



## NEWS RELEASE FROM THE NAVFAC HAWAII PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: [April 28, 2015](#)

Release No. 15-04

Author/POC: Denise Emsley, Public Affairs Officer  
Email: [denise.emsley@navy.mil](mailto:denise.emsley@navy.mil)  
Tel: 808-471-7300  
Cel: 808-221-6387  
Fax: 808-474-5479

Commanding Officer  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Hawaii  
400 Marshall Road  
JBPHH HI 96860-3139

### **NAVFAC Hawaii Awards Safety Star of the Year**

**PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii** – Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii announced Pest Controller Michael M. Aoki as the command's Safety Star Individual Excellence awardee at its annual awards ceremony April 27.

"I am very pleased to present our top safety award to Mike Aoki for his great work in 2014," said NAVFAC Hawaii Commanding Officer Capt. Dean Tufts. "He has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to safety in the workplace and is recognized as a true role model by his peers. Mike is a quick thinking individual who is able to identify and communicate workplace hazards to the Chain of Command and his coworkers as well as immediately implement on-the-spot corrections."

Aoki, a resident of Waipio, Hawaii, continuously sets an example to his peers, emphasizing the use of the NAVFAC Safety Handbook, providing continuous safety training, and underscoring the use of Operational Risk Management. He is a major team player and participates in the command's safety program working with management to ensure a safe and healthful workplace.

"Mike leads the way and has improved the safety of numerous highly toxic pest management projects promoting an 'Injury Free Environment,'" said NAVFAC Hawaii Pest Control Shop Supervisor Julian 'Owen' Abad. "He is always thinking on ways to reduce or mitigate personnel mishaps and voices his opinion at the jobsite, safety briefings and meetings. Helping to encourage conscientious safe behavior in the workplace, he motivates others and follows through until safety issues are resolved."

In addition, Aoki flawlessly prevented a potentially fatal ladder accident by recognizing the problem while work was in progress, warning his coworker, helping him take corrective action, all while keeping his supervisor informed. His safety awareness directly influences the safe completion of various jobs/projects, increases employee/workgroup safety knowledge, and contributes to the command's safety goals.

Aoki is truly a Safety Star at NAVFAC Hawaii.

– USN –

(more)

## 2-2-2-2 NAVFAC Hawaii Awards Safety Star of the Year

Photo/cutline: High-resolution image is available. Please contact Denise Emsley.



150428-N-OF713-616

PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii (April 28, 2015) Pest Controller Michael M. Aoki stands proudly holding his 2014 Safety Star Individual Excellence Award in front of Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii's headquarters building at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam April 28. *U.S. Navy photo by Denise Emsley, NAVFAC Hawaii Public Affairs/Released.*

For more information about NAVFAC Hawaii and/or Naval Facilities Engineering Command visit: [www.navfac.navy.mil](http://www.navfac.navy.mil).

---

### **Naval Facilities Engineering Command: The Facilities and Expeditionary Combat Systems Command**

NAVFAC is the Systems Command that delivers and maintains quality, sustainable facilities, acquires and manages capabilities for the Navy's expeditionary combat forces, provides contingency engineering response, and enables energy security and environmental stewardship. Additional updates and information about NAVFAC can be found on social media sites Facebook and Twitter. Become a Fan at [www.facebook.com/navfac](http://www.facebook.com/navfac) and follow us at [www.twitter.com/navfac](http://www.twitter.com/navfac), or visit our Photostream on Flickr at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/navfac>.