

CHIPS: In Dr. Myers' article she talked about the locations (CONUS/OCONUS) for the bandwidth expansion. Will the Fleet be able to share in this bandwidth expansion?

Ms. McCoy: This technology will support all warfighting. What we are talking about is ensuring that, as we transform and move to a net-centric environment, we have sufficient means and bandwidth to move the information wherever it's needed. So it would be applicable to all. What we have to work is how we get that information to the tactical level, to a warfighter on a ship or even one who could potentially be on horseback, so to speak.

CHIPS: Let's talk about the work of Applications Engineering ...

Ms. McCoy: The mission of the Applications Engineering Directorate is to provide responsive, secure and interoperable C2 and combat support capability for decision superiority to the President and Secretary of Defense, Combatant Commanders, Joint/Combined task forces, Services, Department of Defense and non-DoD agencies.

We provide a wide range of products, services and expertise. I already mentioned the Global Command and Control System which is DoD's Joint and interoperable C2 system, and the Defense Collaboration Tool Suite. These are providing situational awareness, readiness, planning, deployment support, collaboration and other capabilities for Combatant Commanders, JTF Commanders and below — today. The Global Combat Support System's (GCSS) Combatant Commander JTF (CC-JTF) capability is using portal technology with links to Service and Agency logistics and sustainment systems, to provide DoD users access to shared data, and applications, regardless of their location.

Over the next few years we are transforming the successful Common Operating Environment (COE) to fit OSD's Net-Centric Enterprise Services (NCES) concept. COE is currently used or planned to be used for/in 125 C2 systems and in support of GCCS, at 650 locations worldwide on 10,000+ joint and coalition workstations. The net-centric capabilities we provide will support the Power to the Edge vision of having tailored, fused information and tools available on the net, effectively supporting users wherever they are and with the means available to them.

In the Information Assurance area we are supporting "Defense-in-Depth" with expertise, products and services such as PKI, network and communications security, plus guards for cross-domain (e.g., Unclassified to Secret) and coalition information exchange. In addition to the Homeland Defense ACTD, we are also involved in Multiple Battlespace Awareness, Active Network Intrusion Defense, Coalition Theater Logistics, and C4I for the Coalition Warrior ACTDs, just to name a few. These are providing adaptive decision support, planning, and execution and collaboration tools through experimentation, demonstrations and spiral development. Our partnering with the Combatant Commanders and the operational community is very important. We are also partnered with the Defense Logistics Agency to provide a variety of eBusiness applications and services for paperless contracting, secure business transactions, wide area work flow, and electronic document access. In all these endeavors, we are working hard to provide capabilities that our customers want and use, and we ensure that we always keep in mind the users' experience so we can make our products and services even better.

Revolution Comes to the Teddy Roosevelt Battle Group

By JO2 Jd Walter, NPDC, Public Affairs Office

The USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Battle Group, including the USS Saipan (LHA 2) Amphibious Ready Group, is about to get underway without ever leaving port. Their new mission is to test and evaluate Revolution in Training initiatives designed to enhance the Navy's mission readiness by providing Sailors with new tools and opportunities to develop both professionally and personally. Working with Task Force for Excellence through Commitment to Education and Learning (EXCEL), the battle group will implement and test the Sailor Continuum in an operational environment, as well as test incentives designed to increase performance and productivity. Additionally, the battle group will demonstrate the utility of a new learning management system, Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) that will track each Sailor's accomplishments.

"The innovations being touted by Task Force EXCEL are being driven by the Fleet and are for the Sailors. The acid test has to be at the waterfront. The Navy is bringing the Revolution in Training to Sailors, and it is happening now," said Director of Surface Warfare Rear Adm. Harry Ulrich. "This is the best opportunity to put these ideas and programs to the test." A working group consisting of executive officers (XO), command master chiefs (CMC) and other representatives from the Roosevelt battle group, Saipan ready group, Destroyer Squadron Two, and elements of Carrier Air Wing Eight (CVM 8) recently met in Norfolk, Va., to review and discuss the testing proposal.

"The testing proposals have generated a lot of excitement and enthusiasm," said Capt. Jamie Barnett, project leader for the beta test. "Private industry typically provides incentives for behaviors that enhance performance. That is what we will test within the battle group. We just need to work with the group to precisely define the tasks and how we will measure the outcomes." The goal of this effort is directed at increasing job efficiency and productivity — more time for ship's work by developing each Sailor professionally and personally.



At sea aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Oct. 28, 2002, MM3 Ryan Karlin checks the results of the September 2002 advancement exam for division personnel. U.S. Navy photo by PH3 Phillip Nickerson, Jr.