

# Charting the Way Ahead

## Navy Special Emphasis Programs Operations Contract Management Office Holds First Conference



by Ms. Ann Jensis-Dale, DCMA Public Affairs

**T**he Defense Contract Management Agency's (DCMA) recently established Navy Special Emphasis Programs Operations Contract Management Office (NSEO CMO) hosted its first conference Sept. 12-14, 2006, at the Maritime Institute, Linthicum, Md.

The NSEO CMO, established as part of the Agency's realignment effort, provides improved customer support and ensures a dedicated, highly skilled workforce administers the Navy's critical safety items and special emphasis contracts. The CMO supports the initiatives and agreements defined in memoranda of agreement (MOA) with the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) and the Naval Reactors Directorate.

DCMA Acting Director Mr. Keith Ernst, newly appointed Naval Sea Systems Division Executive Director Mr. Steven Bogusz, Aeronautical Division Executive Director Mr. Robert W. Schmitt and NSEO CMO Deputy Commander Mr. Robert Kennedy represented the agency and NSEO CMO senior leadership. The majority of the NSEO CMO group and team leaders were in attendance. Each of the NSEO CMO group leaders gave presentations on their hiring processes and initiatives underway to improve support to their customers. Ms. Mary Jane Costa, the senior technical advisor to the Naval Sea Systems Division, gave a presentation on DCMA and NAVSEA's teaming for success.

The DCMA and NAVSEA MOA signed Nov. 28, 2005, teams the organizations to improve the technical training of the NSEO CMO quality and technical workforce and to develop metrics measuring the effectiveness of DCMA's in-plant quality assurance oversight and supplier product quality for all Navy Special Emphasis Program (NSEP) and ship critical safety items.

NAVSEA and NSEP key customers attended the conference and gave presentations on a variety of topics including NAVSEA's competency alignment and Lean Six Sigma initiatives and how they view the NSEO CMO as an extension of NAVSEA's NSEO community. NAVSEA's senior leadership was represented by Mr. Pat Tamburrino, NAVSEA executive director; Mr. John Koury, NAVSEA technical representative – Pittsburgh; Navy Rear Adm. Kevin McCoy, NAVSEA ship design, integration and engineering; Mr. Elliot Branch, NAVSEA contracts; Mr. John Butler, NAVSEA director, supplier product quality; Navy Cmdr. Rick Seraiva, director, NAVSEA submarine safety and quality assurance; Mr. Dennis Moran, acquisition support product manager, Naval Sea Logistics Center – Detachment

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Portsmouth; Mr. Dan Hohman, director, quality assurance Naval Inventory Control Point (NAVICP) Code 874; Mr. Harry Baker, director, Submarine Safety Certification Program and deep submergence systems quality assurance and program management division; and Ms. Judith Patno, supervisory contract administrator, NAVICP Code 873. Representatives of the Supervisors of Shipbuilding Conversion and Repair Newport News (Va.) and Groton (Conn.) attended and gave presentations on future workload at the shipyards and its impact on DCMA support at the field level.

The major theme throughout all of the NSPE customer presentations was the criticality of the NSEP material and diminishing financial

and personnel resources. To be successful in the future, NAVSEA and DCMA must team and execute their strategic plans to improve the quality of products delivered to the Navy.

Despite all of the formal presentations, there was still time for networking. On the final day for the quality and contracts group, impromptu discussions on improving teaming opportunities and establishing effective lines of communication occurred.

Funds permitting, the NSEO CMO will host another conference next spring.

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**The CMO supports the initiatives and agreements defined in memoranda of agreement with the Naval Sea Systems Command and the Naval Reactors Directorate.**

*(Above)* Attendees of the first Navy Special Emphasis Programs Operations Contract Management Office. (Photo by Mr. Ira Sauber, Naval Special Emphasis Operations)