

## **SOUTHWEST REGIONAL MAINTENANCE CENTER RECEIVES SECRETARY OF THE NAVY 2010 SAFETY EXCELLENCE AWARD, INDUSTRIAL CATEGORY B**

The Honorable Robert O. Work, Under Secretary of the Navy, presented the 2010 Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Safety Excellence Award, Industrial Category B, to Southwest Regional Maintenance Center (SWRMC), San Diego, California, at the 4 October 2010 awards ceremony. The ceremony was held at the Navy Memorial and Naval Heritage Center Theater, Washington, D.C. Receiving the award on behalf of SWRMC was Ms. Cathy Lukens, SWRMC Safety Manager.



The Honorable Robert O. Work presents SECNAV Safety Excellence Award Industrial Category B to Ms. Cathy Lukens, SWRMC Safety Manager at the 2010 awards ceremony. Shown left to right are BG Gary L. Thomas (Assistant Deputy Commandant for Aviation), The Honorable Jackalyn Pfannenstiel (Assistant Secretary of the Navy Energy, Installations & Environment), Ms. Lukens, The Hon. Work, VADM Kevin M. McCoy (Commander, NAVSEA), and VADM John M. Bird (Director, Navy Staff).

The Safety Excellence Awards were established in 2002, by The Honorable Gordon R. England, who twice served as Secretary of the Navy. The awards recognize Navy and Marine Corps commands that demonstrate “extraordinary excellence by sustained mission success with simultaneous exemplary safety performance.” In addition to a citation

and plaque, SECNAV Excellence Award winners receive the Secretary's distinctive safety flag. They are entitled to fly the flag for one year from the date of presentation.



SECNAV Safety Award winners are entitled to fly the safety flag for one year.

Southwest Regional Maintenance Center was in competition with Navy and Marine Corps industrial activities worldwide, with a working population of 1,001 to 3,000. Headquartered at Naval Station, San Diego, California, SWRMC is the largest and most diverse intermediate maintenance activity. The command

provides intermediate level maintenance support to over 100 surface ships and submarines of the U.S. Pacific Fleet and the United States Coast Guard.

Some of the 2009 safety successes that led to the command's selection include:

- Aggressive pursuit of *Star* status under the Occupational Safety and Health Administration Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP). The VPP *Star* award designation indicates that the organization receiving the award has successfully demonstrated ongoing planning, implementation, integration, and control of four interdependent elements: (1) Management Leadership & Employee Involvement; (2) Worksite Analysis; (3) Hazard Prevention & Control; and (4) Safety and Health Training.
- Launch of numerous safety initiatives, such as a monthly safety newsletter, Plan of the Week safety articles, an annual safety fair, and seasonal/holiday stand downs;
- Initiating major [ergonomics](#) projects to reduce heavy lifting and handling injuries; and
- Long-term continuance of mishap rates significantly below the industry average.

For more information on this success story, please contact the Southwest Regional Maintenance Center Safety Office at: (619) 556-2948.