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Latest Newport News Shipbuilding Activities

- Newport News Shipbuilding celebrated 130-year anniversary founded by Collis P. Huntington

- NNS to Continue RCOH Planning for USS George Washington (CVN 73)

- Virginia-class submarine Washington (SSN 787) was christened

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Cover page: USS NEW MEXICO (SSN 779) (foreground) and USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70)
NNS Commercial Procurement Office

The NNS Commercial Procurement Office is part of department O55 SCM Compliance, Operations & Commercial Procurement. We source and procure goods and services to serve our shipbuilders and assist with our shipbuilding process. So whether it’s buying or leasing industrial equipment, providing MRO support, acquiring IT software and hardware, erecting new facilities, or negotiating workers compensation packages, our office supports every aspect of the shipbuilding business.

The Commercial Procurement Office understands the value of strong supplier relationships. We’ve made great strides over the years to ensure that our supply base is mature and our supply chain is strong. But we could not have a strong supply chain without the help of hundreds of dedicated suppliers. We count on our suppliers to strengthen our company by providing best value services.

The SDCI office would like to remind all suppliers that are enrolled in our Online Supplier Training to contact SupplierSuggestionBox@hii-nns.com when you have employees that no longer need a seat in our training program so that we can remove them. We only have a limited amount of seats available and need to remove all inactive users. Thank you!

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INSIGHT INTO LANE BALANCE

NNS’s Purchase Orders are issued and identify Lane Balance for shipment and delivery. What is Lane Balance? Why are suppliers required to use Lane Balance?

Lane Balance is contracted by NNS to manage and schedule domestic Inbound, Outbound, and 3rd Party shipments through a web-based Transportation Management System (TMS) based on the NNS Traffic Office guidelines provided. Lane Balance is a mandatory requirement for domestic shipments over 150 lbs unless otherwise specified in the Purchase Order.

Lane Balance provides the following activities for NNS Suppliers:

- Assists suppliers with compliance to NNS shipping and documentation requirements listed in the NNS Routing Guide
- Assigns and schedules the preferred/contracted NNS transportation carriers for NNS shipments
- Schedules delivery appointments to reduce wait times for Vendor Trucks and transportation carriers at several NNS delivery locations, including 2175 Aluminum Avenue, Bldg. B 872W and 300 West Park Lane. This allows receiving to level load its capacity to the schedule of inbound receipts.

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CHANGE ORDER DOCUMENTATION

Shipbuilding is a dynamic, and sometimes lengthy, process, resulting in changes occurring after initial design documents are issued. To be competitive and keep costs down, NNS is working much more collaboratively with our suppliers than in previous years. This increased collaboration improves communication, problem solving, response time, and ultimately quality and delivery of hardware and software products.

However, as NNS is bound by our contracts with the Navy, so too are our suppliers to their contracts with us, the Purchase Order. It is important to remember that any change that is agreed to between a supplier and NNS that alters the Purchase Order requirements must be followed by a modification to the Purchase Order. This modification can come via an approved Vendor Information Request (VIR) or an NNS issued Change to Purchase Order.

While not all-inclusive, the following are examples of some types of changes that would require a modification to the Purchase Order: material substitutions, use of different specifications (including revisions), changes to configuration from that specified by drawing or vendor part number, exceptions to requirements in our Coded Notes/Appendices, deviations from drawing/specification requirements, etc. 

...continued on page 5

Did you know?

- EMI Report Extension Checklist has been updated. Please see the link below. 

- The NNS Supplier Engineering Advocate (SEA) is a liaison group that interface with suppliers and NNS Engineering to resolve technical ordering challenges. Please contact the SEA group from the page below for assistance. 
Non-Destructive Testing

NNS has received a fair number of NDT procedure submittals lacking important information needed in order for our NDT professionals to perform a complete review. When submitting NDT procedures for approval, please ensure to identify:

1. **The “specific application” for which the inspection is required (internal/external threaded fasteners, castings, forgings, welds, etc.).**
   Rationale: To meet the LI Coded Notes, Standard Clause 60-67 (Block 13) and Appendix K section V.C, as applicable for your purchase order.

2. **The “fabrication document or material spec” invoked by the drawing for technique requirements and acceptance criteria to accomplish the inspection.**
   Rationale: To meet the LI Coded Notes, Standard Clause 60-67 (Block 13) and Appendix K section V.C, as applicable for your purchase order.

3. **“Individual item number(s)” from the drawing for the NNPN that the submittal is being requested for review.**
   Rationale: While the Newport News Part Number gets us to the component/assembly being built, the individual piece that the submittal is for is only for a particular item of the component/assembly. The component/assembly could contain many items with different material specs. Note that NNS LI Coded Notes have been recently revised to include this requirement.

Your submittal may be rejected if the above information is not included and thus potentially drives down your quality score. Also, please see NDT procedure checklists and NAVNDT information in the link below. NAVNDT is a great tool for developing NDT procedures and it is available at no cost to you or your subcontractor.


Photos from top to bottom:
- Apprentice at work. By John Whalen
- Installing welding tracks on USS WASHINGTON (SSN 787). By Chris Oxley
- Performing a non-destructive test on USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CVN 79) on the Final Assembly Platen. By John Whalen
- Checking for ripples on the inside of a test bend of pipe. By Chris Oxley
Insight to Lane Balance, continued from page 2

- Provides additional tools and reports for increased visibility or traceability of the movement of NNS shipments

For more information on Lane Balance, please view the NNS Routing Guide and the Lane Balance User Guide for Suppliers and Transportation Carriers at http://supplier.huntingtingalls.com/sourcing/res_shipping.html

Change Order Documentation, continued from page 3

If the change is being captured in a software product (i.e. drawing) being managed by the supplier, it is vital that the changes are submitted to NNS promptly, to ensure adequate time for review/approval and that a Change to Purchase Order can be issued prior to shipment.

General Contact Information

SupplierSuggestionBox@hi-nns.com