

SAC NEWSLETTER



1.25.2022

A monthly newsletter brought to you by The Strategic Affairs Committee of the PSDSRA

Top stories in this newsletter (Helpful Hint: click the pictures to be taken to the articles/links)



Pentagon spending stuck in neutral even as lawmakers back budget boost



Impact of Continuing Resolutions on the Department of Defense and Services



US Navy works to speed up damage assessments, ship repairs



Pentagon drops new quarantine guidance for COVID-19 exposure, diagnosis



Check out the Association's NEW Committee!

Pentagon spending stuck in neutral even as lawmakers back budget boost



Elizabeth Frantz/Pool via AP

“Congress has overwhelmingly backed a \$25 billion increase to President Joe Biden's Pentagon budget, but the battle over defense spending is far from over.

Biden last week signed annual defense policy legislation that calls for significantly boosting his \$715 billion Pentagon blueprint to \$740 billion. But the just-enacted National Defense Authorization Act doesn't actually provide any money, and lawmakers have until mid-February to reach a deal to fund the Pentagon and other federal agencies for the rest of the fiscal year.

There are, however, signs that Congress is inching toward a deal, after POLITICO first reported that House Democratic appropriators are preparing to agree to a larger defense budget than either they or Biden wanted. The government is now operating under a continuing resolution that runs out on Feb. 18. Lawmakers need to pass spending legislation before then or risk trapping agencies at last year's levels, a prospect that's particularly unpopular in the halls of the Pentagon.

With a continuing resolution now poised to consume more than a third of fiscal 2022, the military is losing out on as much as \$36 billion in added cash, compared to the level endorsed by the NDAA. The Pentagon is operating at the \$704 billion budget level agreed to near the end of the Trump administration, even lower than Biden's \$715 billion proposal that was rejected by Congress.”

Impact of Continuing Resolutions on the Department of Defense and Services



“The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on January 12 on the impact of continuing resolutions on the military. As Democrats and Republicans jockey for the best position during negotiations for the final omnibus spending bill, House Democrats intended to use the hearing to warn that a full-year stopgap funding measure would harm national defense. Republicans, including Senate Appropriations Vice Chairman Richard Shelby (R-AL), have said a number of conservatives would be fine with a full-year stopgap if Democrats do not make concessions on policy riders and spending levels. Reports indicate that appropriators will follow their authorizing colleagues by increasing funding for the Department of Defense by \$25 billion. But what the bill doesn't include has gotten more attention than what it does.”

“U.S. military officials raised alarm that recruitment, bonuses, changes of station, development of hypersonic weapons, and missile defense would suffer under a year-long funding stopgap as House Democrats and Republicans traded barbs Wednesday over which party is responsible for the spending stalemate

The continuing resolution, or CR, that funds the government expires Feb. 18, and lawmakers lack an agreement or outline for the fiscal 2022 spending bills. Sen. Richard Shelby (Ala.) said separately Wednesday that the bipartisan leaders of the House and Senate appropriations committees will meet this week. But Shelby, the top Republican on the spending panel who is retiring, said there's no agreement on the defense and non-defense funding split.

Republicans oppose some of Democrats' federal spending proposals, particularly increases in domestic spending. Republicans want domestic spending to come down and Pentagon spending to increase at least to \$740 billion, as backed by the defense authorization act (Public Law 117-81) signed into law late last year.

Pentagon officials have adapted to the yearly reality of shorter-term stopgap funding and are able to shield major weapons programs from delays, the government's top watchdog found. Although, even though the Defense Department has adapted on the contracting side, “there is no strategy to combat math,” McCord said during the hearing. “If you don't have enough money you can't operate the way you need to.”

US Navy works to speed up damage assessments, ship repairs



(MC2 Austin Haist/U.S. Navy)

“The U.S. Navy is paying more attention to its battle damage assessment and repair capabilities, as it considers what it needs in order to win a war against a sophisticated adversary.

Speaking on a panel at the Surface Navy Association’s annual conference, he said the service will “often pencil whip that in drills,” assuming battle damage assessment and repairs take place but not actually doing the work during an exercise.

From the perspective of the maintenance community, Ver Hage said, preparing for a future fight is about infrastructure like dry docks, but “it’s also about the workforce and their skills, and we’re even working through some of the battle damage stuff.”

Ver Hage encouraged more capital investment in the private sector to increase dry docks available for Navy surface ships. He noted that the Navy’s graving dock in San Diego, California, which is owned by the service but hosts repair work conducted by private companies, is undergoing modifications so it can accommodate a destroyer.”

Pentagon drops new quarantine guidance for COVID-19 exposure, diagnosis



(Mark Lennihan/AP)

“Any troops who have tested positive, or come in close contact with someone positive, for COVID-19 will now self-quarantine for at least five days, according to guidance released Friday.

