Enterprise Transformation: RCOH Transformation at Newport News Shipbuilding

Video Transcript

Dave Riddle, Construction Superintendent, Newport News Shipbuilding

“The RCOH process is a jigsaw puzzle that all the pieces have to be aligned to make this efficiently work. IDS is a big initiative now that is at the ground floor.”

Jason Ipock, Lead General Foreman, Newport News Shipbuilding

“This is actually one of the first ships that we’ve had a large presence of integrated digital shipbuilding on the RCOH program. One of the biggest things that we’re seeing from it is that it’s actually taking the way we’ve always done it before, and it’s allowing us to be a little bit more efficient, a little bit more effective, a little bit quicker in our day-to-day operations.

“Very specifically to the radar tower, one of the things that RCOH never had in the past was a 3-D product model. So we’re actually able to take that 3-D product model and not just utilize it for engineering and planning, but actually put it into the hands of our craftsmen. So our craftsmen were actually able to see kind of an early stage of the radar tower, even doing some testing very early on in the availability, so when it actually came to the ship, we’re in a much better situation, we’re a lot farther ahead. A lot of really what IDS allowed us to do was not just the new products—not just the digital product—but allowed us to think outside the box of how can we reinvent the RCOH program?”

Blake Penix, Deck Electrician, Newport News Shipbuilding

“All the different trades are involved with it. It makes it a lot easier, because on those 3-D drawings, I can see more of the other trades—you know, like piping or ventilation or something like that that could be in my way putting up a light or a connection box or anything like that—and I have it all on one drawing. Instead of getting multiple drawings, going back and forth, trying to figure out which drawing I need, where I need ... it’s just at my fingertips, and I’m just rotating the drawing around.

“This is my third RCOH, and you can see the progression as far as new technology coming in, new ideas. Everything to make it easier, more simpler, so we can get these boats back into the fleet so we can help defend our country.”