

**NOMINATION FOR FY 2012 CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATION (CNO)**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD CATEGORY:**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY - OVERSEAS**  
**U.S. NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY, NAPLES, ITALY**

**Introduction:** The mission of the United States (US) Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples is to provide quality support to North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and US personnel, activities, and afloat units in its geographic area of responsibility. NSA Naples has a leadership role as the premier Mediterranean support command, fulfilling its mission of sea, air, and land support for the US Naval Forces Europe, US Naval Forces Africa, the US SIXTH Fleet; and NAVFAC EURAFSWA and CNRE EURAFSWA. The total community population is 7,600 (1,900 U.S. Military, 4,470 U.S. Civilians and Dependents, and 1,230 Local National Personnel).



NSA Naples is situated in a region known as the Parthenopean Gulf, which includes the city of Naples at the foot of the Vesuvius Volcano and the famous Pompeii ruins. NSA Naples is comprised of five major locations which cover 354 acres.

NSA Naples Capodichino: An operational facility where the majority of base functions reside. It is adjacent to the Naples International Airport and has a dedicated area for its flight line.

NSA Naples Receiver Site: A small compound located at a NATO facility in Lago Patria, 25 minutes northwest of Capodichino in the province of Naples.

NSA Naples Detachment Gaeta: Located approximately 80 miles northwest of Naples in the Region of Lazio. An Italian Naval facility and homeport to the USS MOUNT WHITNEY (MTW), Flag ship of the US SIXTH FLEET.

NSA Naples Gricignano Support Site: A leased compound 15 miles northeast of Capodichino located in the Province of Caserta. Approximately 200 acres, it includes residential units and community support facilities for US personnel.

Carney Park: This leased 96-acre recreational park is located in the Campi Flegrei Regional Park and provides a variety of facilities and programs for US military and civilian members. This unique facility is completely within the crater of an extinct volcano.



**Background:** Public Works Department (PWD) Environmental (ENV) provides support services directly to the base Commanding Officer (CO). The base CO is committed to protecting the environment and has charged every member of NSA Naples with the responsibility to improve environmental quality by preventing impacts to the environment. Through the implementation of Environmental Management Systems (EMS), the NSA Naples community undergoes a continuous check on environmental compliance and continually improves their significant aspects (Waste Management, Pollution Prevention, Utilities Conservation and Hazardous Material Management) to meet command objectives and targets. By incorporating root cause analysis corrective actions are developed, when required, resulting in improvement of environmental quality programs. Other challenges include effective communication of EMS awareness to a workforce with a high turnover rate, a language barrier with an Italian workforce of approximately 50% and addressing water issues which affect NSA Naples Detachment Gaeta during the rainy season. Addressing these environmental challenges is the responsibility of the PWD ENV staff comprised of 7 full-time civilians (4 US, 3 Italian) and 2 military members. The environmental management approach is to ensure mission readiness through environmental compliance to the Final Governing Standards (FGS) for Italy centered on the EMS. Currently NSA Naples maintains conformance to ISO 14001.

To effectively implement the EMS, communicate environmental responsibilities and provide environmental training, PWD ENV initiated the following:

- Environmental Quality Board (EQB). Bi-annual meeting chaired by NSA Naples CO for active engagement with Department Heads and key tenants to address environmental issues from a top management perspective which may direct local policy changes.
- Environmental Committee (EC). Quarterly meetings chaired by the Public Works Officer with Environmental Representatives from each Command. The purpose of this meeting is to address environmental issues, communicate lessons learned, provide training and solicit ideas for EMS improvement at the deckplate level.

Listed below are some of the more significant environmental plans and documents utilized to provide guidance for an effective environmental quality program:

- EMS Manual. Includes the Environmental Management Procedure documents to ensure the effectiveness of environmental programs and

describes how the requirements of ISO 14001 are addressed (updated MAY 2012).

- Internal Assessment Documentation. Documents the results of an internal environmental compliance assessment at NSA Naples (updated JUN 2012).

- NSA Naples Environmental Policy. Describes the command's commitment to the protection of the environment (signed by Base CO 21 AUG 2012).