The guidance, which also applies to Defense Department civilians and contractors, will apply to both asymptomatic and symptomatic cases, in line with recent guidelines published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Much of the guidance hinges on the honor system: Personnel have to report their symptoms and/or exposures, submit to testing and then keep their masks on for several days after they return to work.

Here’s how it should go: Anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19 — including cough, congestion and shortness of breath — must immediately report them to a commander, then begin a five-day quarantine.

“Personnel who develop any signs or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 during the workday must immediately distance from other workers, wear a face mask if they are not already wearing one, notify their commander or supervisor, and promptly leave the workplace,” the memo reads.

After five days, personnel may return to the office if they are asymptomatic, or their symptoms are clearing up; if they’ve had a fever, they must have gone 48 hours fever-free. Once back at work, they must wear a mask for five more days, even if they are in a command that isn’t currently mandating masks.

For personnel who’ve had close contact with someone who later tested positive, there are two options: Those who are fully vaccinated, including a booster if they are eligible, but remain asymptomatic, don’t have to quarantine. However, they must wear a mask at work for 10 days; if unvaccinated, or if they are eligible for a booster but haven’t received it, personnel must stay home for five days. They can return if they are asymptomatic after five days, but must still wear a mask for another five days.

Close contact is defined as spending at least 15 minutes, over a 24-hour period, within six feet of someone with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis, regardless of whether either party was wearing a mask, up to two days before they either developed symptoms or tested positive.”

Quick Link Resources Included for the Benefit of the Members



Contact Monica at
mpot@sandiegoshiprepair.com to advertise open positions on the PSDSRA Website



Information on CMMC 2.0



Email Monica to RSVP for this year’s National Ship Repair Industry Conference



CalChamber 2022 Job Killer Legislation List



Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

WRITTEN BY: DERRY PENCE



Happy New Year! I don't know about you but I am looking forward to '22, it is full of challenges and opportunities. Personally, I am excited about the Workforce Development Committee. DOD is working on rolling out CMMC 2.0 and we are going to restart the Security Committee to share any and all information that is put out by DOD.

The National Ship Repair Conference will be held March 21- 24 in Washington, DC. The announcement has been sent out. The agenda will be Navy Day on Tuesday, visit to Capital Hill and the Hill Crawl on Wednesday, and on Thursday we will have a Small Business Session and an INDP with the Navy. We will also have the San Diego Night Out at Ruth Chris' Steakhouse on Wednesday night. You are encouraged to attend, you will hear from senior Navy officials, listen to members of Congress, and visit the offices of our Congressional delegation.

The Barrio Logan Community Plan has been approved, this is a milestone and it will go a long way in stabilizing the relationship between our industry and the residents of Barrio Logan. The next step will be the Barrio Logan Planning Group elections. Elections for all 15 seats on the Planning Group are scheduled to be up for election in March 2022. It is incumbent on member companies to become engaged in this process. If your business is located in Barrio Logan you are encouraged to consider running for a seat as either a business owner or land owner. If you have employees you are encouraged to offer the opportunity to them to run as either a resident or land owner. The maritime industry needs to have a voice on the Community Planning Group and that will not happen without your support.

I mentioned earlier that we are standing up the Workforce Development Committee. Interest in this effort is very high and we are going to be collaborating with the East County Adult Education facility and the Sweetwater Adult Education Center.

The Association now has six standing committees: Environmental, Safety, Quality Assurance, Strategic Affairs, Security, and Workforce Development. Each of these committees offer opportunities to all members to improve the overall performance of our members. I would like to challenge all members to become active in each of the committees. Your participation is key to the success of our efforts on the waterfront. We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting of the committees.

On January 12th, the House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee held a hearing to assess the impact of a year-long Continuing Resolution (CR). All of the Service Chiefs were in attendance as witnesses. Each one of them was able to lay out the impact of a year long CR on strategic initiatives, people considerations, and operational readiness. The Service Chiefs fully demonstrated that while the difference between the FY 21 funding level was not that much different from the FY 22 funding level in the NDAA that was only the beginning of the impact – they stated that the true funding impact was triple that difference. The Service Chiefs stated that what they needed was stable, predictable funding. The Committee Members all agreed that a year-long CR was not a desired outcome, in fact they stated that there has never been a year-long CR for the Defense Department. While there is agreement that a year-long CR is not the desired outcome, there remain differences that are preventing a resolution to the appropriations bill. The Committee has their eye getting the issues resolved by February 18th, we will have to wait to see if they can come together on the outstanding issues.

Workforce Development Committee

COMMITTEE CHAIR BRANDON HALEY



MEETING SCHEDULE

The 3rd Thursday of the month at 1300 at PCE's Training and Conference Center.

