

FORGING AHEAD, NAVY MACHINERY REPAIRMEN

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SAN DIEGO, Calif. - Onboard *USS Emory S. Land* (AS 39), Machinery Repairmen (MR) use the latest Computer Aided Machinery (CAM) software to fabricate a specialized clamp for a forward deployed fast attack submarine. Without this clamp, designed for the removal and installation of the secondary propulsion motor, the boat faces a return to dry dock for repairs. But thanks to the advances being brought the Navy's MRs, through Revolution in Navy Training initiatives, repair parts are being fabricated on the spot; onboard tenders working in theater, reducing lost operational time. This is the first time this type of repair and installation of parts are performed underway, preventing the early return to port, and saving the Navy millions of dollars.

But the benefits of these initiatives are two fold, meeting operational requirements and bringing individual MRs the right training at the right time to ensure their success in maximizing their potential. Through revamped curriculums, unique industry partnerships, and state of the art hands on training, MRs are being given the tools and opportunities to learn, grow, lead, and excel.

“A highly trained workforce is critical to military planning and execution,” said Commanding Officer Capt. Ed Caviness, Training Support Center San Diego. “In establishing this training and education program for the Navy and meeting the needs of the Fleet, we have geared the program toward integrating relevant industry related credentials and certifications, giving our Sailors the best possible opportunities for success in the 21st Century.”

To be successful in this endeavor, and to meet its requirements to the Fleet, the MR community partnered with leading developers of machinery repair technology and training resources. Mastercam, producer of the most widely used Computer Aided Design (CAD) and CAM software worldwide helped the Navy develop an advanced curriculum

that is recognized by industry and top educational programs in the field. By partnering with industry leaders, the Navy is getting a first hand look at how the most successful companies train, educate, and certify their employees.

“The training and education program is excellent,” said MR2(SW) Brian Heath, Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Department, Naval Air Station North Island, Calif. “Not only did we receive invaluable state of the art training, but the prestigious industry certification from Mastercam, as well. This is really the opportunity of a life time for Sailors.”

Initial evaluation of the curriculum was done onboard *Land*, a submarine tender that is often required to make repairs under hazardous conditions. While deployed to the Mediterranean Sea, *Land's* MR shop was given the intensive training that included both lectures and practical scenarios.

Another testament to the improved curriculum, *Land's* MR shop also designed and fabricated a portable drill rig for the removal of 200 stainless steel catapult bolts onboard an aircraft carrier in the Arabian Sea. Finished and installed in one day, the carrier’s flight operations were not impacted because of lost time waiting for a parts delivery.

“This is a not only a big win for MRs, but also for the CNO's vision of revolutionizing the Navy's approach to Sailor development,” said Rear Adm. Kevin Moran, Commander Naval Personnel Development Command. “It directly contributed to the successful mission accomplishment of forward deployed units; leveraged the best training resources and technology available, giving our MRs the resources to excel; and is providing these Sailors with the same credentials demanded of their civilian counterparts.”

The Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC) machinery course was recently relocated from Naval Training Center Great Lakes, Ill., to the Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity (SIMA) in San Diego. SIMA provides intermediate level maintenance support and selective maintenance training to over 100 surface ships, submarines, shore activities

and other commands of the Pacific Fleet. The move to a Fleet Concentration Area (FCA) makes the training more accessible to Sailors by reducing time away from their commands and travel costs. Graduating Sailors earn industry recognized Mastercam certifications. Plans are currently being developed to introduce the CNC course to the Norfolk, Va., FCA.

Through these revolutionary initiatives today's MRs are directly contributing to operational success, while impacting the development of the Navy's 21st Century learning environment.

“By bringing together the talents and resources from experts from leading institutions throughout the engineering field and utilizing advanced technology and software, the Navy's Machine Repairmen will enhance mission accomplishment through a better trained and educated workforce,” said Moran.

The Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark's vision for a Revolution in Navy Training is not only enhancing operational readiness, but is creating greater opportunities for Sailors to develop both professionally and personally, while giving them the most up to date training and tools available to ensure their success.

To learn more about the MR initiatives, and the Revolution in Training visit

<http://www.nko.navy.mil/> or <http://www.excel.navy.mil/>