



A Career as a Non-Commissioned Member Naval Electronics Technician (Acoustic)

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TODAY'S Canadian Forces

WHAT THEY DO Naval Electronics Technician (Acoustic) [NE TECH (A)] personnel are responsible for the maintenance of all shipboard acoustic equipment and associated systems. They are technicians and perform no operator functions whatsoever.

NE TECH (A) personnel will receive academic and equipment-related training leading to employment at sea as Apprentice Technicians. This Apprentice Developmental Period, lasting approximately 24 months, provides experience on the equipment that Naval Electronics Technicians (Acoustic) are responsible for and that they will subsequently maintain. On completion of this developmental period, NE TECH (A) personnel will commence their Journeyman Technician training. As an Apprentice, they will perform maintenance and repairs on the following types of equipment:

- Underwater Communication Equipment
- Doppler Speed Log
- Wind-Indicating System
- Radio Navigation Aids
- Sound Path Plotting Systems
- Depth-Finding Equipment
- Towed Array Sonar Receiver
- Gyro Repeaters
- Depth-Measuring Equipment
- Stabilized Horizon Reference
- Data Terminal Displays
- High-Speed Printers
- Cartridge Magnetic Tape Units
- Video-Switching and Navigation Information Distribution Equipment

minimum time. They must function as members and leaders of a technical team, understand directions quickly, and improvise where necessary to achieve objectives. Personnel must be dependable and discreet because of exposure to classified service matters.

Training

Basic Military Qualification

The first stage of training for everyone is the 10-week Basic Military Qualification (BMQ) course at the Canadian Forces Leadership and Recruit School in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec. This training provides the basic core skills and knowledge common to all trades. A goal of this course is to ensure that all recruits maintain the CF physical fitness standard, as a result, the training is physically demanding. BMQ covers the following topics:

- Policies and regulations of the Canadian Forces;
- CF drill, dress and deportment (the 'three D's');
- Basic safety;
- First aid;
- Personal survival in nuclear, biological and chemical conditions;
- Handling and firing personal weapons;
- Cross-country navigation; and
- Personal survival in field conditions.

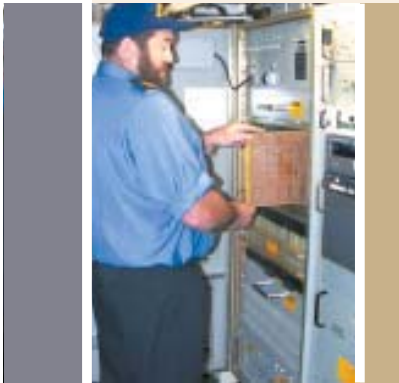
Basic Military Occupational Training

On completion of the BMQ, Naval Electronics Technicians (Acoustic) attend Naval Environmental Training (NETP) at the Canadian Forces Fleet School (CFFS) in Esquimalt, British Columbia or Halifax, Nova Scotia. Training takes approximately 5 weeks and includes:

- Naval history and organization
- Shipboard firefighting and damage control
- Watchkeeping duties
- Seamanship

Qualification Requirements

Personnel in this military occupation must, at a minimum, have obtained a passing mark in Grade 10 academic Mathematics in Ontario, or the equivalent in other provinces, and demonstrate a high level of aptitude for electronics. NE TECH (A) personnel, when qualified as Journeyman Technicians, must be able to work under emergency conditions, adapt quickly to cope with unfamiliar problems, endure occasional periods of extended work hours in order to achieve objectives, and diagnose and correct equipment faults in



The second portion is the Naval Electronics Apprentice Course which takes place at the Canadian Forces Naval Engineering School (CFNES) in Halifax. Training takes approximately 63 weeks and includes:

- Academics
- Electronics
- Basic sound in water propagation theory
- Underwater telephone equipment
- Navigation aids
- High-speed printer
- Cartridge magnetic-tape units

Career Development

Opportunities for career progression, promotion and advanced training are good for those who demonstrate ability and potential. Technical Supervisor training in administration and ship systems is provided, as well as personnel management and leadership training. NE TECH (A) personnel who are selected based on their superior leadership ability and management potential will be promoted to assume the duties of a supervisor. At this level, they will supervise the work of all Naval Electronics Technician (Acoustic), (Communications) and (Tactical) personnel onboard. They will be involved with the maintenance of the ship's combat systems as a whole, rather than with the individual acoustics, communications and tactical sub-systems. Individuals at this level will have completed over 140 weeks of occupation training over the course of their career. Personnel with proven outstanding leadership ability and management skills will be promoted to assume the duties of a manager and transferred to the Naval Electronics Technician (Manager) [NE TECH (M)] occupation. As the Chief of the Combat Systems Engineering (CSE) Department on ship, the NE TECH (M) is responsible for the management of approximately 30 personnel and the safe, efficient operation of the CSE Department.

Journeyman Occupation Training and Specialty Training

Personnel who have completed the Apprentice Developmental Period and are recommended for a further Term of Service (TOS) will undertake Journeyman Occupation Training through a formal course. Specialty training may also be available as they progress in their careers. Below are examples of training related to this occupation.

Journeyman Occupation Training Courses

- Physics and Advanced Mathematics
- Advanced Electrical, Electronic, Solid State, Pulse, Syncro-servo, Acoustic, Firecontrol, Computer, Gyro and Fibre Optic Theory
- Performance Testing, Preventive Maintenance, First Line Corrective Maintenance and Emergency Second Line Maintenance on:
 - Active Underwater Acoustic Detection Systems
 - Passive Underwater Acoustic Detection Systems
 - Anti-submarine Warfare Data Systems
 - Inertial Navigation System
 - Navigation Distribution System
 - Underwater Data Displays

Specialty Training Courses

- Submarines
- Ship's Diver
- Instructional Techniques

Working Environment

NE TECH (A) personnel are trained for service on ships and submarines stationed at Halifax, N.S., or Esquimalt, B.C. Personnel are employed in occupation-related duties at sea, in harbour and at shore establishments. Duties at sea are performed in exposed, as well as enclosed and confined spaces above and below the waterline, under all climatic and environmental conditions. Personnel are subject to watchkeeping duties for extended periods of time, which results in irregular meal hours and rest periods. As well, they are subject to limited working and living space, lack of privacy, and discomfort caused by the motion of the ship at sea. As with all sea-going personnel, NE TECH (A) personnel are sailors first, technicians second. In addition to their occupation-related duties, junior technicians are employed in out-of-occupation duties such as cleaning and painting the ship, working in the cafeteria, performing engineering watchkeeper's duties in harbour, and loading supplies.

Appropriate training, environmental clothing and equipment are provided, and Naval Electronics Technicians' health, safety and morale are closely monitored.

Related Civilian Occupations

- Radio and Television Receiver Aligner
- Electronic Equipment Repair Person
- Audio Visual Equipment Installer and Repairer
- Television Studio Equipment Repair Person
- Production Repair Person
- Systems Tester
- Television Repair Service Person
- Computer Equipment Diagnosis and Repair Person

For more information, please call the Canadian Forces Recruiting at **1-800-856-8488**, or visit our Web site: **www.forces.gc.ca**

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