
Michael Kistler



Technical Director Naval Surface Warfare Center Philadelphia

In February 2016, Mr. Michael Kistler became the first Technical Director for the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Philadelphia Division (NSWCPD). In October 2015, NAVSEA established NSWCPD by elevating it from an echelon V organization, subordinate to another warfare center, to an echelon IV warfare center. He is responsible for continuing the stand-up of the new warfare center and leading the organization as it transitions to its new mission.

Prior to his current assignment, he served as the Executive Director, Naval Systems Engineering Directorate, Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), and Deputy to the NAVSEA SYSCOM Chief Engineer (CHENG) from October 2009 to February 2016. As CHENG Deputy and the senior civilian engineer in NAVSEA, he exercised technical authority for research and systems engineering policy and procedures for surface ships, submarines and aircraft carriers and their subsystems. Mr. Kistler also served as the NAVSEA's Research and Systems Engineering Competency Domain Leader responsible for maintaining and developing a national workforce of over 20,000 scientists and engineers through the execution of standards, processes, policies, workload forecasting, and career management.

In 1987, Mr. Kistler started his career in the NAVSEA Engineering Directorate. Early on, he held a series of progressively challenging marine machinery design positions for submarines and ships. After completing the Defense Systems Management College Program Manager's Course in 1994, he returned to the NAVSEA Engineering Directorate to lead a team of engineers through the development and delivery of a new steam propulsion and electric power generator system for the Virginia Class Submarine. During this time, he became the Technical Warrant Holder for all Secondary Plant Nuclear Propulsion and Electrical Power Generation systems in the Navy.

In July 2005, he served as Senior Ship Design Manager (SSDM) for the USS Gerald Ford (CVN 78) Aircraft Carrier Program. In this role, he was responsible for the design and construction of a new class of aircraft carriers. In September 2006, Mr. Kistler was selected for the Senior Executive Service and appointed as the Director for the Ship Integrity and Performance Engineering Group within the Naval Systems Engineering Directorate of NAVSEA responsible for Ship Survivability. In late 2007, Mr. Kistler

assumed additional roles and responsibilities assisting with the development and transition of a new Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System (EMALS) for CVN 78.

Mr. Kistler graduated from the University of Maryland in 1986 with a bachelor's of science in mechanical engineering. He received an Award of Merit for Group Achievement from Program Executive Officer, Aircraft Carriers, for leading the CVN 78 design team to a construction preparation contract award. Mr. Kistler also received an Award of Merit for Group Achievement from Commander, NAVSEA (COMNAVSEA) for leading the certification of CVN 78 ship specifications. Additionally, he received both the Department of Navy Superior and Meritorious Civilian Service Awards for his outstanding contributions in the fields of main propulsion and electric power generator machinery.