

On COURSE... of COURSE!

Navy Schoolhouses Use
Technology, Coordination,
Feedback to Deliver
Effective Environmental
Training Worldwide



Moreell Hall, CECOS training building, located at Port Hueneme Naval Base Ventura County in California.

The Civil Engineering Corps Officer's School (CECOS), located at Port Hueneme Naval Base Ventura County in California, has been a training center for the Navy since the early days of World War II—under the direction of the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) and the Naval Education and Training Command (NETC). CECOS works with the Naval Occupational Safety and Health and Environmental Training Center (NAVOSHENVTRACEN) in Virginia, offering vital environmental training to Department of Defense (DoD) military and civilian personnel.

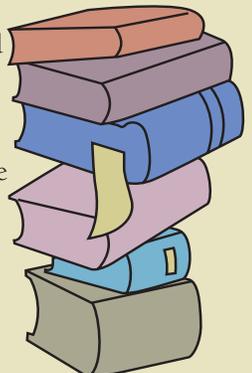
CECOS and NAVOSHENTRACEN work together to offer environmental training in four concentration areas: Pollution Prevention, Compliance, Restoration and Conservation. CECOS

handles ashore environmental training and NAVOSHENTRACEN focuses on afloat safety procedures and training. The training offered at many fleet locations throughout the year (including Norfolk, Honolulu, Guantanamo Bay, Yokosuka and others) is available at no tuition charge.

Through the Interservice Training Review Organization (ITRO), the Navy, Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard, Army, Air Force and Defense Logistics Agency work together to train military and civilian personnel. By combining many classes with those of other branches, the school is able to create a universal offering, such as the required Air Quality class implemented by the Air Force. The Navy needed to create a similar class and, in an effort to save a

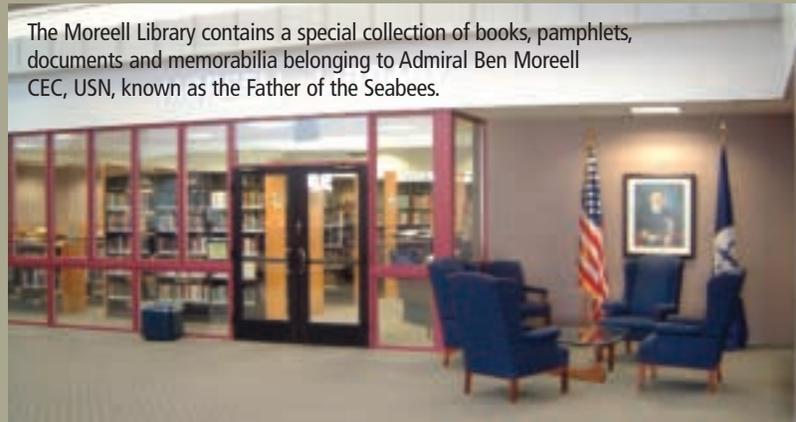
great deal of money, joined forces with the Air Force.

Many of the Navy's environmental courses coincide with those of the other DoD branches. ITRO therefore established the Interservice Environmental Education Review Board (ISEERB) to act as an advisory board to the ITRO. The ISEERB provides the most cost effective and efficient environmental education and training courses by approving education and training that component subject matter experts have found to have common content suitable for two or more components. The purpose of ISEERB approval is to eliminate duplication in





Soil sampling exercise in the Environmental Quality Sampling course (8 May 2001).



The Moreell Library contains a special collection of books, pamphlets, documents and memorabilia belonging to Admiral Ben Moreell CEC, USN, known as the Father of the Seabees.



Field decontamination in the Environmental Quality Sampling course (May 2001).

course development by the components and maximize the distribution of quality environmental training needs.

The CECOS Environmental Division has eight civilian instructors and two contracted instructors. The contractors conduct only restoration courses while the civilian instructors cover the four environmental training concentration areas, as well as Environmental Law and Planning. The Environmental and Natural Resources Program (ENRP) Navy Training Steering Committee determines the environmental courses and training for the Navy. This committee works with the afloat and ashore working groups to determine the best approach to suit the Navy's environmental training needs.

Courses are one to five days long, depending on content and whether or not there is an associated laboratory exercise. Course size also varies. Classes tend to be relatively small (at around 30 people) creating a good student-to-teacher ratio.

