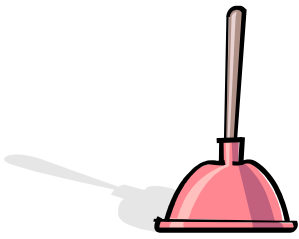


# The Porcelain Press

NSWC Indian Head Division  
Safety Department Newsletter



13<sup>th</sup> InSTALLment

Distributed to a Restroom near you

February 2008/March 2008

*Dear NSWC Indian Head employees,*

In my role as Director of the Safety Department, I have made the commitment to make a difference. One of the areas that we are focusing on this year is increased employee involvement. Our employees bring tremendous experience as well as broad competencies and skills to the workplace each day, as such; you play an important role in the safety performance of our mission. I believe we can improve our safety performance by increasing employee participation and at the same time align our efforts with the strategic mission of the Activity.

As a valued member of the Activity, your involvement is critical to us in "making a difference" in educating and influencing the workforce to prevent accidental injury and mishaps. As such we are asking for your participation in a Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) on how we can better maximize opportunities for our employees to become actively involved with the safety program in their work areas.

We invite all employees to come celebrate the beginning of this VPP journey. Please take a few minutes to stop by the Gymnasium between the hours of 11:30 to 3:00 PM on Thursday, April 3rd and help us celebrate as well as educate our employees about the journey we are about to begin.

Thanks for making our Workplace Safer!

## *Safety Fortune*



## *Ask the Safety Wiz*

*Send your questions to the Safety Wizard at  
raymond.geckle@navy.mil*

**Dear Wiz:** Why is VPP STAR Status important? - **Victor. P. Palmer**

**Dear VPP:** VPP recognition allows NSWC IH to benchmark itself to the best safety performers in the industry. Through VPP STAR status recognition, we know that we are doing a world class job of developing, deploying, and implementing programs to protect our employees. VPP focuses on worker involvement, which is known to be the best way to achieve outstanding safety performance. By achieving and maintaining VPP STAR status we are assured that we have a safe place to work and that our work is being performed safely.

**Dear Wiz:** You are like a diligent little dung beetle, always searching for fresh nuggets of safety information to pass along. Some people say you can't polish a turd, but after reading your column, I'd say they're just not rubbing hard enough. - **Brent**

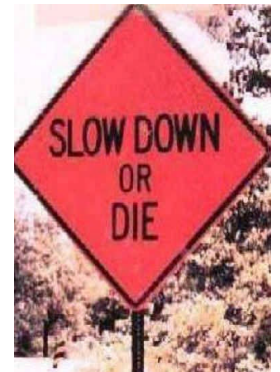
**Dear Brent:** Thanks, I think.

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Read the local newspaper lately? Bet it hasn't been too long since you've seen a headline about someone killing either himself or someone else because of driving too fast and losing control of their vehicle.

I hate to break it to you speed demons out there, but your "need for speed" just might drive you into tomorrow's paper, the obituary section, page D10.

This sign says it all. Slow down or die. 'Nuff said. Have a nice day.

P.S. Wear your seatbelt



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A designated driver is not someone who is most sober; it's someone who did not drink at all