

Sailors and Marines Gather at
ENVIRONMENTAL
SWAP MEET



Over 100 Attend Fifth Annual NAVAIR Fleet Environmental Exchange

THE NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND (NAVAIR) HELD THE FIFTH ANNUAL FLEET ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE (EIE) AT THE NAVAL AMPHIBIOUS BASE SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA ON 15-17 APRIL 2003. THIS YEAR'S EXCHANGE WAS CO-HOSTED BY NAVY REGION SOUTHWEST.



Over 100 Fleet representatives from various Navy and Marine Corps hazardous material, supply, support equipment, ordnance and corrosion control programs attended this year's Exchange to discuss environmental aviation-related issues with NAVAIR's environmental and acquisition experts. The Exchange also provided opportunities for sailors and Marines to learn about new and emerging technologies, network with the Navy's environmental experts and receive training credits.

The primary goal of every EIE is to identify unresolved Fleet environmental needs and provide solutions in real time at the meeting. Needs that not cannot, for whatever reason, be resolved at the EIE are assigned to the appropriate NAVAIR subject-matter expert for follow-up action.



A number of military representatives from the Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Department (AIMD) North Island attended this year's EIE. They provided great insights into the aviation maintenance challenges facing the Fleet today. AIMD North Island personnel included: (BACK) AS1(AW/SW) Jason Hoff, AS2 Jason Block. (FRONT) AM2(AW) Dana Dean, AS2 Victor Elias, AM1(AW) Lisa Beaudou.

This year, the assembled sailors and Marines identified fifty action items for NAVAIR's environmental community to tackle. These items range from the availability of preferred maintenance equipment to the proper use of hazardous materials. In particular, the following issues were raised during the course of the 2003 EIE. The Fleet needs:

- Access to recyclable lint-free rags. The Fleet also needs to change the relevant publication requirements to allow for the use of lint-free rags for certain maintenance procedures.
- To consider the costs and benefits associated with implementing a close-loop system to the recycling/reuse of rinse waters from our plating and paint stripping operations.
- A list of the schools and follow-on schools authorized to teach perform the duties involved in operating hazardous materials and hazardous waste sites (including State and local management requirements) incorporated into OPNAV 4790.2 Chapter 20.

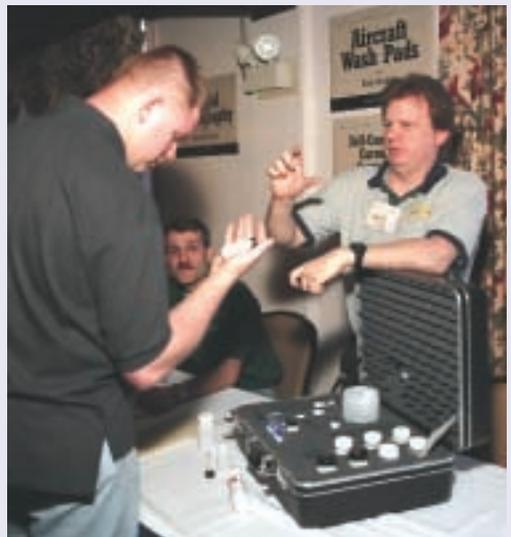
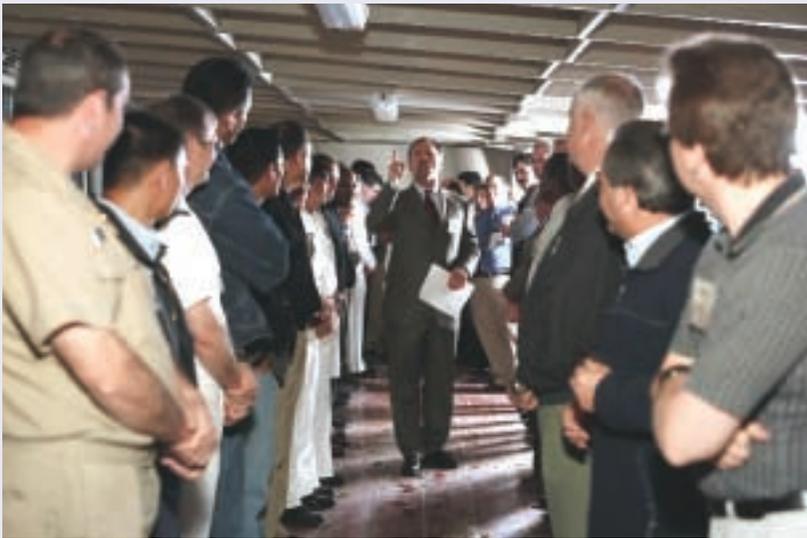


