

Photo by Rick Thompson



FITTERS TAKE A BOW

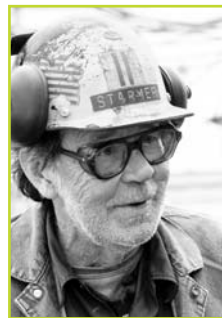
COMMITMENT: *"We will take ownership of our future by working as a team."*

Newport News' Waterfront Support Services Dept. (X36) lifted the upper bow unit of CVN 77 into place on March 15, completing the flight deck and extending the overall length of the aircraft carrier to its full size. Here, employees from the Fitters Dept. (X11) take a bow for completing a principal piece of the ship and share what it feels like to see their hard work begin to come alive.



"I've worked on eight bows. It's just another day at work. ... Building the bow is the hardest unit to build as a fitter. I'm very glad to see it completed."

Danny Johnson, 28 years



"I love seeing the ships completed. It feels good to see something I worked on sail out of here."

John Starmer, 35 years

"Completing a job and knowing I have the ability to finish is the best part of my job. ... Knowing that I helped build the bow, it feels good to see it on the ship."

Derrick Best, 2 years



"I'm delighted the bow is on the ship. It was hard work."

James Peterson, 16 years



Photos by John Whalen