



ENERGY WARRIOR PROFILE

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“*Raising awareness is a way we can get everybody to reduce their usage. And it makes a difference.*”

Q: HAVE YOU SEEN AN IMPROVEMENT IN ENERGY CONSERVATION SINCE YOU STARTED WORKING WITH THE NAVY? DO YOU THINK CULTURE CHANGE PLAYS A ROLE IN THIS?

Absolutely, culture and behavioral change play a huge role in energy conservation. We really do need everybody to play their part. We don't always have the funds to put automatic controls into every single building to turn off the lights or air conditioning when no one is around.

And yes, when I started working with the Navy about 15 years ago, turning off the lights was a completely foreign idea. We would walk into buildings after hours and lights would always be on. Turning off the lights was not second nature to anybody—at home or at work.

Today, when I walk through an office at the end of the day, most lights are turned off. That wasn't always the case.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY INCREASES

Q: WHERE ELSE IN THE NAVY HAVE YOU WORKED?

I've supported almost every base in Navy Region Southwest at some point or another by conducting various data analyses and project reviews. I've worked on-site at Navy installations at Seal Beach, Lemoore, Coronado and San Diego. Naval Base San Diego was actually my first assignment. A few years back, I got an opportunity to move to Japan and work for the U.S. Air Force. That was the first time that I realized the importance of raising awareness. The command in Japan had little or no funding for any energy projects, but we still had a job to do—help conserve energy. We were being asked “to save in other ways” so I had to get creative. I thought, well, awareness is free.

Raising awareness is a way we can get everybody to reduce their usage. And it makes a difference. So that's what we did. We produced public service announcements on energy conservation and the various ways you can save energy. And it worked. I got comments from coworkers and building tenants saying they either saw a commercial or heard our radio interviews. They made sure to tell me they were shutting off lights or turning down the heat.

Q: WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

The thing I like most about this job is that it is so varied. I can spend half of my day in the office, doing reports and developing projects—a challenge I enjoy. While the other half of my day is spent working with our construction team outdoors and on the rooftops—talking to tenants about energy conservation and raising awareness. It's so varied, you never know what you're going to get. Also, I feel really appreciated in this job, and that inspires me.

Q: WHAT DOES BEING AN ENERGY WARRIOR MEAN TO YOU?

An Energy Warrior is someone that consciously thinks about energy. When they walk by the break room and no one is in it, they turn out the lights. Basically, it's someone who thinks about the various ways to save energy from day-to-day.



Make sure you check out the Energy Warrior YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/channel/UCkjiid-zKaaD525DZHUEOsg.



You can also follow Energy Warrior on Instagram (@energy.warrior) and download the Energy Warrior app from iTunes.