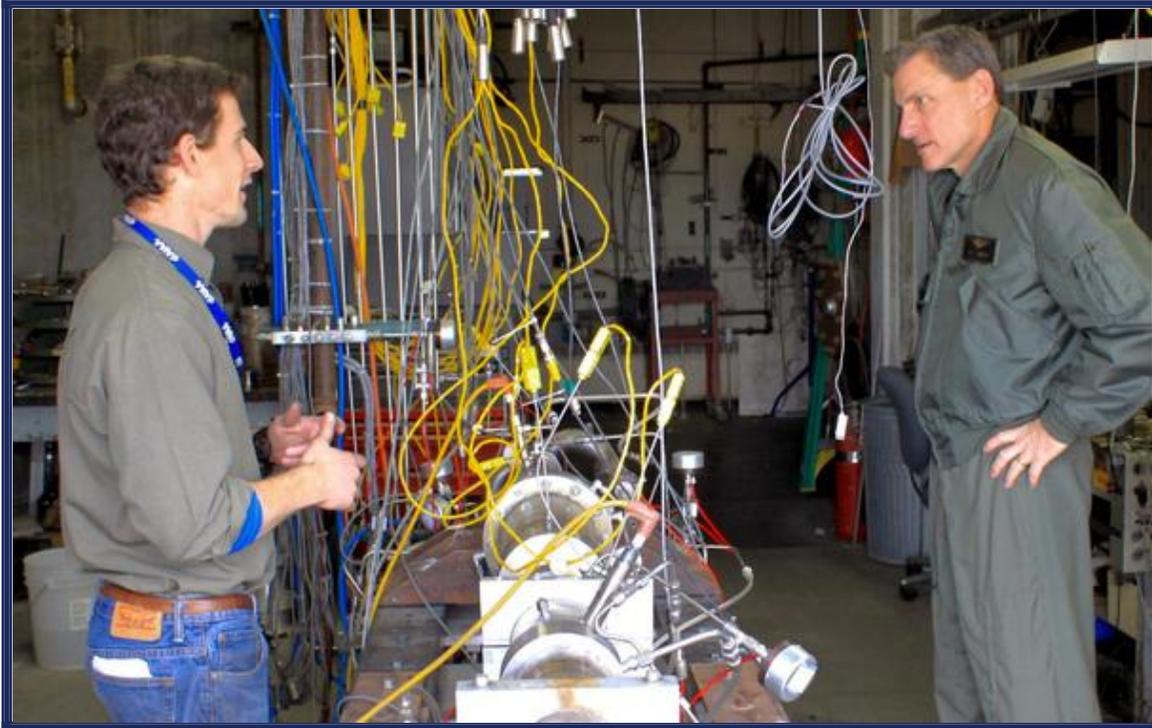




NAVAIR commander meets with Weapons Division workforce



Nick Quigley, an aerospace engineer at Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division, updates Vice Adm. Paul Grosklags, commander of the Naval Air Systems Command, on the ongoing efforts of the Solid Fuel Ramjet project during his Jan. 18 tour of China Lake. (U.S. Navy photo)

NAVAL AIR WARFARE CENTER WEAPONS DIVISION CHINA LAKE, Calif. - Vice Adm. Paul Grosklags, commander of the Naval Air Systems Command, visited Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division on Jan. 17-18 and met with members of the workforce about filling capability gaps for the warfighter.

Critical thinking and challenging assumptions were reoccurring themes of Grosklags' address to members of the command's Engineer and Scientist Development Program and business competencies.

"What I encourage you all to do is think about applying critical thinking to your activities on a day-by-day, if not hour-by-hour, minute-by-minute basis," he said. "We're trying to change the culture of NAVAIR as an organization to accelerate how we get new products and capabilities to our Sailors and Marines."

During his visit, Grosklags toured China Lake's South Range and Air Wing Integration Laboratory. He also heard updates on the Solid Fuel Ramjet project, and autonomous aerial vehicles, and met with 2016 NAVAIR Innovation Challenge participants.



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"It is not about a single competency," Grosklags said. "It's about the breadth of NAVAIR and everything we do and everybody in this room. The cultural change is about communication, it's about collectively deciding that we're going to work differently. Our approach to business is going to be different than it has been for the last 20-25 years. That doesn't mean we're throwing everything out, it means we're going to figure out what we can do differently that makes sense to all of us."



Dr. Brian Reitz, right, aerospace engineer, briefs Vice Adm. Paul Grosklags, commander of the Naval Air Systems Command, just before an autonomous quadcopter demonstration at Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division China Lake on Jan. 18. (U.S. Navy photo)