

# Norfolk Naval Shipyard Dedicates Submarine Maintenance Facility

PORTSMOUTH,

Va. – Norfolk Naval Shipyard dedicated its new submarine maintenance facility on June 14.

The dedication marked the next crucial step in the NNSY's realization of a shipyard infrastructure optimization plan that will enhance the ability of the four public shipyards to meet the mission of delivering ships back to the fleet on time and within budget.

The new facility consolidates submarine maintenance, production and support shops into a single facility adjacent to NNSY's submarine drydocks. This two-story structure features shops, storage and support spaces on the ground level, with office spaces and conference rooms on the second floor.

"NAVSEA Cmdr.

Vice Adm. Tom Moore has challenged us to build an environment that promotes increased levels of innovation, collaboration and knowledge sharing," the shipyard's commander, Capt. Kai Torkelson, said at the dedication.

"This will give our people the space and tools they need to forge high-

performing teams  
and complete our mission of returning submarines to the fleet  
with superior  
quality and reliable delivery.”

More than  
three years in the making, the \$10 million project is designed  
to withstand the  
impact of a 500-year flood, and the 24,000-square-foot  
building should also  
hold up against a Category 4 hurricane. The building also  
follows antiterrorism  
protection requirements, featuring blast-proof windows and 18-  
inch thick  
concrete walls. It also features amenities such as a kitchen,  
break room,  
nursing mothers room and showers.

NNSY’s  
current submarine projects include conversions of USS La Jolla  
and USS San  
Francisco into moored training ships and the refueling and  
upgrading of USS  
Wyoming for return to the nation’s active submarine fleet.

NNSY submarine  
program manager Pat Ensley said the building supports work on  
Los Angeles-class  
submarines and will support work on the future Virginia and  
Columbia classes of  
subs.

“It  
improves our abilities by having a permanent facility and  
place to perform  
production work as close to the boat as possible,” he said.  
Adding that the  
building is segmented by mechanical, electrical, nuclear and

nonnuclear work

areas, he said: "We're going to have capability for every shop, with

ergonomically designed work areas as well as giving individuals all the

amenities they would want from starting to ending their work days."