Various courses are covered under the four concentration areas of environmental training. One class covered under Pollution Prevention is "Pollution Prevention Program Operations and Management." Compliance courses offer training for dealing with concerns such as spills, asbestos and hazardous waste management. The Hazardous Waste Operation and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) course is one of the

major courses offered under Restoration. Restoration deals with the assessment and analysis of environmental and human health risks that are of concern at cleanup sites. Training offered under Conservation deals with many of the cultural and natural resources, laws, regulations and policies personnel will encounter. For a complete list of courses go to <https://www.cecos.navy.mil>.

"We train military and civilian, both environmental professionals and wage grade. We also train Interservice students through ISEERB. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2002, 3,350 students were trained



REGISTER NOW for Environmental Training Courses

COURSE: ADVANCED ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Offered By: CECOS

Dates & Locations:

2–6 February 2004 Washington, DC
Advanced Environmental Law featuring environmental planning.

29–30 July 2004 Norfolk, VA
International Environmental Law—a special synthesis of the laws and policies guiding operations or bases and facilities abroad.

13–14 September 2004 Honolulu, HI
Ocean Resources Law—application of all Federal environmental laws and policies applicable to natural resources found in oceans and coastal environments. Special focus on operations, training, test and evaluation and natural resources management.

Description: This five-day course includes advanced environmental law and policy presentations that provide Department of Defense (DoD) environmental professionals with important new information in their area of expertise. The course can be up to five days in length depending upon new and emergent issues that need to be addressed that year. Topics to be explored in August 2003 include a law and policy update and ashore environmental law topics.

Special Mini-Course: Advanced Environmental Planning Law featuring cumulative effects analysis, data collection and discussion, environmental planning abroad, protected resources protection and analysis, coastal planning law, integrated natural resources management planning, surviving headquarters review, use of contractors guidance, litigation under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), and the use of the categorical exclusion.

Following the two-day Advanced Environmental Planning Law course, there will be a special three-day Advanced Planning Workshop sponsored by the Chief of Naval Operations Environmental Readiness Division featuring the writing and reviewing environmental planning documents and interdisciplinary teams. Senior DoD attorneys and environmental professionals teach the course.

Target Audience: Experienced environmental planners, managers, engineers, attorneys and specialists who require an in-depth understanding of law, policy and management within their area of environmental expertise. This course is open to all Department of Defense Services, United States Coast Guard and Defense Logistics Agency personnel on a seat-available basis. Other Federal Agency personnel may also attend.

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COURSE: HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE INCIDENT RESPONSE MANAGEMENT (HSIRM)

Offered By: NAVOSHENVTRACEN

Dates & Locations:

3–7 November 2003 Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

17–21 November 2003 Newport, RI

1–5 December 2003 Everett, WA

8–12 December 2003 Bremerton, WA

12–16 January 2004 Pearl Harbor, HI

12–16 January 2004 Chinhae, Korea

26–30 January 2004 London, UK

2–6 February 2004 Mayport, FL

2–6 February 2004 Singapore

9–13 February 2004 Diego Garcia

23–27 February 2004 San Diego, CA

Description: This five-day course provides personnel with the knowledge and skills necessary to respond safely and effectively to releases of, or substantial threats of releases of, hazardous substances, in compliance with applicable federal, state, and U.S. Navy environmental regulations and instructions. This course fulfills the training requirements established by regulations delineated in 29 CFR 1910.120 (q) Emergency response to hazardous substance releases, and 29 CFR 1910.120 (p) (7) (i) Operations conducted at a Treatment Storage and Disposal (TSD) facility. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) program manager or their designated person will provide TSD site-specific training. This also fulfills the training requirements in OPNAVINST 5090.1 (series), and OPNAVINST 5100.23 (series).

Target Audience: Civilian and military personnel ashore who may serve as activity Emergency Response personnel, as well as the following: Fire and Police Department personnel; Environmental Engineers, Specialists, and Technicians; Environmental Managers and Supervisors; OSH personnel; Waste Handlers and Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility (TSDF) personnel; Hazardous Materials Minimization Center (HAZMINCEN) personnel; Warehousemen and Laboratory personnel. Shipboard personnel will be granted quotas, space available, upon verification of membership on the shipboard spill response team. All personnel must have at least 12 months from course date remaining in job assignment.

Note: The Environmental and Natural Resources Program Navy Training System Plan (NTSP) Steering Committee has officially approved to reduce this course from 40 hours to 24 hours starting in May 2004.

