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Fleet & Industrial Supply Center San Diego

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FISC San Diego provides distance support to Hawaii-based ship

By Heather Paynter

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SAN DIEGO, March 27 – Ordering, reconciling and documenting a ship’s food supply is a job that typically requires many hours to complete. However, Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) San Diego is piloting a distance support initiative that streamlines the process by enabling an individual located at Naval Base San Diego to generate menus and coordinate food ordering for a ship located thousands of miles away. The system entitled eFSM (Enhanced Food Service Management) is currently being used with USS Lake Erie (CG-70) homeported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Chief Culinary Specialist (SW) Emmanuel Genavia is the crew member at the computer terminal in San Diego viewing requirements; planning; communicating with shipboard food service personnel; and deciding vendor orders through the assistance of the Web-based program. Though not physically located on Lake Erie, Genavia makes arrangements for the crew’s food service needs by ensuring that the contracted vendor is prepared to deliver items such as apples, vegetables and pastries pier side and on time. “I try to think like the Sailor and what they would like to eat,” he said. The 21-day menu cycle developed by the Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) is his guideline and is a menu that is flexible enough to be modified to accommodate special needs or occasions.

As an added benefit, the closeout period is reduced, allowing culinary specialists the opportunity to manage operations in other areas. “eFSM is a great tool for food service records keepers,” said Lake Erie records keeper CS3 Keith Fitch. “It is very user-friendly and multiple users are able to log on simultaneously.”

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Lake Erie's food service officer Lt.j.g. Matthew Duncan has seen the positive results first-hand. "We have had great success with eFSM and I feel it is the future of how we will do business," he said. "The eFSM program has reduced the workload of shipboard records keeping to about one hour a day, allowing more time for those involved with records to focus on training and performing other duties."

The pilot eFSM program began Feb. 1, 2008, with San Diego being the first FISC to actively support an operational ship through distance support food management. FISC San Diego logistics support team officer Lt. Cmdr. Ferdinand Herrera said new programs are not without their challenges but this transition was relatively seamless. "This type of support is the way of the future," he said.

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Fleet and Industrial Supply Center San Diego provides logistics, business and support services to fleet, shore and industrial commands of the Navy, Coast Guard, Military Sealift Command, and other Joint and Allied Forces. FISC San Diego delivers combat capability through logistics by teaming with regional partners and customers to provide supply chain management, procurement, contracting and transportation services, technical and customer support, defense fuel products and worldwide movement of personal property. Serving as the logistics program director for Commander, Navy Region Southwest, FISC San Diego, is one of the seven supply centers under Commander, Fleet and Industrial Supply Centers. COMFISCS comprises more than 7,000 military and civilian logistics professionals, operating as a single cohesive team, and providing logistics services from more than 100 locations worldwide. A component of the Naval Supply Systems Command, headquartered in Mechanicsburg, Pa., COMFISCS is part of a worldwide logistics network of more than 24,000 military and civilian personnel providing "One-Touch Supply."



CSC(SW) Emmanuel Genavia supports food service ordering, records management and menu coordination from his office at Naval Base San Diego.