

**Media Advisory  
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**Seabees, Swift Get to Work on Humanitarian Mission**

U.S. Navy Corpsman Chloe Hester focuses intently on the sealant she is putting on the windows at the Amerindian Hostel as she speaks. “We’re all doing cross-training during this deployment,” she explains. Cross training means that people like the corpsman whose specialty is medicine is learning to do carpentry. “Pretty much the only people who are doing their normal jobs are the electricians and plumbers,” Hester said.

The Navy Seabees who are doing much of the humanitarian work as part of the Southern Partnership Station 2010 flew in a week before their colleagues on the HSV Swift arrived. They have just completed the construction work at the Amerindian Hostel and are now working on the La Penitence Medical Center where they will install a state-of-the art dental chair.

“I love doing this kind of work,” said U.S. Navy Construction Electrician 3 Sparkle Smith while she was removing a broken light installation. Navy Constructionman Amber Carlson handed tools and held a light so Sparkle could see. “This kind of deployment is great,” said Carlson.

Tomorrow, half of the construction team will move over to Plaisance High School to begin repairing windows, wiring and building a temporary 5-year building to off-set over crowding while the school arranges for a more permanent structure. The community of Plaisance and members of the U.S. Embassy will join together after the Seabees have left to paint the school.

“We get to see a lot of countries and do a lot good,” said Navy Journalist Kim Williams while she took photos of the HSV Swift’s arrival.

Subject matter exchanges with the Guyanese Self Defense Forces, Coast Guard and civilian services will begin tomorrow. The approach to subject matter exchanges is that both services should be able to learn from the best practices of the other.

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