

CNST Debuts at ShipTech 2004

The Center for Naval Shipbuilding Technology (CNST) was formally introduced to the shipbuilding/ship repair industry at ShipTech 2004 in Biloxi, Mississippi. ShipTech is a shipbuilding technologies information exchange sponsored by the Office of Naval Research – Navy Manufacturing Technology (ManTech) Program and the National Shipbuilding Research Program (NSRP).

CNST is the newest Navy ManTech Center of Excellence and is focused on identifying, developing and deploying advanced manufacturing technologies that will reduce the cost and time to build and repair U.S. Navy ships. During the ShipTech General Session, Mr. Ron Glover, CNST Director, presented an Overview of CNST that included descriptions of the Center’s mission, strategy and project selection process.



CNST Director Ron Glover

Mr. Glover indicated that projects during CNST’s first year are concentrating on manufacturing technologies associated with the VIRGINIA-Class SSN and CVN-21 construction programs. For fiscal year 2005, the program will expand to include projects related to the LHD-8, LPD-17, T-AKE and DDG 51 programs.

CNST projects are specifically focused on Navy ship platforms. Potential projects are identified through industry “pull” and are selected after obtaining input from Navy Program Offices. This approach allows CNST to concentrate on projects that are important to both the Navy and the shipyards that build and repair the Navy’s ships.

The CNST program is managed by a small staff that relies on a core group of professionals, the CNST Solution Identification Team, to provide focused expertise to help identify potential solutions, compare proposed projects with the state of the art/industry and validate projects’ business case. An extensive On Demand Resource Network of industry, laboratory, academia and shipbuilding experts supplements the CNST staff and Solution ID Team and is called upon as necessary to provide additional, specific expertise.

CNST is managed and operated by ATI in Charleston, South Carolina. Additional information is available on the CNST website at www.cnst.us.

