

USS Monterey Earns Top Secretary of the Navy Energy Conservation Award

Cruiser Prioritizes Energy Efficiency While Deployed

GUIDED MISSILE CRUISER USS Monterey (CG 61) earned the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Energy Conservation Award—Large Ship category for exceptional energy management for fiscal year 2016. This is a significant achievement as

21 cruisers (CG class) and 62 destroyers (DDG class) worldwide are eligible to compete in the Large Ship category. Monterey achieved the lowest fuel burn rate of any ship in the CG and DDG classes and had the third lowest burn rate for all ships fleet-wide during the fourth quarter. Out of more than 90 Navy and Marine Corps commands recognized, Monterey was only one of three cruisers to win.

“Both at sea and in port, Monterey’s obligation to energy conservation was

extensive,” former Monterey Commanding Officer, Capt. C.P. DeGregory said. “All hands took water and energy management seriously on a daily basis and made the effort to train their shipmates in conservation-mindedness.”

In June 2016, Monterey departed on a seven-month deployment with the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) Carrier Strike Group to the U.S. 5th and 6th Fleet areas of operation. While deployed, the Monterey travelled great distances—including transatlantic



LCDR Myron Lind (Chief Engineer), CAPT Dave Stoner (Commanding Officer), LT John Smith (Energy Conservation and Environmental Protection Manager) pose with the Secretary of the Navy Energy Flag.



The guided-missile cruiser USS Monterey.
Paul Farley

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crossings—and still achieved substantial energy and fuel efficiency. Energy efficiency initiatives included:

- Limiting ship speed and reducing fuel burn when feasible.
- Operating in waters deeper than 25 fathoms to prevent grounding.
- Performing hull cleaning to limit drag.
- Replacing 40 percent of overhead lights with light-emitting diodes (LED).

Monterey successfully completed 26 underway fuel transfers and received more than four million gallons of fuel without incident or spill.

Naval Energy Efficiency

EFFICIENCY IS A critical component of energy security for the U.S. Navy as it ensures ships and crew can operate forward for greater periods of time and deliver more fire-power, humanitarian assistance or other missions as required. Since energy is a key enabler for mission capability, efficient energy use directly supports one of the four key lines of effort identified in Chief Naval Operations John Richardson's "Design for Maintaining Maritime Superiority"—specifically, strengthening naval power at and from the sea.



Sailors aboard USS Monterey heave the fuel line during a fuel at sea replenishment.

Photographer's Mate Airman Michael D. Blackwell II

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In addition, Monterey's crew took steps to prevent energy waste by setting thermostats on fan coil units ship-wide to heat during the winter and cool during the summer. This action ensured adjacent spaces did not heat or cool others through conduction when unnecessary. Ventilation equipment, including filters, fans and diffusers, were cleaned and checked regularly to ensure they were operating at maximum efficiency.

Because U.S. Navy ships produce their own potable water, water use and treatment

requires energy. To keep water and energy use low, Monterey's crew actively sought and repaired potable water leaks while limiting shower length and water waste from culinary use.



Monterey's achievements result from a crew that is dedicated to wise energy management, innovation and environmental stewardship. As Navy ships adopt these best practices and reap the benefits of lower fuel burn rates, reduced refueling frequency and recognition from their peers, this culture of considering energy use on a day-to-day basis can ultimately create



The guided-missile cruiser USS Monterey (CG 61).
 MCS3 Casey J. Hopkins/Released

The Basics About USS Monterey

USS MONTEREY IS a Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser and the fourth vessel named after the Battle of Monterey that occurred during the Mexican-American War in 1846. The ship was designed to fight in a multi-threat environment and possesses a long-range strike capability with Tomahawk and Harpoon cruise missiles. Monterey has earned two Battle “E” awards. Monterey was commissioned on June 16, 1990 and is homeported in Norfolk, Virginia.

Monterey is currently on a surge deployment, its second deployment in 10 months, to the U.S. 5th and 6th Fleet areas of operation.

For more information, visit www.public.navy.mil/surflant/cg61.



greater flexibility for ship commanders and a more capable maritime force.

“Monterey is the epitome of ‘the quiet professional;’” Vince Marshall, Auxiliaries Program Manager, Naval Surface Force Atlantic wrote. “They consistently get the job done without a lot of fanfare.”

As a SECNAV Energy Conservation Award winner, Monterey received \$30,000 and is authorized to fly the SECNAV Energy Flag for one year. Monterey also won the 2016 Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Environmental Award—Afloat category for outstanding performance in environmental stewardship. (For descriptive summaries of all 2017 CNO Environmental Award winners, read our article “CNO Recognizes Award Winners for Exceptional Environmental Leadership” in this issue of *Currents*.)

The SECNAV Energy Conservation Awards recognize Navy and Marine Corps installations, ships and squadrons for outstanding commitment to energy and water conservation and excellence in energy management. For additional information, visit <http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil/energy/awards-2>.

For a complete listing of all SECNAV Energy Conservation Award winners, read our article “SECNAV Announces 2017 Energy Conservation Award Winners” in this issue of *Currents*.) [📌](#)

Ashley Saunders
 Chief of Naval Operations Energy and
 Environmental Readiness Division
 703-695-5083
 DSN: 225-5083
ashley.m.saunders.ctr@navy.mil