Milwaukee Valve Supporting the Construction of the Most Advanced Warships in the World

Last Saturday, August 27, the ceremonial keel was laid for the newest U.S. Navy nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, *Enterprise* (CVN 80), in Newport News, Virginia. Milwaukee Valve's management team was watching the formal start of the ship's construction with pride, knowing we are part of the industrial base that constructs the most advanced warships in the world.

USS Gerald Ford alongside USS Harry Truman, predecessors to the USS Enterprise which is now under construction.

Milwaukee Valve is of one more than 2,000 supply-chain companies in 45 states delivering products and services to build and maintain the U.S. Navy aircraft carrier fleet, which are built at HII's Newport News Shipbuilding division in Virginia. In total between the shipyard and the supply-chain, the industrial base is comprised of more than 92,000 essential workers who design, weld, build, and maintain the components that go on these cutting-edge warships.

Once built, the *Enterprise* is scheduled to serve the country for 50 years. *Gerald R. Ford*-class aircraft carriers feature a redesigned island, electromagnetic catapults and improved weapons movement, and are designed to be the centerpiece of the Navy's deployed battle force and alongside allies and partners, defending freedom, preserving economic prosperity, and keeping the seas open and free.

"As we mark the formal recognition of *Enterprise*'s construction, the men and women of Milwaukee Valve take pride in building a ship that will sail the seas for 50-years. The contract for this work has had a substantial impact, especially during the headwinds of the past few years. The multi-ship contract of CVN 80 & 81 helped save jobs at our company and enabled us to invest in equipment used for aircraft-carrier components," said Rick Giannini, Milwaukee Valve's

President and CEO.

In January 2019, the U.S. Navy signed a two-ship buy contract for two *Ford*-class carriers, the *Enterprise* (CVN-80) and *Doris Miller* (CVN 81), which is the most efficient and affordable way to build carriers and ensure workforce and industrial base stability. This “two ship buy” helped the industrial base weather the storm of the past few years enabling companies across the nation to save jobs, retain and hire skilled workers, injecting stability and local investment into the supply chain. This smart procurement decision in 2019 helped preserve the workforce entrusted to design and build ships that evolve with our nation’s national security strategy, proving multi-ship buys are good for the nation, Navy, industrial base, and taxpayer.

Staying A Step Ahead In Lead-Free Compliance.

On Tuesday, Gail Brill presented a 40 minute webinar on updates and changes to the **Lead-Free** legislation and enforcement. Gail is Milwaukee Valve's representative for the Safe Drinking Water Act. Her presentation covered…

- Recapping changes made to the Safe Drinking Water Act since its adoption,
- A review of Testing and Design Standards specifically for Lead-Free Valves,
- Discussing various Materials of Construction that are typically used in valve manufacturing and how they relate to the Act, and
- How to identify Lead-Free products carrying 3rd party certifications.

This webinar is a good refresher for those who lived through the transition in January 2014, and will help train those who are new to the industry and hopefully offer guidance with any interpretation issues that may still exist today. This webinar is eligible for ASPE credits.

The webinar is available on-demand by clicking the button above.