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LEFT TO RIGHT:

Groundwater sampling exercise in the Environmental Quality Sampling course (January 2001).
 Robert Darley, NAVSEA Programs Field Office (SEA 04XQ/LABS), Instructor of Environmental Quality Sampling course demonstrating potable water sampling.
 PH meter being used during potable water sampling exercise in the Environmental Quality Sampling course (January 2001).
 Potable water sampling exercise in the Environmental Quality Sampling course (January 2001).
 Surface water sampling exercise at the Environmental Quality Sampling course (January 2001).

through 36 environmental courses. Over 200 students were from other services,” said Barry Hickenbottom, Deputy Director of CECOS Environmental Training. Hickenbottom is very confident about Navy’s successes. “In a lot of ways, we’ve grown a whole lot in ten years.”

CECOS was established during World War II in Williamsburg, Virginia at what was then the original Seabee Training Center. The school moved for a brief time to Davisville, Rhode Island, and in 1947 settled in at Naval Base Ventura County in Port Hueneme, California. Until 1991, the school functioned out of old World War II barracks. Currently, CECOS operates out of a 68,000 square foot state-of-the-art training facility.

In 1974, CECOS began its environmental training program with just one course. By 1984, there were seven. In 1992, NETC released a document identifying over 60 environmental courses they

thought Navy personnel needed. The Navy did not have the money to support 60 courses and the plan was revised. Navy environmental training has grown from eight courses offered in the mid 1990’s to 42 courses with 175 offer-

ings now. CECOS directors run 36 of the courses while the others are offered through other services.

The courses adjust to new issues, laws and regulations. CECOS has changed an Environmental Law course to address issues pertaining to encroachment and ranges. Within the past two years, CECOS added an Environmental Law ‘mini-course’ that addresses current issues in the field. According to Hickenbottom, “In FY 2001 we addressed Ocean and Natural Resource Law. In FY 2002 we addressed Coastal Resources Law. In FY 2003 we will address Environmental Planning.” Restoration is the most rapidly changing area of environmental training, and adjustments to courses need to be made more often than in other areas. In addition to adjusting the course schedule, CECOS is making it easier for students to register by being one of the first schoolhouses in the Navy to offer online registration.

Although the CECOS command center is in Port Hueneme, few courses are actually taught there. Instead it serves as home to the directors and designers who develop the courses. Due to demand for environmental training and the locations of personnel, training is sent out to fleet concentrations around the world. Over 95 percent of

CECOS training occurs at locations other than Port Hueneme. “Our training can only be as good as the training requirements identified,” Hickenbottom said. “This includes that the students need to do the job and how many quotas are needed in a particular location. Saving travel dollars for commands is one of our goals. But with limited training funds, CECOS must select the areas that support the training of the most students.” Coast to coast, afloat and ashore, CECOS has the potential to reach Navy military and civilian personnel in need of environmental training.

Navy environmental training has changed as the Navy has changed. Several years ago, in an effort to reach as many personnel as possible, the Navy began developing interactive multimedia instruction (IMI) and satellite courses. Presently there are 18 different computer-based training products that are used by environmental professionals. “Not all training is applicable to this technology, but it is one way to get training out to the masses,” Hickenbottom said. “The use of web-based training will increase in the next few years.”

Advantages of the IMI’s are they can be used both afloat and ashore, which is a great convenience to students. Many students taking the courses need a



one-day refresher for a specific subject in their area, not an entire three-day training session.

For example, CECOS has developed a Hazardous Waste Disposal course for painters specified to the disposal of paint, rags and containers, and how to properly wash off brushes. Through the online course, the painter receives all of the necessary information about disposal, and doesn't waste time and money traveling to attend a class not required for his or her job. CECOS has similar refresher disposal training available for batteries, oils and oily rags.

CECOS is in the process of building a series of computer-based awareness tools. Just last year, CECOS developed training materials to address issues pertaining to Bird Aircraft Strike Hazards (BASH). The BASH course covers the hazards associated with bird strikes and is geared toward government employees, Naval aviators and support staff. All Hands Environmental Awareness is

another awareness tool developed to inform new employees of the environmental aspects of activities. Another awareness series has been developed in the pollution prevention area. A complete list is available at <https://www.cecoss.navy.mil>.

