SRF-JRMC uses *haihin kaishu* to collect solid waste items

By Keiichi Adachi, CFAY Public Affairs

At the end of 2010, members of the Occupational Safety, Health and Environment (OSHE) Department and Shop Division at U.S. Naval Ship Repair Facility and Japan Regional Maintenance Center (SRF-JRMC) conducted a collection of solid waste items called "*haihin kaishu*" in Japanese.

Auditors from U.S. Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Pacific conducted an Environmental Quality Assessment Audit (EQAA) earlier in 2010 to determine if solid waste is properly stored and disposed of within the SRF-JRMC fence line as required by Japan Environmental Governing Standards (JEGS).

Nathaniel Deleston, SRF-JRMC Environmental Support Services Branch head, said that the purpose of the event was to reduce improper disposal of waste within the SRF-JRMC facility through increased awareness.

"Improper disposal of waste is sometimes a result of personnel not knowing or understanding procedures to dispose of waste or where they can throw away unwanted solid waste items," said Deleston.

The Production Shop Division supported the preinspection and provided outstanding logistical support. The support provided included forklift operations, vehicle operations and assistance in distributing an informational flyer.

Members of "*haihin kaishu-sha*" ensure only pre-screened solid waste disposal items are accepted.

Photo courtesy of SRF-JRMC OSHE Department

指示された従業員がSRF-JRMCの廃品回収車の後を追う支援準備を整える。彼らは環境意識の喚起と事前に検査された粗大ゴミだけを回収する責任も担う。

写真提供：労働安全衛生環境部奥部

The preinspection was conducted several days prior to the event at specific shops and codes to evaluate if their items met the requirements of the collection event. There were a few items that required additional documentation and processing outside the scope of the event, so information was provided to personnel to explain the process. The pre-inspection process was extremely beneficial and allowed the team to have a preview of what they could expect to see on collection day. It also allowed the team to inform personnel of disposal procedures for items outside the scope, according to the OSHE Department.

The event was based on a normal Japanese cultural custom. Local Japanese neighborhoods periodically have small privately owned trucks or vans called "*haihin kaishu-sha* (waste pick-up car)" that slowly drives through the neighborhood playing music and announcing through a loud speaker that they will pick-up all discarded electronic appliance items. Upon hearing the music and announcement, neighborhood residents will take their old electronic items to the vehicle.

The SRF-JRMC event strategy incorporated this Japanese custom by using a five-ton truck designated as the SRF-JRMC "*haihin kaishu-sha*," which travelled on a pre-announced route and time schedule, collecting small appliances from SRF-JRMC shops and codes. When the vehicle arrived at a designated stop it played "*We have tomorrow*," a song sung by Kyu Sakamoto, a famous Japanese singer also known for singing the familar song "*Sukiyaki*," to announce that the crew is ready to receive solid waste disposal items. The song was selected as the result of a promotional contest held prior to the event.

The team collected more than 8,000 pounds of recyclable solids. All recyclables were transported to Commander, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka (CFAY) Public Works Department (PWD) Environmental Recycling Center for inclusion into the Qualified Recycling Program (QRP). There was no cost associated with the disposal and no manifesting required for disposal of solid waste.

Wade Mirick, environmental protection specialist, and Shuichi Tamura, engineering technician environmental, both assigned to the Environmental Support Services Branch were instrumental in organizing and executing the event.

Mirick said that it was a real challenge coordinating the event, but with the great support that was given by all SRF-JRMC team members involved and with the outstanding partnership that was established with CFAY PWD Environmental Recycling Center, that challenge was made much easier.

"That great support and partnership really ensured that the event was a great success and helped in accomplishing the goal of increasing proper solid waste awareness and disposal throughout the SRF-JRMC community," Mirick said.

"The event was held despite strong wind and heavy rain. Regardless of the bad weather conditions, we are glad that the event was completed safely and successfully," said Tamura.

The teamwork between the CFAY Recycling Center and SRF-JRMC Environmental Division was instrumental to the success of the event because SRF-JRMC was able to stage the collected items until the Recycling Center could implement its recycling process. It was encouraging to all involved that the two environmental departments could work toward a common goal of fighting improper waste disposal.

According to Deleston, there were multiple benefits: SRF-JRMC increased personnel awareness; valuable space was made available in the shops and codes as solid waste was removed; safety in the shops and codes was increased as clutter was removed; and the event built a network of environmentally friendly personnel.

"We are hoping that through continuous awareness, SRF-JRMC personnel will continue to use the proper disposal processes for solid waste," Deleston said. "With the high operation tempo and priorities at SRF-JRMC, this type of collection event can ease the burden on shop and code personnel involved in ship repair and maintenance so the option to make this an annual event is open. The event required planning, preparation, coordination and teamwork. All parties must be willing to support and execute as planned."

