



RHUMB LINES

Straight Lines to Navigate By



October 1, 2010

National Energy Awareness Month – “Strength Through Energy Security”

"Leading change is not new for the Department of the Navy. We are a better Navy and a better Marine Corps for innovation. We have led the world in the adoption of new energy strategies. This is our legacy."

– The Honorable Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy

During October, the Department of the Navy (DON) is participating in National Energy Awareness month. This year’s DON theme is “Strength Through Energy Security.” Enhancing energy security makes the Navy and Marine Corps operationally stronger and is attained through energy efficiency and increased use of alternative energy sources. Every Sailor, Marine, and civilian is responsible for managing energy as a critical resource, which means considering energy in every action taken and decision made.

As the U.S. government is working to reduce energy consumption and lead the Nation toward energy independence, the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) has outlined [five energy goals](#). These goals seek to enhance and better enable our combat capabilities, sustain the environment for future generations, and promote a clean energy economy.

SECNAV Energy Goals

- Energy Efficient Acquisition: Evaluation of energy factors will be mandatory when awarding contracts for systems and buildings.
- Sail the “Great Green Fleet”: DON will demonstrate a Green Strike Group in local operations by 2012 and sail it by 2016.
- Reduce Non-Tactical Petroleum Use: By 2015, DON will reduce petroleum use in the commercial vehicle fleet by 50 percent.
- Increase Alternative Energy Ashore: By 2020, DON will produce at least 50 percent of shore-based energy requirements from alternative sources; 50 percent of DON installations will be net-zero.
- Increase Alternative Energy Use DON-Wide: By 2020, 50 percent of total DON energy consumption will come from alternative sources.

Key Messages

- Energy security is critical to mission success. Energy security safeguards our energy infrastructure and shields the Navy and Marine Corps from a volatile energy supply.
- Energy efficiency increases mission effectiveness. Efficiency improvements minimize operational risks, saving time, money and lives.
- Alternative fuels afford the Navy with an off-ramp to petroleum, providing increased insulation from a volatile petroleum market.
- Environmental stewardship protects mission capabilities. Investments in environmentally responsible technologies afloat and ashore lessen dependence on fossil fuels and reduce green house gas emissions.

Facts & Figures

- The [Navy Energy Forum](#) is Oct 12 - 13 and emphasizes the importance of energy to the warfighter for enhanced combat capability.
- Navy and Marine Corps shore installations reduced energy consumption per gross square foot by 14 percent relative to the 2003 baseline, exceeding the 12 percent interim goal for the year per the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.
- On Earth Day 2010, the Navy made history when an [F/A-18 Super Hornet](#) flew supersonic on a biofuel blend.
- For updated information on DON energy efficiencies visit [Task Force Energy’s Facebook site](#).