

## First electronic tablets deployed

Story & photo by Justice Vannatta, C1160 Public Affairs

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility (PHNSY&IMF) is the nation's first naval shipyard to introduce the wireless electronic tablet to its waterfront.

In support of its Mobile Workforce Enablement Initiative, the Shipyard issued its first F5t electronic tablets with 10.1-inch touch-sensitive screens to the USS Jefferson City project on July 31. Shop 38 is scheduled to be the second group to receive the tablets.

Code 109.33 Information Technology (IT) specialist Shannon Covington manages the electronic tablet project. Once procedures for tablet introduction and use are finalized and put into effect, he will work with contracted wireless engineers and support specialists to develop a Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN).

The wireless tablets will provide increased mobility and efficiencies to facilitate communication between Shipyard workers and engineers, and quicker access to policies, processes and training developed for new technology.

Tablet use procedures are being developed to ensure compliance with Shipyard, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet and



Electronic tablet project manager Shannon Covington poses with Shipyard Commander Capt. Jamie Kalowsky and one of the new tablets on July 31.

higher headquarters security requirements.

As Capt. Kalowsky has said, "As the Shipyard takes great strides to increase productive capacity by involving, enabling and developing our people, we recognize that it means providing a strategic focus on innovations and technologies, to help our workforce support the defense efforts and commitments of the fleet. We

understand that this is a modern workforce with modern capabilities, and we are striving to become the new standard in proficient operations throughout the enterprise."

"Innovation distinguishes between a leader and a follower." Steve Jobs, Apple co-founder

## Shop 64 Plastic Fabricators advance SHT process

By Eric Petran

Code 220 Naval New Technology Program Manager

NAVSEA is encouraging the development of an improved method to detect areas of inadequately adhered special hull treatment (SHT) on *Virginia*-class submarines.

Charles Stewart from NAVSEA's Naval Systems Engineering Directorate (SEA05) and Lisa Weiser and Jamie McDonnell, both from the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division, came to the Shipyard with two detectors to demonstrate their use and allow a joint Code 200/900 inspection team to use and evaluate the detectors on USS Hawaii (SSN 776).

In the current inspection process, inspectors lightly tap the SHT with a hammer and listen to the sound produced. Well-adhered SHT and inadequately-adhered SHT make different sounds when struck, but background noise in dry docks often make it difficult to hear the difference.

The new detection unit gives operators a visual indication of the SHT adherence quality.

User feedback is shared with the product development team, and some modifications have already been incorporated into units purchased by Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. Discussions are currently ongoing regarding how to incorporate remaining changes.



