

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

News Release #024-13

Feb. 12, 2013

Contact: Steve Vanderwerff

850.452.9110
(DSN) 922.4858
(FAX) 850.452.4900

Surface combat training command announces 2012 Mid-Grade
Instructor of the Year

DAHLGREN, Va. – Center for Surface Combat Systems (CSCS) announced its 2012 Mid-Grade Instructor of the Year Feb. 12.

Capt. Don Schmieley, CSCS' Commanding Officer, applauded Electronics Technician 1st Class Gerardo Ceballos, an instructor at CSCS Detachment West in San Diego, for his selection. .

"Being an instructor is considered one of the most honored and valued positions in our training domain and Petty Officer Ceballos is very deserving of the recognition for a job extremely well-done," he said. "He is known for his knowledge, strong aptitude, and his love for learning in and outside the classroom. I'm privileged to have him as one of my instructors."

Ceballos says that being an instructor means being a role model and that he enjoys the challenge of supervising other instructors as the Radar Division's Leading Petty Officer.

"As an instructor, your students will assess you and learn from the lectures and experiences that you share," he said. "You're not only providing them knowledge, but also guidance."

CSCS Det West's Senior Enlisted Leader Master Chief Gunner's Mate Jason Tisdale says Ceballos epitomizes Navy core values.

"ET1 Ceballos's drive and professionalism supports our mission at Det West by providing the fleet with high quality technicians," he said. "He also gives back by mentoring his peers and helping them with completing their Master Training Specialist qualification. I wish I had more staff members like him."

Ceballos's passion for electronics began when he was taking courses at the Pioneer Academy of Electronics in Los Angeles and Cerritos Community College in Norwalk, Calif. During several classes, his instructor played Navy electronics videos that aroused his interest in the electronics field.

"My instructor gave me some great advice that the Navy was a great place to receive electronics training," said Ceballos.

As a result, he joined the Navy from his hometown of Compton, Calif. in 1997.

Before arriving at CSCS Det West in 2010, Ceballos completed tours aboard the Arleigh Burke class destroyer USS Benfold (DDG 65) and the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68).

Ceballos' current goal is to be selected as a Chief Petty Officer.

"It has been an amazing journey thus far, and being selected would be a great achievement," he said.

Ceballos will now go on to compete for Naval Education and Training Command's Mid-Grade Instructor of the Year.

"I'm looking forward to the competition, meeting my peers and engaging with senior leadership," said Ceballos. I thank my wife and children for their endless support throughout my career."

For information on the Center for Surface Combat System, visit <https://www.netc.navy.mil/centers/cscs/>

For more news from Naval Education and Training Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/cnet/

--USN--

Story by Kimberly M. Lansdale, Center for Surface Combat Systems