



Spotlight on: The CFAS Safety Department

Its mission: Enhancing the ability of Commander Fleet Activities Sasebo in maintaining a safe and healthful environment, free of hazards, within which all employees, residents and visitors can safely work, live and play. The CFAS Safety Department continually seeks creative and cost-effective processes to raise safety awareness and correct identified hazards.

Safety has racked up an amazing record in ensuring that safety is at the forefront during all evolutions, either on or off duty. (See "Fast Facts" column.) For 13 years, Safety has conducted annual Safety Fairs, serving as a one-stop shop for departments and tenant commands to receive required General Military Training in all key areas of safety.

The department brought online ESAMS (Enterprise Safety Applications Management System), designed for managers to track safety training. The system also will track inventories, tell managers when training is due for employees and send reminders for training, required physical examinations and other special requirements. A question about safety? Interested in any safety-related course of instruction? Check out ESAMS.

One of the department's big initiatives is "101 Days of Summer Safety." This comprehensive program is in place because the summer season experiences the highest rate of injuries, particularly during off-duty hours. Safety delivers weekly specialty messages to the CFAS



community on AFN and on the CFAS Web site, stressing off-duty safety.

The Safety Department is all about stats. Why? Statistics can point to trends. When Safety identifies a trend it triggers the team to do something about it. For example, in recent years intramural softball was taking its toll on the feet, ankles and legs of its players.

Safety's recommendation to MWR was to begin using breakaway bases and implement a mandatory slide rule instead of running into a catcher when trying to score. The result: a significant decrease in related injuries.

Safety is here to assist managers and supervisors to ensure their employees have a safe place to work live and play.

—Fast Facts—

- Recipient of nine consecutive Commander Naval Forces Japan gold awards for safety
- Winner of 2005 and 2006 SECNAV and CNO Safety Awards (overseas installation)
- Issues 3,000-3,500 SOFA drivers licenses each year
- Issues 30-40 motorcycle licenses annually
- Conducts monthly basic and experienced rider Motorcycle Safety Foundation courses

In Their Own Words

“I enjoy working in the Safety Department because I can share my knowledge on traffic safety, law, information and rules with personnel wanting to obtain a Japanese driver's license. I believe my knowledge better prepares them for driving in Japan and it makes me feel good to make a difference.**”**

Ikuko Murata
Safety Dept. Japanese employee

Local Talent

The Safety Department is staffed by two Department of the Navy civilian employees and nine Japanese employees. The department relies heavily on the on-going efforts of 40 departmental or tenant command safety representatives. (They'll also take any community member's suggestion that might assist in creating an even safer working or recreational environment.)

