



CFAY declares Environmental Management System conformance

By Mark Elrod, CFAY Public Affairs

Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY) recently implemented its environmental management program when CFAY Commanding Officer Capt. Daniel Weed signed the Environmental Management System (EMS) declaration of conformance to ISO 14001 Environmental Management Standards.

ISO 14001 Environmental Management Standards specify requirements for creating environmental policy such as: determining aspects and impacts of products, activities and services on the environment; planning environmental objectives and measurable targets; implementation and operation of programs to meet objectives and targets; checking and corrective action, and management review.

“The purpose of the Environmental Management System is to help facilitate pollution prevention and maintain the integrity of the environment through a systematic and dedicated program for environmental management,” said Weed.

The EMS is basewide, but it needs the cooperation of individual commands to make it work.

“It’s an installation program, but it’s up to the [commands] to implement it within their work centers,” said CFAY Public Works Department Environmental Director Ronald M. Rossetti. “It’s a proactive system as opposed to a reactive system.”

Though some U.S. Army and Marine bases have already signed declarations of conformance, CFAY is the first U.S. Navy base in Japan to do so.

“Because we are one of the first bases in Japan to actually have this program installed, we’re going to be able

Installations Command Environmental award, CFAY has been proactive with matters concerning the environment and conformance to EMS helps demonstrate the commitment to taking care of the environment of Japan.

“I think we’ve made significant progress in the environmental management and monitoring in Japan and I hope this continues for many years,” said Weed.

“This is not going away. This is a program that is going to stay and we’re going to make a conscious effort to make sure that it stays in place,” said Aviation Boatswains Mate Fuels 1st Class (AW/SW) Joseph Determan of Fleet Industrial Supply Center, Yokosuka, who is a cross-functional team member, and acts as a liaison between the EMS team and tenant commands within the CFAY area of responsibility.

According to Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Far East Environmental Engineer and CFAY Public Works Department (PWD) Environmental Division EMS Manager Yoko Echizen, it took approximately two years to get the program ready for implementation.

“It’s a testimony to our environmental team [members] who have worked very hard to make this program successful,” said Weed.

“They have kept focused on this project for over an extended period of time and many of the congratulations go to their hard work and the fine people who work at the [PWD] Environmental Division.”



CFAY Commanding Officer Capt. Daniel Weed signs the EMS declaration of conformance to ISO 14001 Environmental Management Standards while EMS Liaison ABF1 Joseph Determan of FISC Yokosuka, NAVFACFE Environmental Engineer and CFAY PWD Environmental Division EMS Manager Yoko Echizen and CFAY PWD Environmental Director Ronald M. Rossetti look on.

Photo by Yuji Kawabe

to take a systematic and rigorous approach to maintaining environmental monitoring and, hopefully, it will be able to be replicated at other bases within Japan,” Weed said.

As evidenced by winning the Commander Naval

Talisman Saber exercise builds international teamwork aboard GW

By MC2 John J. Mike, USS George Washington Public Affairs

Australian service members embarked on board *USS George Washington (GW) (CVN 73)* for Exercise Talisman Saber 09 (TS09) are working side by side with U.S. Sailors to enhance air operations.

TS09 gives *GW* Carrier Strike Group and Royal Australian Navy (RAN) forces a chance to improve their working relationship as strong allies in the Pacific region, said RAN Cmdr. Neill Bell, the Australian liaison officer for *GW*.

“The most important thing about TS09 is it lets Australia strengthen its ties with the Navy and increase interoperability through the sharing of knowledge,” said Bell, one of seven Australian military personnel currently embarked on board the Navy’s only permanently forward-deployed aircraft carrier.

Royal Australian Air Force Flight Lt. Catherine Rubin is sharing her experience to help *GW* Sailors better understand the details of Australian flight operations.

“The U.S. and Australia have a lot in common when it comes to flying aircraft,” said Rubin, who performs duties similar to U.S. Navy air traffic controllers. “However, there are certain guidelines pilots have to obey while flying in Australian airspace.”

One example that embarked Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 5 pilots might encounter during

TS09 is the subtle differences in flight boundary rules.

“In Australia, aircraft have to maintain a buffer zone of two-and-a-half nautical miles and an altitude of at least 1,000 feet for boundaries near civil airspace,” Rubin said. “Typically in the U.S., pilots have free range within operational boundaries.”

Operations Specialist 1st Class (SW) Ennis Hooker, an air intercept controller with CVW 5 operations, said learning about these differences helps service members from both countries work better as a team.

“I’ve also been able to work with Lt. Rubin and other Australians to show them how the Navy does certain things differently, like talking to pilots, so we can accomplish our mission,” said Hooker.

He said a concise form of English is spoken to pilots in the air, in which unnecessary words are omitted so information can be transmitted quickly.

“Our two countries communicate with aircraft in almost the same way, but there are minor differences,” Hooker said. “By working together like this, we are able to teach each other our respective ways.”

Bell agreed that a strong U.S.-Australian relationship is important and exercises like TS09 make both sides stronger through the exchange of methods and ideas.

“We’ve brought a lot of good things to *GW*, and I know we will take home a lot more,” Bell said.



(Left) Northern Command Operations Officer Cmdr. Darren Grogan and Australian Defense Force 82nd Wing Logistics Engineering Officer Wing Cmdr. Greg Rawlinson observe flight operations from the signal bridge aboard *USS George Washington (CVN 73)* during exercise Talisman Saber July 15. U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Phillip Pavlovich

YOKOSUKA FRIENDSHIP DAY

AUG. 1, 10 A.M. - 8 P.M.