

Transforming HII: Laser-Scanning at Newport News Shipbuilding

Video Transcript

Woody Woods, Designer: “So today we are laser-scanning the catapult troughs. This is where we used to have construction sketchers in here, where they’d have to sketch things up by hand, which I’ve been told could be a four- to six-week process. By using laser-scanning, we’re trying to trim that down to a matter of days.”

Amy Wells, Designer: “This will eliminate a lot of human error of sending a sketcher down here with a mechanic to take measurements with a tape measure, draw up a scan—[they] can write a measurement down wrong, then the shop manufacturer’s wrong, then the trades get a pan that’s made wrong, and then, of course, you’re starting back over again. So this will eliminate a lot of little mistakes that could cause a lot of re-work.”

Woods: “It shows the forward-thinking process that we’re looking at, bringing the technology in and changing the game and not building the ships the way we used to—leveraging the technology to improve that process.”