA should be considered a plus)
 - Sailor 360 involvement (leading a committee should be considered a plus)
 - Command Collateral duty with documented impact