Mark Your Calendars for the **2004 EIE**

WHEN: APRIL 2004

WHERE: EAST COAST

WHO: ANYONE IN THE FLEET
WITH ENVIRONMENTAL
RESPONSIBILITIES IS WELCOME



RAVES

About the 2003 EIE

- "THE EIE IS THE BEST BRIDGE TO CONNECT THE FLEET TO NAVAIR."
- "DIRECT INTERACTION WITH THE FLEET MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL ON ISSUES REGARDING MATERIALS AND PROCESSES IS INVALUABLE."
- "KNOWLEDGE IS POWER AND I FEEL THAT THERE WAS PLENTY OF KNOWLEDGE TO BE OBTAINED."
- "WHAT YOU HAVE IS AN OVERWHELMING ASSET TO THE FLEET AND NEEDS TO BE MAINTAINED..."
- "I WAS FLOORED BY THIS CONFERENCE. IT WAS MY FIRST CONFERENCE—I HOPE IT WON'T BE MY LAST."
- "IN ONE WORD—ENLIGHTENING."
- "I NOW HAVE THE IDEAS AND RESOURCES I NEED TO PERFORM MY JOB MORE PROFICIENTLY."
- "I DISCOVERED NEW TECHNOLOGIES TO SUPPORT OUR OPERATIONS."
- "I WAS VERY PLEASED WITH THE BREADTH AND DEPTH OF THE EXPERIENCE AT THIS YEAR'S EIE."
- "I WILL SURELY RECOMMEND THE EIE THROUGHOUT MY COMMAND."

- Access to environmentally controlled hazardous materials storage lockers.
- A more efficient way of recovering Freon from aircraft and shipboard systems.
- An authorized method for removing oil from honeycomb material.
- To move towards lead-free soldering
- Clarification on when Fleet maintenance personnel are required to take a hydraulic sample from an aircraft.
- Particle counters for use at the squadron level (since P-D-680 will be no longer available for patch testing).
- Access to Digital Radiography units through the Pollution Prevention Equipment Program (PPEP).



It Takes a MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM

As more and more sailors and Marines are drawn to the EIE each year, it takes more and more effort to pull off a successful event.



Lynn Cahoon, the principal architect of the EIE, assembles a multidisciplinary team each year to address the increasingly complex task of organizing and executing an impressive EIE.

For this and each of the previous year's Exchanges, Lynn reached across NAVAIR and



EIE Core Team: (BACK) Bruce McCaffrey, Lynn Cahoon, Ebbie Crockett, Scott Mauro. (FRONT) Tom Doughty, Kathy Fallis, Kelly Burdick. (Not shown, Mike Romanelli.)

into the NAVFAC and NATEC communities and also tapped a professional facilitator to help him plan and implement the EIE. Feedback from this year's Exchange seems to confirm that the efforts of Lynn and his team were well worth it.

Who	Organization	Expertise
Lynn Cahoon	Material Engineering Laboratory Naval Air Depot Cherry Point, NC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials engineering Hands-on experience with Fleet maintenance processes
Scott Mauro	Naval Facilities Engineering Service Center (NFESC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AV-8B Environmental Safety & Occupational Health Coordinator Naval facilities perspective
Ebbie Crockett	Naval Air Technical Data and Engineering Service Command (NATEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Logistics community perspective Maintenance manual perspective
Kathy Fallis	Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division, China Lake, CA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chemistry laboratory, research and development perspective Range issues and experience (including ordnance expertise)
Kelly Burdick	NAVAIR Environmental Public Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public affairs
Mike Romanelli	Lead Maintenance Technology Center for the Environment (LMTCE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depot-level maintenance experience
Tom Doughty	Aerospace Materials Laboratory Naval Air Station Patuxent River, MD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and development Hands-on experience with Fleet maintenance processes Retired Naval officer
Bruce McCaffrey	Bruce McCaffrey Consulting, Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting facilitation Meeting planning

- To be able to produce letters/numbers as well as national insignia and the required NATO markings with the stenciling and marking machines available to them. The Fleet also needs training on the proper operation and maintenance/repair of this equipment.

EIE attendees also benefit from hands-on demonstrations of new technologies at the Exchange's tradeshow.

Demonstrations included the proper use of technologies already transitioned as well as those that are emerging from the Navy's laboratories. NAVAIR wants to make sure the Fleet has the latest and greatest technology and the knowledge to properly apply it. This year's Tradeshow took place on the final day of the EIE and incorporated hands-on demonstrations of a number of innovative maintenance technologies including a number of corrosion

A HISTORY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Where	When	Attendees & Action Items	Details
Jacksonville, FL	September 1999	A dozen attendees identified 28 action items.	Hurricane Floyd resulted in low attendance.
New Orleans, LA	June 2000	40 Fleet representatives identified over 30 action items.	Evening trips to Bourbon Street added some color to the meeting.
San Diego, CA	June 2001	Nearly 100 sailors identified 70 action items.	First EIE tradeshow exposed attendees to innovative maintenance technologies.
Norfolk, VA	June 2002	Over fifty attendees including two dozen sailors and marines identified 47 action items.	Large contingent of Marines present.
San Diego, CA	April 2003	Over 100 attendees identified several dozen action items.	Attendees received hazardous materials management training.