Note: the first meeting will be held at Anchors Catering & Conference Center on Jan. 20th @ 1300.

WORKFOCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Brandon Haley-PCE Production Support Manager
- Marcel Becker- PCE Vice President
- Tim Dernbach-Bay City Marine VP/GM
- Bill Borinski- Standard Inspection Director of Workforce Development
- Alandra Klausing-YYK HR Director

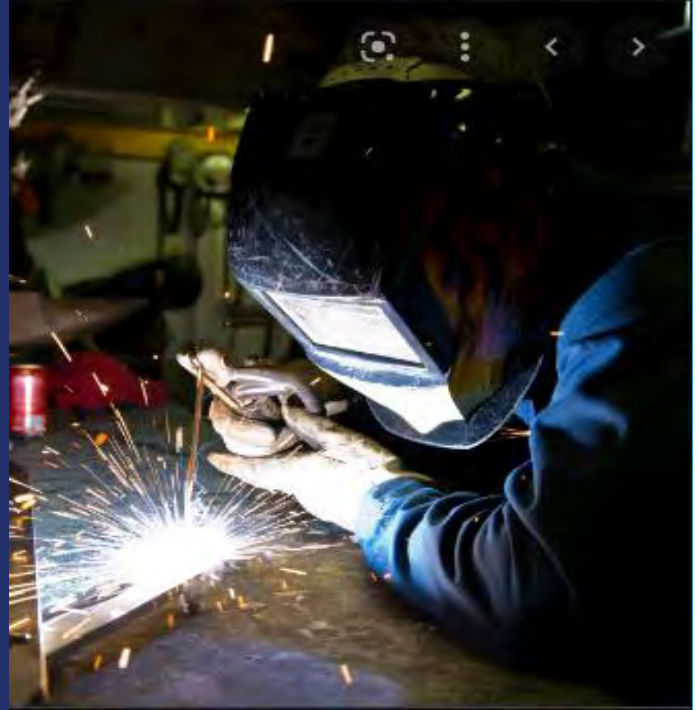


WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Develop a curriculum that our association's members can utilize to elevate and enhance the knowledge of new and existing employees in our industry to our requirements and best management practices.

Initial focus will be to develop trainings that affect all the association members:

- Introduction to Navy Ship Repair
- Project Supervision / Management
- Ship Repair Welding & Fitting



INDUSTRY TRAININGS & TRAINERS

OSHA Maritime 10 Hour

- Duane Fitzpatrick (619)642-6546

Forklift

- Duane Fitzpatrick (619)642-6546

Firewatch

- Duane Fitzpatrick (619)642-6546

CPR/First Aid/AED

- Duane Fitzpatrick (619)642-6546
- *IF you know of an Industry Trainer that would like to be added to the list, please contact Brandon Haley at Brandon.Haley@pcesandiego.com*

Navy's unmanned minesweeper clears underwater shock trials



(Textron's Common Unmanned Surface Vehicle is part of the Navy's UISS effort. (Textron))

"The Navy has successfully completed underwater explosion shock testing for its new unmanned minesweeper, the service announced today.

The Unmanned Influence Sweep System (UISS), capable of launching from the Navy's littoral combat ships or operated from shore, is designed to use both acoustic and magnetic sensors to deter and sweep mines at sea. It's at the core of the service's plans for replacing the Avenger-class minesweeping ships and MH-53Es Sea Dragon helicopters with new minehunting capabilities.

The recent test "demonstrates the survivability of the MCM USV," LCS Mission Modules Program Manager Capt. Godfrey "Gus" Weekes said in a press release, referring to the Mine Countermeasure Unmanned Surface Vehicle. "This brings us one step closer to delivering the MCM mission package to the fleet."

"Completion of these tests showcased the capability and resiliency of the MCM USV, and is a critical milestone for the program," Weekes added. "The MCM USV is the centerpiece of the MCM mission package, and this test demonstrates the final steps we're taking for MCM mission package IOT&E and fielding."

About the SAC:

The Strategic Affairs Committee's charter is to monitor current events and news relevant to the Ship Repair Industry and provide the Association's board of directors with items of interest that may affect the industry and / or the membership. The information includes but is not limited to current events, geopolitical information, budget news, political information and upcoming legislation.



The PSDSRA's Facebook page is regularly updated with news, which is focused on, timely and relevant information of value to our members in the Maritime Industry. To view, like, and/or follow the PSDSRA's page, click the Facebook logo.

The SAC meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

To join the Committee - Email KWilkinson@delphinus.com and you'll be added to the committee distributions and meeting invitations.