- Standards of Excellence (OCT 2012). Bi-annual report documents the results of an environmental assessment for compliance to the Final Governing Standards (FGS) for Italy.

- Drinking Water Sanitary Survey (JUN 2011). Examines drinking water systems and identifies discrepancies and recommendations for corrective actions.

### **Accomplishments**

**WASTE MANAGEMENT:** Total Hazardous Waste (HW) generated in FY12 was 209,000 pounds (lbs). HW Management successes included recycling 139,000 lbs of hazardous waste through the National Consortium which required the disposal of only 70,000 lbs. This resulted in recycling 66% of HW materials and exceeded the EMS target goal of 2% waste diversion for FY12. Examples of improved waste management:

- A coordinated effort with the National Consortium resulted in their sampling and analysis for the characterization and disposal of waste oil from 15 transformers. They recycled 26,000 lbs of transformer oil at a savings of \$18,000 and 90,000 lbs of scrap metal (transformers) at a saving of \$100,000 which resulted in a total savings of \$118,000 to the US Navy.



- HW recycling - In FY 12, recycling of HW used oil increased by 23% and recycling of toner cartridge increased by 17% from FY11.

- To improve ENV quality and eliminate health risk to personnel, fencing was installed at the ENV storage area to prevent improper dumping of unknown HW. This initiative resulted in the elimination of unnecessary costs for testing and disposal of potential unknown HW materials.

- To better support the Fleet, ENV coordinated with Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) to expedite the HW removal process at NSA

Naples Detachment Gaeta which enabled the USS MTW and visiting ships to the port of Naples to quickly offload HW.

- Solid Waste (SW) reduction - Increased recycling awareness resulted in a rise of the SW recycling rate by 70% in FY12. This exceeded the 50% diversion requirement per Executive Order 13514 and the EMS recycling target of 2% set for FY12.



**POLLUTION PREVENTION:** The improved environmental compliance inspection system had a positive impact on reducing hazardous substance spills. Objectives and targets to increase training, to reduce the number of spills and to report spills were met. Inspection results were shared with base personnel to increase their participation in pollution prevention initiatives. Examples include:

- Twelve newly acquired electric vehicles are anticipated to significantly reduce fuel use and risk of fuel spills.
- In order to minimize production and disposal of oily water, absorbent rolls were installed in all underground storage tanks sumps at Capodichino. Periodic checks showed a reduction from 1,477 pounds reported in FY11 to 165 pounds in FY12, an 89% reduction of oily water disposed of as special liquid waste meeting the EMS target.
- Pollution Prevention Awareness and Trainings: On the spot training on spill prevention and storm water pollution prevention Best Management Practices (BMPs) have been conducted throughout the FY12. The target to identify and train the majority of Navy personnel handling hazardous substances at NSA Naples was met for FY12.
- Spill Cards were distributed base wide to inform all personnel on what to do in the event of a spill and ensure a quick response to minimize environmental impacts. Spill cards include emergency telephone numbers with response actions in English and Italian.
- Prescription Drug Turn-In Day: Two events in FY12 allowed military/civilian members and their families to turn in expired prescription drugs to prevent disposal into the sanitary sewer and eliminate risk of potential drug misuse.
- Buses provided for transportation in accordance with agency regulations between Capodichino and support sites reduced the number of vehicles on the road therefore reducing pollution.

**UTILITY CONSERVATION:** In FY12 a new 300 kilowatt (KW) Solar Photovoltaic system was installed on the west parking garage at Capodichino. It will capture energy from the sun and is projected to produce approximately 390 megawatt hours (MWh) per year of "clean" energy.

