

U.S. Navy Environmental Programs

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The Environmental Department of the Naval Facilities Engineering Service Center supports the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC), the Navy's shore-side establishment, from our facility in Port Hueneme, California. Our main reason for participating in conferences such as this is to interface with other government, industry, and academic organizations and try to leverage the efforts of the many talented people who are applying better, faster, and more economical environmental technologies in the field.

The Navy is facing environmental issues that are smaller in scope and fewer in number than the issues that are being addressed by some other government agencies. However, we still have our own concerns to address. Fortunately, the Navy has been, and continues to be, very successful in applying environmental technology. We have developed, demonstrated, and applied technologies in the field that save money, or avoid future costs. This makes a strong point to those people controlling the budgets. Much of the upper management in Washington sees the value of technology and encourages us to participate in these technology forums. Events such as this are of tremendous importance because they allow us to demonstrate the real value of technology to the people who actually pay the bills.

The Navy is ready to apply the latest environmental science and technology, but if we cannot convince the people in the political arenas in Washington that this is the proper way to do things, that we can save money and we can move ahead, we will not be successful. The people in the field want to apply innovative technologies to minimize remediation costs and project life cycles. These people, these scientists and engineers just like you, want to do this. It is their passion. It is challenging, interesting, and much more fun than digging something up and hauling it away.

As a representative of NAVFAC, and the entire U.S. Navy, I appreciate your kind invitation to participate in this valuable conference. We anticipate an excellent program and look forward to opportunities for even greater collaborations in the future.