

# ***SEABEE CENTER NEWS***

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Naval Construction Battalion Center  
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Rel. Num 13-04  
Date: Feb. 25, 2013

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## **Press Release**

### **Historic ceremony to take place on Seabee Base**

GULFPORT, Miss. – Historic changes will occur on board the Naval Construction Battalion Center during a ceremony at the Training Hall, Feb. 26, at 8:30 a.m., as the 25<sup>th</sup> Naval Construction Regiment (25 NCR) and the 20<sup>th</sup> Seabee Readiness Group (20 SRG) will combine to make a new organization named Naval Construction Group 2 (NCG 2). The 22<sup>nd</sup> NCR will then be aligned within NCG2 and assume the roles and responsibilities of 25 NCR.

The 22 NCR will be a fully deployable Battle Staff and command element capable of providing command and control of expeditionary engineer forces in support of Navy Component Commanders, Marine Air-Ground Task Forces, other joint task forces, and expeditionary forces across the full range of military operations.

“This is the natural organizational progression following 10 plus years of combat associated forces structure changes,” said Rear Adm. Mark A. Handley, Commander, First Naval Construction Division, who will preside over the ceremony. “With a future focus, I am confident that the improved integration at the Type Commander-level will improve our alignment within the Navy, and we will be better positioned to support our forces.”

Although this ceremony marks significant changes to the command structure at the Gulfport Seabee base, it does not alter the mission. NCG 2 will continue the mission currently performed by 20 SRG, providing Seabee units the highest possible state of readiness to provide engineering support to the Navy, Marine Corps, and other forces in military operations, to construct and maintain base facilities, to repair battle damaged facilities, to conduct defensive operations as required, and to meet disaster preparedness and recovery missions.

The ceremony will include two changes of command. First, Capt. Stephen Revelas will assume command of 22 NCR from Capt. Darius Banaji, and Banaji will assume command of 20 SRG from Capt. Rick Burgess. 20 SRG and 25 NCR colors will then be cased, followed by the standing up of NCG 2. Burgess will remain the commanding officer of NCBC Gulfport until the base change of command in June, when he will be relieved by Capt. Paul Odenthal.

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If you would like to cover this event as a media representative or would like more information, please contact Rob Mims, NCBC Gulfport Public Affairs Office at 228-871-2699 or 701-330-1169.