Currently, HAZWOPER is the only 100-percent web-based course available through CECOS. Hickenbottom said, "I see CECOS doing a lot more Internet- and computer-based training. Travel dollars are getting harder to find so we are going to find new ways to train our students."

Another technology the Navy is utilizing is satellite-training courses. Some of the course offerings may not receive very strong responses from the field, and therefore only a few quotas are filled. For these instances, the Navy is attempting to utilize satellite capabilities of the Air Force to send out a signal from NAVOSHEN-TRACEN, the CECOS sister



Jordan Adelson, Perot Systems Government Services, instructor in the Environmental Quality Sampling course.



Simulated hazardous waste sampling in the Environmental Quality Sampling course.

HOW TO REGISTER for Environmental Training

FOR CECOS

If you would like to register for a CECOS course, you can do so by filling out the application in the back of the catalog and faxing it to the following number:

Naval School, Civil Engineer Corps Officers School
Commercial Fax: 805-982-2918
DSN Fax: 551-2918

You can also view the CECOS catalog at <https://www.cecoss.navy.mil>, and register for a CECOS course by filling out a quota request and submitting it online.

To receive CECOS materials, go to <http://www.tecquest.net>.

FOR NAVOSHENVTRACEN

Visit <http://www.norva.navy.mil/navosh>.

FOR COURSES OFFERED THROUGH OTHER BRANCHES

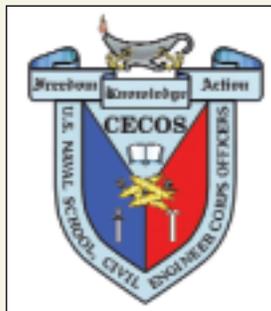
Access the following websites, fill out a quota request and send it to the specified location.

U.S Army Corps of Engineers:
<http://pdsc.usace.army.mil>

Defense Logistics Agency:
<http://www.hr.dla.mil>

Air Force Institute of Technology:
<http://cess.afit.edu>

Navy Supply School:
<http://nscs.cnet.navy.mil/training.asp>



Coast to coast, afloat and ashore, CECOS has the potential to reach Navy military and civilian personnel in need of environmental training.

school, to Air Force base classrooms with the proper capabilities. This way several groups of students in different locations are given the proper training by a live instructor. CECOS recognizes the need for students to fulfill all training necessary to their jobs and is reaching out to them with all possible means.

While CECOS is responsible for ashore training, its counterpart, NAVOSHENVTRACEN, handles environmental and safety training necessary aboard ships. NAVOSHENVTRACEN was originally established as the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) Safety School in Bloomington, Indiana in 1967. There it functioned as the Navy's source of weapons and explosives safety training for the Naval Weapons Support Center in Crane, Indiana. Since then, the school has evolved with bicoastal facilities in Norfolk, Virginia and San Diego, California. The school expanded its mission in 1994 to include shore and afloat occupational safety and health, hazardous material control and management, and afloat environmental protection training.

NAVOSHENVTRACEN focuses on responding to oil spills. Currently there are seven environmental courses with 182 offerings, an increase from 150 in FY 2002. These courses include:

- Afloat Environmental Protection Coordinator (AEPC),
- Hazardous Substance Incident Response Management (HSIRM),
- Facility Response Team, Spill Management Team (SMT), and
- Regional Oil and Hazardous Substance Team training.

Through these offerings, NAVOSHENVTRACEN trained 2,058 civilian and military personnel that were assigned to facilities' response plans or emergency response teams worldwide, including forward deployed areas.

"The training allows the Navy to clean up and protect the environment at the same time," said Commander Don

Hagen, Director of NAVOSH ENVTRACEN. The center is currently evolving from a reactive to a prevention mode with the development of an oil spill prevention course- They are also working on computer-based training (CBT) for ships that will be both class- and ship- specific.

NAVOSHENVTRACEN offers an Afloat Environmental Protection Coordinator (AEPC) training CD for deployed ships and is also in the process of testing its satellite capabilities.

These two training schools continue to enhance the Navy's environmental awareness and ability to meet compliance requirements by offering up-to-date environmental course material that is directly relevant to personnel afloat and ashore. "We constantly adjust our classes to the needs of the environment and of the fleets," said Hagen. "This leads to better training and more tangible, positive results for Navy personnel." ⚓

Note: Katie Ladowicz, former intern with the Chief of Naval Operations, Environmental Readiness Division, made significant contributions to this article.

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