



Press Release

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Matthews relieves Keenan as SUPSALV director

Capt. Patrick J. Keenan and Cmdr. Mark M. Matthews salute each other during a change of office ceremony held at the Washington Navy Yard on Feb. 10, 2012. Matthews relieved Keenan, who retired following the ceremony, as director of Ocean Engineering, Supervisor of Salvage and Diving. (U.S. Navy Photo by Laura Lakeway)

WASHINGTON – Cmdr. Mark M. Matthews relieved Capt. Patrick J. Keenan as director of Ocean Engineering, Supervisor of Salvage and Diving (SUPSALV), today in a change of office ceremony held at the Navy Yard.

Matthews reports to SUPSALV after serving as commanding officer of the Navy Experimental Diving Unit in Panama City, Fla. His previous tours included program manager for submarine rescue, diving and recompression systems, executive assistant for the Program Executive Office for Submarines, Sixth Fleet salvage officer in Naples, Italy, and at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

“I’ve always been extremely impressed with the technical expertise and caliber of personnel assigned to SUPSALV, and I am looking forward to my service as Director of Ocean Engineering,” said Matthews.

Keenan who has served as director since September of 2008 will be retiring from the U.S. Navy after having served nearly 30 years.

“I have been very fortunate to have served with such dedicated and professional shipmates,” said Keenan. “I’m confident the Navy’s diving and salvage community is in good hands with SUPSALV’s staff and leadership.”

During Keenan’s tenure with SUPSALV he presided over the coordination of numerous high visibility responses including the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, a harbor inspection at Port Au Prince, Haiti following the earthquake there, post collision damage assessment between the USS Hartford and USS New Orleans and a search of Air France flight 447’s black box off the coast of Brazil.

The Office of the Director of Ocean Engineering, Supervisor of Salvage, directs development and maintenance of the Navy’s salvage, underwater ship husbandry, diving and certification program for the U.S. Navy.

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