# FISC provides basewide, behind the scenes support

**Story and photos by Blake Vives, CFAY Public Affairs**

Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY) residents and employees unknowingly benefit from the efforts of U.S. Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Yokosuka's Material Support Office. Providing more than 600 essential stock items, the Material Support Office is behind the scenes supplying CFAY residents and shore commands with the material needed to keep everything from industrial cranes to home clothes dryers running.

"Basically, we impact everybody on this base," said Acting Material Support Office Director Ed Malyvong. "Everything you see used at a CFAY shore activity usually involves us in one way or another. For example, the buildings you live or work in, or the road you are driving on, involve us indirectly."

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Far East specializes in construction, maintenance and repair services and the Material Support Office supplies the tools and materials NAVFAC Far East needs to perform these services.

"Our primary mission is to support NAVFAC Far East and satisfy all of its material requirements," said Malyvong. "We support three major departments: transportation, maintenance and utilities. Since 2008, we have also assumed the responsibility of supplying Naval Maritime Construction Detachment Underwater Construction Team Two (UCT-2) Air Detachment Bravo, during their routine deployments to Yokosuka."

Material Support Office's products range from building materials, heavy equipment parts and hazardous materials, to home appliances and even repair parts for the community buses. Their services include preparing supply documentation, coordination for contracting support, material procurement, storage, packing, shipping and processing excess material through Defense Reutilization Management Office (DRMO) or recycling.

"Our motto is very simple; we just took the FISC motto, 'ready, responsive, resourceful,' because that's what we are and that's what we do best," said Malyvong. "Think of us when you are at home or work; we are here providing you support."

The work of the Material Support Office can be seen in front of the newly dedicated James D. Kelly Fleet Recreation Center.

"We also provide short notice support. For example, the admiral's sign in front of the Fleet Recreation Center: NAVFAC Far East requested it and let us know it was needed immediately and that's where our people jumped in," said Malyvong. "We made sure the contract went through and that it was delivered on the correct date and to the correct location."

**NAVFAC Far East employees prepare to lift an industrial winch into place to be utilized by Naval Maritime Construction Detachment UCT-2 Air Detachment Bravo to reinstall fleet moorings in Truman Bay across from berth 18. The FISC Material Support Office supplies both NAVFAC Far East and UCT-2, when deployed to Yokosuka, with the materials needed to complete critical missions.**

**FISC Material Support Office employee Yamashita Hiroshi loads pallets onto a truck to be reused. Finding commands to reuse pallets instead of paying to dispose of them is an example of the many ways the Material Support Office strives to reduce waste for operational efficiency.**

Many products from the Material Support Office are also present in unexpected locations throughout Fleet Activities Yokosuka.

"Pool season starts in May and the current pool filters need to be replaced," said Malyvong. "That's where our team comes in and supplies NAVFAC Far East with new pool filters to ensure the pools open on time."

Providing material support for shore commands and base residents presents different challenges from those encountered by other FISC departments which support afloat commands.

"Our emergency may not be the same as another department's emergency," said Malyvong. "If a family's washing machine breaks, if a pipe carrying the base's water supply breaks or if the community bus needs a part - these are our emergencies. We make sure we have the parts available so the maintenance and repairs can be done for these types of emergencies."

Malyvong credits the Material Support Office's efficient and timely operation to his dedicated team of employees.

"All of my employees are very professional; the least experienced Material Support Office employee has been here 13 years," said Malyvong. "They are the real subject matter experts. I am just here to make sure everything keeps running."

# FISC Fuels personnel awarded navywide API distinctions

**By H. Sam Samuelson, FISC Office of Corporate Communication**

Awards for handling fuel may not carry the Hollywood prestige of the Oscars but U.S. Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Yokosuka Fuels Department Director Lt. Cmdr. Matt Holman says that's fine. "American Petroleum Institute's (API) 2008 annual awards are not a popularity contest; they are our industry's highest measures of concrete accomplishments in fuels safety and efficiency."

Take it from the professionals, when it comes to volatile liquids, you want safety and efficiency.

Commander Naval Supply Systems Command announced last week three FISC Yokosuka employees earned API distinctions for 2008: Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate Fuel (SW/AW) Ryan Hirahara was named Fuels Individual Navy Chief Petty Officer of the Year and Aviation Boatswain's Mate 1st Class (SW/AW) Wilbert Ty was named Fuels Individual Runner-up Petty Officer of the Year. Also, FISC Kanto Plain Area Fuels Director Brian Dodson was nominated for individual Navy Civilian of the Year.

"The fuels community holds its breath each year to see who will be nominated," said Holman. "We're very proud. Chief Hirahara and I will attend the API awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. next week and I'm deeply honored to take part in this highly visible recognition of both his and ABF1 Ty's accomplishments."

Hirahara's accomplishments as Deputy Director of the Sasebo Fuels Division include the acquisition and management of more than $14 million in funding for restoration and modernization projects.

"He continually pressed forward with new, innovative methods and actually avoided costs of close to $1.5 million," said Holman.

Ty, who works locally as military liaison with 34 Japanese foremen and other employees, is responsible for planning, scheduling and executing all fuel shipping and receipt operations on the Kanto Plain. He personally supervised the safe receipt, storage and transfer of more than 200 million gallons of petroleum products valued at $800 million to Department of Defense (DoD) units throughout central Japan. "Petty Officer Ty is an exceptional leader; his API award is well-deserved," said Holman.

FISC Yokosuka stores and distributes about 10 percent of all defense-managed fuel worldwide making it the largest fuel department in the DoD, not just Navy. Despite having no automated fuel handling equipment, the fuels staff of more than 300 employees and technicians supported 163 individual customers in 2008, with 4,679 high-risk fuel handling evolutions totaling 519 million gallons dispensed – all without incident. The Fuels Department also offloaded more than 1.5 million gallons of fuel from forward-deployed ships at a cost savings of $6.7 million.

FISC Yokosuka's accomplishments were recognized last year when the API awarded FISC the Best Navy Bulk Fuel Terminal Award.

Holman said this year's API award winners Hirahara and Ty were significant contributors to the Fuels Department's heady achievements. "Chief Hirahara's and Petty Officer Ty's successes are all the more impressive in this light and reflect the extraordinary professionalism and dedication of our fuels team throughout Japan."

## New policy gives spouses PCS pounds

Effective Jan. 12, 2009, Military spouses will be given a weight allowance for professional books, papers and equipment (PBP&E) during a permanent change of station (PCS) move.

This newly established spousal PBP&E policy is only slightly different from the military PBP&E policy.

Spousal PBP&E must be itemized in a list describing the profession or community service for which each item is used. The list must be certified by the service member and provided to the U.S. Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Yokosuka Personal Property Office for final approval.

Spousal PBP&E must be weighed separately from the service member's PBP&E and annotated as "spouse PBP&E" on the descriptive inventory.

Spousal PBP&E is limited to 500 pounds net weight according to Joint Federal Travel Regulation U5310.C2.

This policy is only applicable to military spouses. Contact the FISC Yokosuka Personal Property Office at 243-6311 for more information.