



# OCHR NEWS

---

## DON Civilians Tapped For Copernicus Award

Seven Department of the Navy civilians were among the recipients of the fiscal year 2013 Copernicus Award. Annually presented by Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association and the U.S. Naval Institute, the Copernicus Award recognizes extraordinary contributions of professionals in the command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, information systems (C4I) and information technology fields.

DON civilians recognized for the Copernicus Award included:

### Seth Erxleben, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division, Naval Sea Systems Command

As technical administrative lead for the Information Technology Infrastructure Branch, Erxleben provided technical leadership to network, windows and UNIX systems administrators. By using the virtual machines set up by Erxleben, NSWC Crane IT can reduce management and operating costs while maintaining and improving reliability, providing more rapid deployment of computer systems and improving information assurance and configuration management of IT assets. Read more about Erxleben's contributions to NAVSEA's mission [here](#).

### Brian H. Gaines, Submarine Force Atlantic, Fleet Forces Command

Assigned as the Broadcast Control Authority Officer for the Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Information Directorate, Gaines implemented innovative techniques to optimize weather graphical data for strategic units, maximizing system functionality and increased quality assurance focus. This effort resulted in dramatic improvements in meteorological and oceanographic data availability to the fleet. Read more about Gaines' contributions to FFC's mission [here](#)

### Vinay Krishna, OHIO Replacement Program, Naval Sea Systems Command

Krishna leads the OHIO Replacement Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Combat Systems, and Intelligence Systems Process Integration Team that oversees the sonar,



# OCHR NEWS

---

exterior communications, navigation, radar, imaging, electronic surveillance, fire control, countermeasure launcher and torpedo tube control system integration teams as part of the OHIO Replacement Design Build Sustain Team. Among other accomplishments, Krishna developed and implemented a plan to use highly permeable and flexible metal conduits for government-furnished electrical data cables used to connect electronic bays. His concept reduces electromagnetic interference risk, reduces installation cost and adds the flexibility to modify government cabling without incurring an additional cost of updating shipbuilder drawings. Read more about Krishna's contributions to NAVSEA's mission [here](#).

## Dale C. Linne von Berg, Office of Naval Research

As head of the Applied Optics Branch that develops and transitions intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance and infrared counter measures technologies and systems, Linne von Berg's efforts include leading technical and management roles in the development of the F-14 F/A-18 reconnaissance systems and the Angel Fire/Blue Devil dual-band, wide-area persistent surveillance sensor system. When transitioned and fielded, these advanced command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance systems established a new standard in state-of-the-art coverage rate, range, resolution, day/night, or material/target detection capabilities. Read more about Linne von Berg's contributions to ONR's mission [here](#).

## James A. Mayers, Marine Corps Systems Command, United States Marine Corps

As the lead networking and satellite communications engineer for the product manager, networking and satellite communications program manager, Mayers worked diligently to develop tactical satellite communications system solutions that provided increased interoperability within the U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) Air-Ground Task Force and with other services and agencies. His efforts to formulate options to dramatically reduce the lift requirements for USMC tactical satellite communications equipment resulted in four courses of action, one of which was adopted and provides total Marine Corps-wide reductions of 52 percent in weight and in cubic feet, with a cost-of-ownership savings of \$222 million over 10 years. Read more about Mayers' contributions to the USMC mission [here](#).



# OCHR NEWS

---

## Samuel Serman, Norfolk Ship Support Activity, Naval Sea Systems Command

As a senior electronics technician for the Satellite Communications Branch within the Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Information (C4I) Systems Division, Serman supports and assists fleet assets within the NSSA's area of responsibility. He developed a new streamlined process for testing the full functionality of the Satellite Communication Sets (AN/WSC - 6 variants) during technical assist visits. This new process allows almost immediate access to a satellite test channel, providing the time to troubleshoot this system faster and more efficiently. Read more about Serman's contributions to NAVSEA's mission [here](#).

## Susan E. Whitley, Naval Air Systems Command

Whitley leads the Military Flight Operations Quality Assurance (MFOQA) Integrated Product Team in the Air Combat Electronics Program Office at NAVAIR headquarters. MFOQA provides a knowledge management process designed to identify potential human error and other aircraft causal factors before they lead to mishaps. Whitley is responsible for the design, development and deployment of the Navy MFOQA program. The Test Readiness Review (TRR) Panel members said that the MFOQA TRR was one of the best they had seen. Read more about Whitley's contributions to NAVAIR's mission [here](#).

Thousands of civilian careers in the DON offer real world challenges with real life rewards - careers where purpose and patriotism unite. Questions on DON civilian employment information may be directed to DON Employment Information Center at [DonEIC@navy.mil](mailto:DonEIC@navy.mil) or by visiting [www.donhr.navy.mil](http://www.donhr.navy.mil).