



MS1(SW) Ding Contreras (left) aboard *USS O'Brien* (DD 975), receives instruction on how to slice meat from MSCM(SW/AW) Enrique Elejorde of Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Yokosuka's Naval Food Management Team. (Photo by Keiichi Adachi, CFAY Public Affairs)

Effective packaging safeguards global shipments

By Lt. Cmdr. VIC LOPEZ, FISC Marketing

Everyone loves to get packages. However, we're happiest when the package contents are received undamaged. On a broader scale, the U.S. Navy feels the same about its repairable parts shipping practices. A damaged or lost part can adversely affect command efficiency and mission readiness, and cause replacement costs to soar. Now, multiply that scenario by thousands of repairable parts shipped across the globe monthly. The significance of using effective packaging methods advocated by the Technical Assistance for Repairables Protection (TARP) program illustrates how a single package impacts more than the bottom line.

Operating as an extension of the Naval Inventory Control Point (NAVICP) reporting to the Commander, Naval Supply Systems Command, TARP representatives are responsible for exercising general oversight of the Navy's repairable assets, including Packaging, Handling, Storage and Transportation (PHS&T). Just like the town doctors in the 1600s, TARP representatives also make "house calls" across the fleet. For example, Training and Technical Specialist Donald Spears, who supports activities throughout Japan, is located in building 1848 of U.S. Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Yokosuka, will make "house calls" on forward-deployed ships, and even go underway to provide vital hands-on training. Class size varies from six to 20 trainees with customized applications training taking as little as 60 minutes to several days to present depending on the command's requirements.

Managing PHS&T Requirements; Care of Stock In Stores (COSIS); Retrograde Process Management;



Japan-based Technical Assistance for Repairables Protection (TARP) Field Representative Donald Spears provides flexible and customized packaging assistance. Command personnel wishing to learn more about TARP are strongly encouraged to view www.icptarp.net for detailed information or contact their area representative for help. (Photo by Keiichi Adachi, CFAY Public Affairs)

Handling Sensitive Depot Level Repairables; and Handling Electrostatic Discharge Sensitive Circuit Cards; NAVICP Crown Jewel Program and NAVICP P-700 are among the training modules offered by TARP representatives. TARP also incorporates its packaging requirements guidance into its NAVSUP P-700 Web based and CD versions as a tool to further assist end-users and Advanced Traceability

and Control (ATAC) activities. Obtaining prompt training assistance which is flexible and customized for each customer, is only a website, phone call, or email away. Additionally, personnel wishing to learn more about TARP are strongly encouraged to view www.icptarp.net for detailed instructions and information according to TARP Field Representative Donald Spears.

"Through educational awareness, TARP representatives strive to instill a sense of ownership in everyone we train by pressing

Results-oriented since 2001, TARP representatives have provided value-added support visits to the fleet:

Assisted FISC ATACs and end-users	1,741	
Site visits to (CO, XO, OIC)	1,688	
Training visits	783	
Personnel trained	12,761	
Recovered reusable containers	9,631	Value: \$6 million

home the importance of packing sensitive components and other repairable assets, as if it were the trainee's own compact disk player, computer or automobile," said Spears. He added, "In addition to demonstrating proper packing methods, we emphasize damage reduction. A piece of equipment may appear inexpensive, but could easily have a replacement cost valued at \$1.7 million, and that translates into a lot of CD players."

According to Spears, a 30-year Veteran and former aviation storekeeper master chief, applying his knowledge base through TARP training enables him and others in the NAVICP community to make a worthwhile

contribution to meeting the challenges and requirements of the Navy's ship and shore commands. Presently, TARP representatives support customers from the submarine community and small boys to big deck carriers through a world-wide network of TARP representatives in the following locations: Bremerton, Wash., San Diego, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Jacksonville, Fla., Norfolk, Va., Cherry Point, N.C., and Bahrain. This network is supported by the TARP Project office co-located with the NAVICP in Mechanicsburg, Penn.

For more information about TARP, or to order a free Web/CD, check out www.icptarp.net, or call Spears at 243-8325.



NAVSUP activities deliver combat capability through logistics