Technology Name: eTagOut
Enhancing Shipboard Safety for Maintenance Activities through Advanced Software Technology

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THE CHALLENGE
Maintenance onboard US Navy ships can be a difficult and dangerous activity. Furthermore, it can be difficult to provide modern software solutions that fit within the varied legacy computing environments of Navy ships while providing a comprehensive and certified work process. As equipment becomes more complex and more connected, the maintenance process becomes more complicated. The Fleet had a vision for creating a digital solution that increased capability, reduced workload and ensured sailor safety. This is the vision upon which eTagOut was developed and delivered.

THE TECHNOLOGY SOLUTION
eTagOut provides electronic tagout capabilities onboard US Navy ships. As part of the overall maintenance process, eTagOut has been designed and built to manage the workflow of planning, hanging, removing and auditing physical safety tags. eTagOut encapsulates US Navy policy for maintenance safety and provides input to the Navy’s Defense Data Repository System (DRRS-N) for readiness reporting. eTagOut is part of the Navy’s Logistics & Readiness Family of Systems and is being deployed to ships as a component of the IFleet’s new integrated Maintenance & Logistics system. It is Navy Tag Out User Manual (TUM) compliant, registered in the Navy’s Application and Database Management Systems (DADMS), and is currently being deployed throughout the fleet. The system can also run in stand-alone mode when necessary--with data accessible via a shore-based installation. eTagOut is in the critical path for all maintenance actions and includes the entire process workflow for ensuring that US Navy regulations and policy are followed. In addition, it supports several applications in the Integrated Maintenance & Logistics suite critical to the calculation of Shipboard Readiness and the Maintenance Figure of Merit.

THE TRANSITION
Beacon has worked closely with the US Navy maintenance community, US Fleet Forces Command and SPAWAR to ensure that the eTagOut capability can quickly become available for use. Beacon is now a prime contractor in the Maintenance Field of Merit (MFOM) Program with an $18.7M contract from SPAWAR. The first deployment was onboard an Arleigh Burke-class destroyer.

THE NAVAL BENEFIT
eTagOut provides four key benefits to the US Navy. First, it enhances the shipboard safety of over 250,000 sailors operating today’s naval Fleet by providing a common operational view of all tagged out systems. Second, the system increases operational readiness by ensuring all processes comply with the Navy’s TUM. Third, the system’s simple design and ease of use enables rapid deployment with end users in the Fleet. Last, by providing real-time, fleet-wide data on ship safety activities, Fleet Commanders will have actionable intelligence with real-time information to support decision making.

THE FUTURE
eTagOut brings exceptional maintenance and sustainment capability to US Navy ships. This new system will be installed on US Navy ships over the next 30 months. As a digital safety solution, it also has wide applicability across industries as diverse as shipping, manufacturing and utilities.

“APPLYING EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE AND SUBSTANTIAL HUMAN SYSTEM INTEGRATION (HSI) EXPERIENCE, THE BEACON TEAM SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED THE MFOM USER’S SITUATIONAL AWARENESS, ACCURACY AND TIMELINESS.”

Maintenance Figure of Merit (MFOM) Program Manager
Fleet Maintenance (N43)
U.S. Fleet Forces Command