Electricity consumption decreased from 60,862 MWh in FY11 to 60,162 MWh in FY12, a reduction in consumption by 1%. NSA's ability to implement additional clean energy projects was significantly handicapped by the Italian Government's elimination of subsidies which made the projects economically viable.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIAL MANAGEMENT:** Hazardous Material (HM) reduction was increased with product substitution implemented as a result of careful analysis and the requirement to meet NSA Naples EMS targets of a 5% reduction. Examination of the Installation's Authorized Use List (AUL) by PWD ENV, Safety and Fire Department led to the removal of over 100 hazardous products from the AUL. Also, over 1800 lbs of HALON 1211 was turned into the DLA strategic stockpile for re-use; costs borne by DLA. Examples of improved HM management:

- In the last two years, PWD ENV ensured Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) included significant environmental aspects by carefully analyzing all the facility's processes and ensuring process owners maintain updated SOPs. Operational controls were inserted into the Single Platform MAXIMO software which produced task sheets that PWD maintenance operators read daily prior to performing work or Preventive Maintenance Inspections.
- To ensure document control, a document classification system was developed and made accessible on a shared drive to enhance organizational document retrieval and consistency of reports.
- Continued improvement of EMS led to identifying a waste water discharge violation at the Carney Park swimming pool and subsequent backwash procedure modification. A corrective action modification resulted in addressing the illicit discharge into the soil.
- The installation's pro-active model for environmental compliance, enforcement and monitoring went beyond meeting statutory or regulatory requirements. The installation not only maintained compliance but continually sought to improve EMS and exceed the significant aspect targets and objectives.

During FY12 evaluation cycles, considerable progress was made towards improving EMS significant aspects and program management. Noteworthy accomplishments include:

- Drinking Water Board: Meetings held monthly, as directed by the base CO, and attended by key players as designated by the regional instruction to address issues related to the drinking water program. In FY12, 83% of all water deficiencies (112 of 134 deficiencies) on the drinking water installation priority list were closed as a result of leadership focus and regular monthly meetings.

- Through partnership with the City of Gaeta and the Italian Base Commanding Officer, PWD ENV implemented a notification process to inform U.S. personnel stationed in Gaeta of non-potability and high turbidity in the Gaeta city water supply. This process ensured rapid notification of PWD ENV and base leadership and ensured personnel and their family members stationed in Gaeta were quickly advised of the situation to protect their health and safety.

- HW reduction - The Pollution Prevention Annual Data Summary report showed disposal of HW dropped from 162,882 lbs reported in FY11 to 70,073 in FY12 (a 57% reduction).

- Tier I, II, III Inspection programs to verify compliance with applicable Environmental requirements were established and implemented. Specific media compliance checklists were developed and roles and responsibilities were assigned per NSA Naples EMS Manual. Inspection results, including preventive and corrective actions and root cause analysis, were recorded and used to evaluate media trends, strengths and weaknesses, and challenges in meeting compliance requirements and EMS objectives and targets.



- All new NSA Naples employees were required to attend an ENV brief during the indoctrination Area Orientation. The ENV brief is held bi-weekly to provide information on EMS, Command environmental policy and environmental goals to new arrivals.

- Facility-wide environmental training was improved by enhancing access to the Environmental Compliance Assessment, Training, and Tracking System (ECATTS) and by making select modules a base-wide requirement.

- Environmental initiated participation in the Base Safety Stand Down in FY12 where EMS awareness, Environmental responsibilities, Command environmental policy and Base's significant aspects were presented to over 1700 personnel in a two week period, with sessions in English and Italian.

- Annual combined EMS and Compliance Internal Audit conducted in FY12 to verify compliance with Environmental requirements and conformance to EMS. In preparation of FY13 External Assessment, more stringent audit criteria were adopted and higher goals were set.

- Joint exercises in spill response were conducted with members of the Italian Navy at NSA Naples Detachment Gaeta bi-annually. EMS awareness is included as part of training agenda.



- ENV partnered with the base community by hosting an Earth Day event which included participation by 21 tenant commands; each sponsoring a booth focusing on "Partnering for a Greener Future."

In summary, NSA Naples implemented a comprehensive EMS which reflected the command's commitment to improving environmental program management. Increased EMS and pollution prevention awareness through base wide venues provided the tools for base personnel to take charge and be responsible for improving environmental quality. Every year NSA Naples has met and exceeded the previous years established targets and objectives which demonstrated the base's commitment to continual improvement. EMS awareness and environmental training provided to all levels of the workforce effectively communicated information to enhance support to the Fleet and maintain mission readiness. As one of the Command's highest priorities, EMS is an essential enabler for sustaining Fleet and Shore operations in the Mediterranean Region.