Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan

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GreenGov Presidential Awards honors CFAY

Story and photo by Joe Schmitt, CFAY Public Affairs

Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY) won a category of the Lean, Clean and Green award at the 2012 GreenGov Presidential Awards at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building in Washington D.C., Sept. 24. Representatives from CFAY attended the event and received the award on behalf of the command.

This is the third annual award ceremony honoring those who have made efforts to lead the federal government in environmental, energy and economic performance, which is in compliance with President Barack Obama's Executive Order 13514, signed in 2009.

In his order Obama stated, "...As the largest consumer of energy in the U.S. economy, the Federal Government can and should lead by example when it comes to creating innovative ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy efficiency, conserve water, reduce waste, and use environmentally-responsible products and technology."

CFAY was the only U.S. Navy command honored at the event for fiscal year 2011, during which CFAY reduced its installation energy demand by 25 percent through awareness and action. The Base Energy Management team informed the public on different ways to reduce demand and worked with commands, ashore and afloat, to reduce electricity used or reschedule it to off-peak hours.

"It really was a group effort, we can put that information out there, but it took everyone making a contribution to make a real difference," said CFAY Energy Project Developer Michael Gabiga, "We asked people to set their air conditioners at a certain level, we asked them to do laundry at night during off peak hours, we asked them to think about what they actually need to run, to turn off unneeded lights or appliances, and everyone pitched in and did their part."

Electric power dispatcher foreman A. Hideji Kawasaki, operates the supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system to balance an electrical load inside the Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY) SCADA control room March 28, 2011. Members of the CFAY community were working to reduce the amount of power the base uses to help alleviate the electricity shortages after the nuclear reactors at Fukushima Daiichi power plants were damaged during the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami that hit northern Japan on March 1.

CFAY was also working under a mandate from the Government of Japan to reduce its electrical draw after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami damaged the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant. The Tokyo Electric Power Company mandated the reduction to lessen the burden put on Japan's power grid. CFAY, tenant commands and ships in port succeeded in reducing the installation's usage by more than the mandated amount for a total of 25 percent reduction.

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West's last hooyah, Stevens takes helm

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Michael D. Stevens accepts the ceremonial cutlass from the Navy's 12th MCPON, Rick D. West, during a change of office ceremony at the Washington Navy Yard Sept. 28.
U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Thomas L. Rosprim

By MCC (SW/AW) Sonya Ansarov, Office of the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy

WASHINGTON – Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) (SS/SW) Rick D. West gave his last 'HOOYAH' during the change-of-office ceremony at the Washington Navy Yard Sept. 28.

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert was the guest speaker for the ceremony and highlighted MCPON West's accomplishments during his naval career while thanking him for his leadership.

"MCPON West, you made the Navy better through your willingness to listen and learn," said Greenert. "I watched you firsthand in the Pacific Fleet, at U.S. Fleet Forces, as VCNO, and I had the honor to serve with you for one year as CNO. MCPON West had the heartbeat of the Navy. Sailors communicated with him. He challenged Sailors and they loved it."

The ceremony marked the end of a nearly 32-year career for West, who had served as the 12th MCPON since Dec. 12, 2008. During his time as MCPON, West instituted the Senior Enlisted Continuation Board, introduced CPO 365, and implemented the mandatory enlisted warfare designation.

"MCPON West made a difference and led by example. He made a tangible improvement in our Navy," said Greenert. "I say to you and Bobbi (wife), thank you very much and our nation and our Navy thanks you."

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INSIDE

Curtis Wilbur Sailors feed Yokohoma homeless

***USS Curtis Wilbur* (DDG 54) Sailors volunteered to feed homeless at the Kotobuki Worker's Welfare Association shelter in Kotobuki-cho, Yokohama, Japan Sept. 18.**

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CFAY command fitness leaders achieve certification

Navy Fitness personnel attended a meal at the CFAY Adm. Matthew C. Perry general mess Sept. 12 and were presented the new Navy nutritional guide call Navy Operational Fitness and Fueling Series.

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