Current Active Committee Members include: Kyle Wilkinson, Derry Pence, Terry Buis, Marcel Becker, Kyle Clapp, Kelvan Hall, Michael Curtain, Michael Bice, Ed Zajonc, Morgan Miller, Lorenzo Ramirez, Patrick Mooney, Ross Shook, Desiree Waldon, David Widener, Chris Hill, and Dan Cummins.

Members Featured



Prepared By:

Kyle Wilkinson—SAC Committee Chair

With contributions from: Derry Pence (President, San Diego Ship Repair Association), Brandon Haley (Workforce Development and Security Committee Chair)

Disclaimer: The images, articles, and quotes used within this newsletter are the property of their respective creators. Credit for images is provided above, if applicable. Any and all request to remove images, articles, and quotes will be complied with and should be submitted to KWilkinson@delphinus.com.



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- Video inspections for damage documentation, pre-purchase, pre dry dock
- Pre and post dry-docking, hull coating performance
- Wet & Dry NDT: all methods including gauging (DNV & ABS)
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- Cathodic protection

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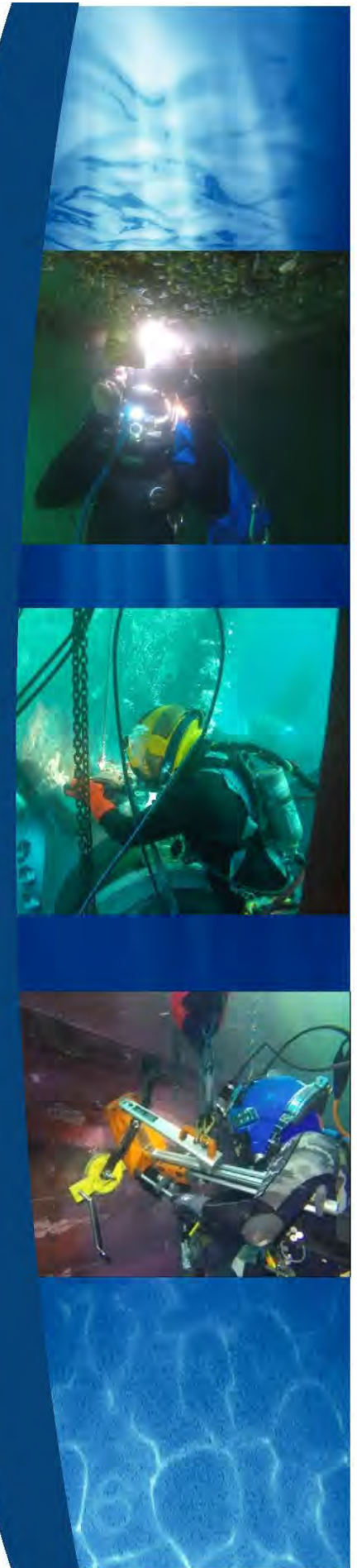
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Amphibious Assault Ship USS Makin Island (LHD-8)

Services



*Guided Missile Destroyer
USS Jason Dunham (DDG-109)*

- Design Engineering
 - Operational Testing
 - Troubleshooting / Emergency Repairs
 - Survey analysis
 - Elevator Repair
 - Elevator Maintenance
 - Software & Software Testing
- Retrofit Kits/System Modifications
 - Maintenance Programs
 - Engineering Services for all marine Electrical & Hydraulic systems
 - Technical Services for all marine Electrical & Hydraulic systems
 - Compliance with all Military Specs, Commercial Codes, & Regulations

OEM Product Support

<p>Aircraft Elevators Steering Gear Systems Cargo/Weapons Elevators & Doors Stores Elevators Anchor Windlasses Capstans Boat Handling Launch & Recovery Systems Radar Cross Section Reduction Screen Systems Accommodation Ladders & Embarkation Platforms NAVTRUSS Panels Stern Gates</p>	<p>Cargo & Weapons Handling Cranes Aircraft Maintenance Bridge Cranes Well Deck Bridge Cranes Aircraft Hangar Access Doors Helo Hangar Doors Sideport Shell /Launch Doors Vertical Package Conveyors Pallet Truck Access Doors Roll Up Doors Stern Doors</p>	<p>A60 Level Access System A60 Powered Watertight Sliding Doors A60 Tandem Sliding Doors A60 Lightweight Engine Room Doors Blast / Ballistic Door Systems A180 Single/Double Doors Fire-rated Door Conversion Kits Pilot Access Door & Ladder Module Modular Fire Resistant Panel Systems Underwater Watertight Hatches Escape Scuttle Systems</p>	<p>Personnel Elevators— Cable Traction Personnel Elevators— Rack & Pinion Dumbwaiters</p>	<p>Towing Winches Anchor Winches Mooring Winches Anchor Windlasses Controls Escort/Bow Winches Capstans Hawser Reels Hydraulic Power Units Oceanographic Winches Shock Test Equipment</p>
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