

Truman habitability team pushes forward, achieves success

By MC3 Darren Moore| USS Harry S. Truman Public Affairs

PORTSMOUTH-- Sailors aboard USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) lead the way in the ship's habitability efforts during its docked planned incremental availability (DPIA) at Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY) Portsmouth, Sept. 12.

The habitability teams are working their way through a total of 55 berthing spaces, installing 2,500 racks, replacing 46,000 square feet of deck and painting 106,000 square feet of spaces.

According to Chief Aviation Ordnanceman (AW/SW) Sampson Keaton, habitability team leading chief petty officer, from Knoxville, Tenn., the work the habitability team completes is not glamorous, but it is rewarding.

"They come to work knowing they're going to be dirty from head to toe when they leave. Knowing this they still maintain a positive attitude about work and the Navy."

Although Sailors on the habitability team are temporarily assigned to the team, they understand the importance of their work.

"Out with the old and in with the new," said Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class Joshua Vital, from Lake Charles, La., a berthing team member. "We are updating racks and electrical sockets. These improvements will improve Sailors' quality of life during Truman's next deployment."

The habitability team's efforts have saved the Navy more than \$6 million in contract labor and material.

Their efforts have not gone unnoticed.

"There's a lot of work being done by the habitability team and it's completed to a high standard," said Capt. Tushar R. Tembe, Truman's Commanding Officer. "They are taking care of a lot of spaces and I couldn't be prouder of them."

Truman is currently undergoing a Docked Planned Incremental Availability (DPIA) to conduct maintenance on and refurbish shipboard systems. Truman is scheduled to return to sea in the summer of 2012.