Members of the Lead Maintenance Technology Center for the Environment (LMTCE) Working Integrated Product Team (WIPT)—engineers of the EIE.

control technologies as well as tools to assist in corrosion touch-up repairs, sealant and mildew removal tools as well as particle counters, paint gun cleaning technologies and new aircraft wash pads.

At this year's EIE, sailors and Marines also received a half-day refresher course on the proper management of hazardous materials from Odessa ("Odie") Newman-Staples, the hazardous materials manager from Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake, CA. Odie and her presentation on "The Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) Hazard Communication Standard" were very popular with the assembled sailors and Marines. Representatives from the Civil Engineering Corps Officers School (CECOS) provided an overview of CECOS's classroom and web-based training services. CECOS representatives also provided a presentation on the Navy's BASH (Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard) program.

As in past years, this year's agenda was Fleet-driven. NAVAIR solicited topics for the agenda and asked a number

of Fleet personnel to present their own perspectives and/or solutions to today's environmental challenges. Among the Fleet representatives who provided their points of view were GySgt Russell Sharpmack (from Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Beaufort, SC), AMC Fred Matazzoni (from the Aircraft Intermediate



Lead Maintenance Technology Centers Participate in 2003 EIE OPEN FORUM

The following Lead Maintenance Technology Centers (LMTC) participated in an open forum on the second day of the 2003 EIE:

Lead Maintenance Technology Center	Representative
Shelf Life	Debbie Trautman
Product Preservation	Louise Nicoloff
Tire & Wheels	Keith Finch
Non-Destructive Inspection (NDI)	Bob Mathers Sam Bullard
Adhesives, Bonding & Sealants	Doug Perl
Composite Repair	Bill Alexander
Fluid Contamination	Jackie Grant
Liquid Oxygen	David Schmidt
Fuels & Lubricants	Rick Kamin

2003 EIE Tradeshow Showcases INNOVATIVE MAINTENANCE TECHNOLOGIES

NAVAIR's aviation maintenance experts demonstrated the following technologies at the 2003 EIE tradeshow:

1. SUPPORT EQUIPMENT STENCILING
2. PARTICLE COUNTERS
3. THERMAL IMAGERY
4. SELF-CONTAINED CORROSION CONTROL KIT
5. RADIAL BRISTLE DISCS
6. SEALANT REMOVAL TOOL
7. MILDEW REMOVAL KIT
8. AIRCRAFT WASH PADS
9. "SOL-GEL" SURFACE PREPARATION
10. LASER "PAINT ASSIST" TECHNOLOGY
11. NAVAIR INFORMATION PORTAL
12. PAINT GUN CLEANING SYSTEMS
13. DIGITAL RADIOGRAPHY

Some Actions

REQUIRE MORE WORK

Some issues are raised at an EIE but are too complex to resolve within the confines of the Exchange. At the 2001 Environmental Information Exchange, representatives from the Marine Air and Logistic Squadron (MALS) 39 (located at Marine Corps Air Station Camp Pendleton, CA) initiated an action to address the current limited availability of field-worthy materials for bonding the leading edge of H-46 helicopter blades. The problem for MALS-39 was that the Structural Repair Manual called out an A-1100 silane solution that is only provided by materials engineering laboratories located at maintenance Depots. MALS-39 needed field access to A-1100. Lacking the proper materials, field-level bonds are not durable and have resulted in catastrophic failure. A sol-gel surface preparation using AC-130 was identified and approved for field repairs. (NOTE: The term "Sol-Gel" is a contraction for 'solution-gelation' and refers to a series of reactions where a soluble metal species (typically a metal alkoxide or metal salt) hydrolyzes to form a metal hydroxide.) The sol-gel surface preparation has been assigned a stock number and ordered by the appropriate program manager. Field demonstrations are scheduled in early FY04. (For more information about "Sol-Gel," please see our story "New Technologies for Bonding Surface Preparation: Using Sol-Gel to Get the Chrome Out" in this issue of Currents magazine.)



Maintenance Department (AIMD) Whidbey Island, WA) and AM1 Randy Sudbrock (from the VFA-131 squadron at Naval Air Station Oceana, VA).

Plans are already underway for the 2004 EIE to be held on the East Coast at a location that has yet to be determined. A Naval message will be distributed in January 2004 to officially announce the 2004 EIE and solicit topics for the agenda. [↕](#)

Photos by Jeff Christensen, America's Finest Portraits.

CONTACTS

Lynn Cahoon
Naval Air Depot Cherry Point, NC
252-464-8141
DSN: 451-8141
CahoonAL@navair.navy.mil

Herman Varmall
Naval Air Systems Command
301-757-2155
DSN: 757-2155
VarmallHA@navair.navy.mil