SRF-JRMCの廃品回収：集めた粗大ゴミも適切に廃棄

文：安達慶一、CFAY広報課

2010年末、艦船修理廠及び日本地区造修統括本部(SRF-JRMC)の労働安全衛生環境部と工場管理部の従業員がいわゆる廃品回収、粗大ゴミの廃棄を行った。

これに先駆け同年早期には米海軍太平洋施設技術本部の監査員がSRF-JRMC施設にあるフェンスに沿って日本環境管理基準を満たして粗大ゴミが適切に収集され廃棄されているかの環境品質査察が行われた。

SRF-JRMC環境支援サービス課・課長のナザニエル・デルストンさんは廃品回収の目的は従業員の喚起の向上させ、SRF-JRMC施設内の不当な粗大ゴミの廃棄削減にあると話し、こう加えた。「粗大ゴミの不適切な処分は従業員が適切な廃棄手順と廃棄場所を理解していないことに多々、一因があるといえます。」

監査の前に工場管理部は検査支援を行った。支援にはフォークリフト作業、車両運行作業、情報満載なチラシの配布のアシストも含まれ、その活躍は目を見張るものがあった。

粗大ゴミの回収に向け、数日間かけて事前検査が特定部署で行われた。検査では粗大ゴミが回収基準に適しているかを調査、その結果、回収品の中には追加書類と今回の回収範囲外の手順を要するものが多少見つかった。事前検査は大変有益であり、回収チームは回収日当日に何を回収するかを知り、更に回収範囲外の品目の廃棄手順を従業員に伝えることもできたと労働安全衛生環境部は話す。

Designated support personnel, whose duties included providing environmental awareness and accepting only pre-screened waste items, prepare to travel in a crew cab truck behind the SRF-JRMC "*haihin kaishuu-sha*."

Photo courtesy of SRF-JRMC OSHE Department

廃品回収車の担当者が予め回収可能検査を受けた粗大ゴミだけを回収するよう確認する。

写真提供：労働安全衛生環境部奥部

この廃品回収イベントは日本社会文化の慣例に基づいて行われた。日本の近隣地域では定期的に廃品回収車と呼ばれる小型トラックが音楽を鳴らしながら、不必要な電化製品の回収をスピーカーで呼びかけながらゆっくりと徘徊する。音楽とアナウンスが聞こえると、近隣の住人は古くなった電化製品を廃品回収車に持ち寄る。

SRF-JRMCでの廃品回収にこの日本式を取り入れ、５トントラックを回収車として起用し、予め定めたルートと時間帯に廃棄物を回収した。SRF-JRMCの回収車が設定箇所に到着の際には、「上を向いて歩こう」で有名な歌手・坂本九さんの「明日があるさ」が流れ、回収チームが粗大ゴミの受け取りのアナウンスをした。同曲は廃品回収プロモーションコンテストで選ばれたという。

結果、チームは3.6トン以上のリサイクル廃品を回収した。全てのリサイクルの廃品は認定リサイクプログラムとして基地司令部営繕部門環境リサイクルセンターに搬出された。廃品への経費はかからない。

環境支援サービス課の環境保護専門職のウェイド・ミリックさんと環境技術専門職の田村修一さんの２名が廃品回収の指揮を担当した。

回収の調整はとてもやりがいのあるものだったが、回収に関わったチームメンバーによる多大な支援と基地司令部営繕部門環境リサイクルセンターとのパートナーシップによって無事に回収作業ができたとミリックさんは語り、こう続けた。「多大な支援とパートナーシップが回収の成功を確実にし、SRF-JRMC社会を通じて適切な粗大ゴミに対する意識と廃棄の向上というゴール達成の手立てになりました。」

「廃品回収は強風で激しい雨の中で行われました。悪天候にもかかわらず、回収が安全に成功裏に終えたことに満足です」と田村さん。

基地司令部営繕部門環境リサイクルセンターとSRF-JRMC環境支援サービス課のチームワークは重要な役割を果たしている。リサイクルセンターが認定リサイクプログラムを続ける限りSRF-JRMCで廃品回収が実施できる。２つの環境部門が不当な廃棄を撲滅させるという共通のゴールに向かうことはとても素晴らしいことである。

デルストンさんによるとSRF-JRMC従業員の意識の向上、不用品の除去による部署の貴重なスペースの確保、整頓による職場の安全、そして環境に取組む従業員同士のネットワークの構築など、このイベントは多くの恩恵があったという。「SRF-JRMC従業員が継続的な意識を維持させ、粗大ゴミを適切に廃棄してくれることを望みます。ハイテンポと優先順位が伴うSRFJRMCの作業環境において、この種の廃品回収活動は艦船修理や整備に関わる部署従業員の負担を軽減させます。この取り組みは恒例にもなり得るのです。尤も廃品回収の実行には多大な計画、準備、チームワークが必要です。計画通りの実行には関係者全員の協力が欠かせないのです。」