

## **NAVFAC's Technology Transfer and Outreach Programs for Environmental Restoration: Sharing Technology Trends and Leveraging Feedback**

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**Background/Objectives.** The Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Technology Transfer (T2) and Outreach Programs are focused on the effective delivery of the latest information related to environmental restoration (ER). The programs promote the use of innovative and cost-effective remediation technologies and site management approaches across the Department of the Navy's (DON's) ER Program (ERP). An update on the latest T2 products and their overall learning objectives will be featured. In addition, the feedback mechanisms that are leveraged will be discussed, along with their role in shaping the overall T2 approach and training topic selection.

Navy Remedial Project Managers (RPMs) are faced with complex challenges in managing ER sites. The Navy's T2 and Outreach Programs help RPMs to make informed decisions about new technologies and to evaluate new solutions to address their most pressing site-specific challenges. A variety of T2 products and training approaches are used to share the latest technology trends and Navy case studies with RPMs located nationwide. This combination of approaches includes in-person training events, webinars, concise technology information briefs, and more detailed guidance. This range of products helps to address a wide variety of learning styles and needs among RPMs. In addition, several feedback mechanisms are incorporated to provide performance metrics and to identify lessons learned and emerging challenges from the field.

**Approach/Activities.** The Navy's approach to T2 and training involves a variety of methods to reach RPMs, contractors, and other stakeholders with important updates on advances in environmental remediation strategies and technologies. These methods include the following: 1) a biennial RPM training event, 2) Remediation Innovative Technology Seminars (RITS), 3) Open Environmental Restoration Resource (OER2) webinars, 4) the NAVFAC Environmental Restoration and BRAC (ERB) Website, and 5) the NAVFAC T2 Program which prepares fact sheets, guidance documents, handbooks, newsletter articles, decision-making tools, and other resources. Several approaches are used to provide for direct feedback from RPMs. Surveys are used for immediate feedback at in-person training events such as RITS to gauge the quality of the speakers, value of the information to the attendee, and interest in future topics. Live polling and online surveys are used as part of the OER2 webinar series and T2 programs to provide for further assessments. For example, the T2 survey is used to track key site challenges, topics of future interest, and also to gauge the adoption of innovative technologies in the field.

**Results/Lessons Learned.** NAVFAC's T2 and Outreach Programs support efforts to increase the awareness and use of innovative technologies, reduce environmental cleanup costs, and improve technology performance for the DON ERP. The transfer of information about a new technology or improved methodology is predominately a process of communication. Feedback mechanisms are an important part of the process to ensure two-way communications are established. Input to these programs from NAVFAC technical workgroups, surveys, and other feedback mechanisms will be explored to gain insight into overall DON ERP trends and needs.