

FRCWP makes good move in Korea

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## STORYTELLING

NAVAL AIR FACILITY ATSUGI, Japan – A major step was taken by service members assigned to Fleet Readiness Center Western Pacific (FRCWP) in the year 2011.

In December 2010, a contract was signed officially moving aircraft production and maintenance of from Korean Air Lines (KAL) to Korean Aerospace Industries (KAI), both companies based in South Korea.

FRCWP had had a contract with KAL since 1989.

“For the actual movement of the line, it’s the first time FRCWP has moved a production line that has aircraft in flow,” said Lt. Wilfred Judd III, production officer of FRCWP. “We were already doing aircraft [production] at the first company and we just picked up the line while we were producing aircraft and started moving equipment to the new contractor’s facility.”

Of the many aircraft to be inducted, the Sikorsky CH-53 (H-53) was prominent among them, including aircraft that flew missions during Operation Tomodachi.

As a result, for the contract to be accepted, modifications concerning the aircraft had to be made. The new company had to be trained in how to perform maintenance on the aircraft that flew missions during Operation Tomodachi.

“It was where every five years they renewed the contract with the same contract,” said Judd. “It didn’t get competed out, it was just renegotiated. Right now, this is the best value for the government.”