



AUGUST 24, 2009

Today's NMCI Projects Enhance Navy's IT Capabilities for Tomorrow

Success through Teamwork

Over the last few months, we have highlighted a few of the diverse skill sets needed to maintain high levels of performance and security on NMCI.

It goes without saying, however, that the network is only as good as the people "behind the plug." NMCI is no exception—there are thousands of people who ensure network continuity of operations each and every day. Dedication is a common thread among the whole NMCI team, from the front line client teams who work with Sailors and Marines on the Service Desk, to the DSTB team helping the Marine Corps enhance mobile communications, to the Enterprise Storage folks who are working in the backroom to bring more capabilities to users. Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, the NMCI team is working together to make the network better every day.

This week, we want to highlight NMCI team member Paul Jones. Paul is one of NMCI's project managers working out of Salt Lake City. His most recent project on the Security Information Manager program ensures the network remains secure.

Thank you, Paul, for and your teams' continued excellence and dedication to NMCI.

Kevin Durkin
Vice President of Navy Programs





Paul Jones **IS NGEN NOW**

Project Manager, Enterprise Insertion Technology Group
EDS, Salt Lake City, Utah

Security on a network the size and scale on NMCI is a huge task that takes a dedicated team of cyber security professionals. NMCI has the distinction of being one of the most secure networks in the Department of Defense, due to the efforts of EDS-ers like Paul Jones. Paul and his team recently have been working on a security upgrade, the Security Information Manager (SIM) program.

By piecing together a comprehensive picture of cyber attacks, SIM is an information management tool that collects, analyzes, and archives information from various security devices or security related events for faster incident response. As attacks occur, the SIM provides network personnel with a real-time overview of the entire network, as well as each specific intrusion from the benign to the malicious. This complete network view is then used to determine if an intrusion is part of a larger, coordinated assault.

"Within hours of using the SIM tool on NMCI, we saw thousands of incidents that required investigation," said Jones. "The SIM tool went to work analyzing each of these network intrusions to determine if there was any correlation between malicious attacks that occurred at a variety of different entry points on the network. While most threats are benign, such as an errant password entry, for the first time the SIM tool gave us the capability to connect the dots between suspicious threats and take steps to ensure network integrity."

Paul's role as project manager for the Enterprise Technology Insertion Group keeps him defending NMCI against cyber attacks that have become more numerous and sophisticated. Each month, NMCI security experts like Paul neutralize more than 60 viruses, thwart 1,200 network intrusions, and block 8 million perimeter attacks.

"With this information at their fingertips," says Jones, "NMCI personnel can take immediate action to help thwart an attack and restore functionality to users."

A nine-year veteran of EDS, Paul has taken a unique professional role as a project manager. He is actively involved in PMI, the Project Management Institution, which creates standards and certifications for project managers across the world. Speaking fluent Korean, Paul has helped author the Korean project manager lexicon guide, known as the Pimbok. He also helps mentor fellow project managers at EDS.

"Helping my fellow team members with their certification and test preparation gives me a great deal of pride," says Jones. "At EDS, I am often impressed by the work ethic and collaboration efforts of my colleagues. I know that these hard-working, high-integrity individuals are just the types of people that make successful project managers."

Whether it is preparing other team members for the task of cyber defense or working to thwart increasingly sophisticated on-line attacks, Paul Jones will continue to play an integral role in safeguarding mission-critical operations while mitigating disruption for the Sailors and Marines who rely on the network every day.
