

## NELP Sponsors Management Study of

# Alternative Containers

### Paint Dispensing System Among Alternatives Considered

**A**s part of its Alternative Container Management Study, the Navy Environmental Leadership Program (NELP) is conducting demonstrations for three alternative containers at Naval Station (NAVSTA) Mayport that could potentially reduce container waste and management costs at Navy facilities. Those alternatives include:

1. Bulk supply and solvent distribution system of isopropyl alcohol,
2. A paint dispensing system, and
3. Solvent wipes.

The demonstration tests are being held in cooperation with the NAVSTA Mayport Environmental Office, and Shaw Environmental, Inc. At the

conclusion of the demonstrations, a life cycle cost analysis will be performed to determine if use of the alternative containers should be adopted on a Navy-wide basis.

Containers selected for the demonstrations, as described below, include a Paint Dispensing System, Bulk Supply and Solvent Distribution System of Isopropyl Alcohol, and Solvent Wipes.

#### **Bulk Supply and Solvent Distribution System of Isopropyl Alcohol**

Isopropyl Alcohol (IAP) is used for cleaning purposes and is currently issued in various size read containers from the Hazardous Minimization (HAZMIN) Center at NAVSTA

Mayport. For the demonstration, the Mini Repair Classroom at Fleet Training Center (FTC) is a test platform for the new Bulk Supply and Solvent Distribution System of IAP that puts bulk containers in work areas and uses solvent-dispensing carts to enable individuals to pump their own amount of IAP.

Multiple dispensing carts containing small squeeze bottles have been located throughout the work areas for easy accessibility. The small bottles can be filled by experienced operators to reduce spillage and the need for one and 5-gallon cans and bottles from the HAZMIN Center.

The benefits from a storage and dispensing system can eliminate small solvent containers in the municipal solid waste stream, reduce Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) emissions from the base, and reduce the overall quantity of cleaning solvent issue.

“ We are very interested in helping to reduce costs associated with container management and disposal at Navy facilities.”

—DCC Ladon Washington, NELP Focus Group Member

## Paint Dispensing System

For the demonstration, Self Help is using plastic or steel reusable paint containers with plastic liners to reduce paint and container waste associated with traffic paint. [NOTE: Self-Help is a customer service facility at NAVSTA Mayport, where technical guidance and assistance will be provided to the requesting department/tenant command for development of work requests through project completion.] This management technique is used on Navy ships like the USS KENNEDY. The benefits from such a dispensing system can eliminate paint containers in the municipal waste stream, reduce the quantity of and ultimate costs for the paint waste stream, and reduce the overall quantity of paint issued by more accurately dispensing the amount of paint required for the job. (See our articles about paint dispensing systems in previous issues of Currents magazine, including "Painted Out of A Corner: NADEP Jacksonville Stands Up a Plural Paint Dispensing System" (summer 2002 issue) and "Failing Seals, Heavy Primer and Faulty System Hardware: NADEP Jacksonville Adjusts New System to Guarantee the Consistent and Reliable Dispensing of Paint" (winter 2003 issue).)

## Solvent Wipes

The Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department (AIMD) at NAVSTA

Wanda St. Clair, Mini Repair Class Instructor at the Fleet Training Center (FTC), is testing the Bulk Supply and Solvent Distribution System of Isopropyl Alcohol during the Alternative Container Demonstration.

Photo by Jhanina Santiago



Mayport is participating in the demonstration and has been supplied with pre-moistened IAP wipes in pouches instead of the standard individual IAP issues in one and 5-gallon non-reusable metal containers. The IAP wipes are being used at AIMD in conjunction with the repair of electronic circuitry. Use of the solvent wipes can eliminate metal or plastic containers of cleaning solvent that eventually end up in the municipal solid waste stream. The use of IAP patches would also minimize solvent usage and associated VOC emissions given the prescribed amount of solvent is present in each patch (no spillage loss from over-pouring from a liquid container). 

## ABOUT NELP

The Chief of Naval Operations chartered NELP at NAVSTA Mayport in 1993. The mission of NELP is to support Navy warfighter operational readiness through the identification, demonstration and communication of innovative ways to perform daily operations while minimizing the impacts on our environment and promoting environmental stewardship. The program serves as a test bed for new and innovative technology and focused management that addresses the full spectrum of environmental issues. NELP exports its successes and lessons learned throughout the Navy and Marine Corps family.



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