



A Career as a Non-Commissioned Member Naval Weapons Technician

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TODAY'S Canadian Forces

WHAT THEY DO Naval Weapons Technicians (NW TECH) are responsible for the maintenance and operation of all shipboard armament equipment and systems as well as the care and custody of all onboard ammunition and explosives.

- Prepare, use and store all onboard ammunition and explosives, including naval gun ammunition, Close-In Weapon System (CIWS) ammunition, missiles, rockets, torpedoes, demolitions, pyrotechnics and small arms ammunition

work well as a member of a team, to apply logic and be resourceful are definite assets in this occupation.

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 Weapons Technicians 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

- Operate, control and maintain combat systems, including naval gun systems, naval missile and missile-handling systems, torpedo-launching and handling systems, acoustic sensor handling systems, torpedo decoy systems, Close-In Weapon System, rocket-launching systems, hydraulic cranes, davits and capstans, weapons panels and interfaces and hydraulic stabilized platforms
- Carry out preventative and corrective maintenance on mechanical and fluid

powered (hydraulic/pneumatic) components of weapons systems

- Fabricate mechanical and fluid powered components and parts for weapons systems equipment
- Test and repair electrical/electronic components of weapons systems
- Prepare job-related maintenance and administrative documents.

Qualification Requirements

Naval Weapons Technicians must have a strong educational background with a particular interest in mathematics and physics. They must like working with their hands, have good hearing, be physically strong and able to adapt quickly to changing situations. The ability to



The second portion is the Naval Weapons Technician Apprentice Training which takes place at the Canadian Forces Naval Engineering School (CFNES) or Canadian Forces Fleet School (CFFS) in Halifax. Training takes approximately 80 weeks and includes the following:

- Mathematics and physics
- Fluid mechanics
- Electricity
- Electronics
- Machine shop
- Ammunition
- Hazardous material cleanup
- Common equipment
- Specific class of ship equipment

Career Development

Opportunities for career progression, promotion and advanced training are good for those who demonstrate the required ability and potential.

Occupational Development Phases

NW TECH occupational development is divided into the following phases: Apprentice, Journeyman, Supervisor and Manager. During the Apprentice phase, personnel undergo initial occupation training where the scope of employment is limited, work priorities are decided by supervisors and work is closely monitored. During the Journeyman phase, personnel perform tasks independently and explain or demonstrate to others how to perform tasks. In the Supervisor phase, personnel are responsible for exercising leadership, in addition to assigning, directing, monitoring and evaluating the tasks and duties of subordinates. In the Manager phase, personnel are responsible for planning, directing and controlling various group activities to achieve assigned goals.

Specialty Training Courses

- Ship's Diver
- Instructional Technique
- Force Defence

Working Environment

Naval Weapons Technicians spend a major portion of their careers on board ships based in Halifax, Nova Scotia, or Esquimalt, British Columbia. They must carry out their duties above and below deck, under all weather conditions. They are exposed to high noise levels and are subject to limited living space, lack of privacy and irregular meal and rest periods which are a part of serving at sea. The physical and mental stress in this occupation is moderate to high and can become severe to extreme when working in hazardous situations. Some examples are climbing ladders and working aloft on moving platforms while exposed to adverse weather conditions, removing live, damaged ammunition from a hot weapon, acting as a member of the ship's hazardous material cleanup team or repairing equipment with 20,000 volts of electricity or high pressure hydraulic or pneumatic systems. 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 or laundry, standing sentry duty or loading supplies.

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

Related Civilian Occupations

- Electrical and Electronics Technician
- Engineering Technologist and Technician
- Electronic Equipment Service Technician
- Industrial Instrument Technician and Mechanic
- Industrial Electrician
- Industrial Mechanic and Construction Millwright
- Hydraulic Mechanic
- Machine Fitter and Assembly Mechanic
- Elevator Constructor and Mechanic
- Electrical Mechanic
- Gunsmith
- Mechanical Installer and Services
- Electronic Assembler, Fabricator, Inspector and Tester
- Ammunition Worker
- Pneumatic Tool Repairman
- Hydraulic Unit Repairman
- Construction Equipment Mechanic
- Millwright

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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