

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE



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NEWS MEDIA ADVISORY

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August 12, 2015

Norfolk Sailors Graduate in New Transition Employment Initiative

NORFOLK, VA (NRMA) – Twenty Sailors will graduate and earn solar industry certification during a ceremony Monday, Aug. 17 in Norfolk. The Sailors have been participating in the Department of Energy (DOE)/Department of Defense Solar Ready Vets program at Tidewater Community College since July.

Solar Ready Vets is a free, intensive six-week workforce training program for active duty and transitioning Sailors preparing for civilian careers and potential employment in the solar industry upon discharge. The Sailors, as part of the program, will also have employment interviews with solar industry companies on Friday, Aug. 14.

The Solar Ready Vets program is the first workforce training partnership between a civilian federal agency (DOE) and the Department of Defense and individual military branches.

Tidewater Community College, in conjunction with Penn State University as the regional training provider through the Solar Instructor Training Network, conducted the training on the TCC Chesapeake campus.

Additional courses are scheduled to begin in late August and October. Similar courses were held earlier this year at Camp Pendleton, California, and Fort Carson Colorado.

News media are invited to cover each event.

The students will interview with solar industry representatives Friday, Aug. 14, 10:30 a.m. at the Navy Fleet and Family Services Center on Hampton Blvd.

The graduation is at the Joint Forces Staff College auditorium on Naval Support Activity-Hampton Roads, Monday, Aug. 17, at 11 a.m. Speakers at the graduation ceremony will be Mr. Minh Le, Director of the DOE SunShot Initiative; Mrs. Anne Davis, Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower & Reserve Affairs); and Dr. Edna Baehre-Kolovani, President Tidewater Community College.

News Media interested in attending either of the opportunities please contact Jim Moir, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic Public Affairs, 757.322.2852 by Noon, August 14.

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