



August 21, 2015

NAVAIR commander rallies FRCSE team



Vice Adm. David Dunaway, commander, Naval Air Systems Command, addresses Sailors from Fleet Readiness Center Southeast Detachment Jacksonville about the importance of their roles supporting the warfighters in the fleet during an all-hands call Aug. 12. Dunaway visited various locations throughout the military depot to thank FRCSE employees for their hard work in extending the service life of legacy aircraft. (U.S. Navy photo)

FLEET READINESS CENTER SOUTHEAST, JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – Commander, Naval Air Systems Command Vice Adm. David Dunaway visited Fleet Readiness Center Southeast (FRCSE), the largest tenant command on Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Aug. 12 to thank depot employees for their dedicated service to the fleet.

Hundreds of FRCSE employees turned out for several all-hands calls to hear the admiral speak about the future of fleet aviation, the important role the military depot plays in keeping aging legacy aircraft flying, budget issues and world affairs.

“We are in a time where we have to recapitalize our equipment and that is where you play a huge role,” said Dunaway, while addressing FRCSE workers at Vertical Lift Hangar 124. “We’ve had an incredible asset [aircraft] utilization rate to complete our military taskings. When you look at how much our aviators are flying the H-60s, trainers, P-3Cs, P-8As and F/A-18s, it’s much more than was ever predicted. We are flying aircraft well beyond their service life and that is where you all come in.”



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The admiral continued, "We are entering an era of sustainment and modernization. I think you will see a lot more of this effort in the future. It's unheard of to take a fighter aircraft built to fly 6,000 hours and increase that capability to 10,000 hours, but you're doing it. It's unheard of to fly a P-3C for 50 years, but you're making this happen. I think you'll see the T-44 and T-6, H-60 for a very long time and what you do is critical to keeping them flying. I'm extremely proud of all your hard work at this facility."

Dunaway echoed his remarks while meeting with FRCSE employees at the Crinkley Engine Facility, engineering and logistics courtyard and F/A-18 production line.

"I have never seen a world in more turmoil than what we are looking at right now and the U.S. is always the first to respond to world events," said Dunaway. "This puts us in a position where we have to manage our assets correctly. We have to keep our squadrons manned with capable aircraft. We have to be much more predictable and precise in the delivery of our aircraft and that is what is driving some of the new processes you are seeing here like CCPM [Critical Chain Project Management.] I encourage you to embrace this process because it really makes a difference on how aircraft are repaired."

The admiral also briefly toured the P-3C, Industrial Manufacturing and the F/A-18 Line. "I think additive manufacturing will greatly impact the mission and FRCSE will be a frontrunner in this area," he said. "As soon as we are capable of creating airworthy metal parts on a 3D printer, we will revolutionize the utilization and sustainment of our platforms."

In front of a large gathering of employees at the F/A-18 line, Dunaway praised the team and encouraged them to keep up the good work. "You are making a difference in keeping these aircraft flying," he said. "The demand for more production at the depot level is going up and you will continue to push out more products. You are a premiere organization and I'm very proud of the work that you've done."

Dunaway also met with FRCSE Sailors to thank them for their service and answer questions. Some topics included detailing issues, rating changes and what he is most proud of during his tenure as NAVAIR's commander.

"I am most proud of implementing integrated warfighting capability which is essential to mission success," he stated. "This new concept modernizes engineering processes by incorporating the design, development, acquisition, test and sustainment of NAVAIR platforms. With increased demands for assets in the fleet and decreasing budgets, this is our future."



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Fleet Readiness Center Southeast employees gather in the Crinkley Engine Facility to listen to Vice Adm. David Dunaway, commander, Naval Air Systems Command, discuss budget constraints and the future and modernization of naval aviation during his visit to the military depot Aug. 12. Dunaway also thanked the team for their efforts in extending the service life of aging aircraft enabling warfighters to complete their missions. (U.S. Navy photo)



Fleet Readiness Center Southeast (FRCSE) Vertical Lift Integrated Product Team Lead Angello Evans explains how artisans use Critical Chain Project Management and Continuous Process Improvement initiatives to reduce maintenance time on H-60 helicopters to Vice Adm. David Dunaway, commander, Naval Air Systems Command, during his visit to the military depot Aug. 12 as FRCSE Commanding Officer Capt. Chuck Stuart, left, looks on. Dunaway toured the facility and participated in several all-hands calls to thank the employees for their hard work and dedication in supporting the fleet. (U.S. Navy photo)



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Fleet Readiness Center Southeast F/A-18 Production Line, Industrial Manufacturing, Components and Administrative employees gather to listen to Vice Adm. David Dunaway, commander, Naval Air Systems Command, address the team during his visit to the command Aug. 12. Dunaway thanked the employees for their commitment and continuous efforts in keeping aging legacy aircraft flying in support of fleet missions. (U.S. Navy photo)



Randall Meeker, a mechanical engineering technician and tool designer at Fleet Readiness Center Southeast (FRCSE), right, explains how he uses a 3-D computer software program and additive manufacturing to build tools and aircraft prototypes to Vice Adm. David Dunaway, commander, Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR), left, Aug. 12 as FRCSE Industrial Manufacturing and Processes Integrated Product Team Lead Major Nimock and Lt. Cmdr. Daniel Person, flag aide to Dunaway, look on. Dunaway visited the military depot to discuss the future of NAVAIR with employees and thank them for their dedication to fleet warfighters. (U.S. Navy photo)



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