
Dianne M. Costlow



Technical Director Naval Surface Warfare Center Corona Division

Dianne Costlow (SES) serves as the Technical Director of Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division, where she provides technical leadership for more than 3,200 Sailors, Navy civilians and support contractors in all aspects of independent performance, readiness, and acquisition assessment of warfare systems; ranges systems engineering; and metrology and calibration.

Costlow joined the Senior Executive Service on April 2, 2017. She began her career at Corona in 1985 assessing component production test systems of the Quickstrike Mine and Standard Missile. In 1991, she transferred to the Quality Assessment Department as a member of the team that successfully implemented the Fleet Troubled Systems Process across the six Type Commands. In 1997, she was promoted to chief engineer of the Measurement Science Department, coordinating Joint Calibration and Measurement Technology working groups and managing Systems Commands metrology-funded programs.

Costlow's management career began in 1999, when she was promoted to Material Readiness Division manager, providing readiness metrics to Naval Sea Systems Command and Fleet representatives on combat system reliability, maintainability and availability. In November 2001, she transferred to the Performance Assessment Department, managing the Battle Force Systems Performance Assessment Division. During her tenure, she led Corona's Nimitz Battle Group combat system integration and interoperability analysis team efforts, resulting in Nimitz BG, with multiple new and untested combat system capability, meeting an accelerated deployment schedule.

In April 2005, Costlow was promoted to department head of the Systems Engineering Department (later becoming Force Training Assessment Department), responsible for providing realistic operational training to warfighters on tactical training ranges, collecting and analyzing training data, and providing near-real time Fleet feedback. Leveraging her educational background and previous experience, she was assigned to lead the Quality Assessment Department in August 2007. The department's primary mission is to evaluate technical processes used in the acquisition life cycle of weapons and combat systems, providing feedback to program managers, and sharing technical information across DoD Services, other government agencies and industry.

In February 2010, Costlow was selected as the Deputy Technical Director; and in January 2017, was selected as the Technical Director, the command's most senior civilian position.

Dianne Costlow graduated with a B.S. degree in industrial engineering from Kansas State University in 1985 and received her Master degree in Quality Assurance from California State University, Dominguez Hills in 1995. She is Level III-certified in the Navy Acquisition Professional Community in Engineering. She also received a General Management Certificate from the University of Texas in 2007 and is a trained 7 Habits of Highly Effective People facilitator and Lean Green Belt.