Vice Adm. Mark E. Ferguson directed via NAVADMIN (176/08) June 27, that commanding officers employ a new E7-E9 Evaluation and Counseling record (CHIEFEVAL), starting with the Sept. 15 chief petty officer (CPO) and senior chief petty officer evaluation cycles.

For the past decade chiefs, senior chiefs and master chiefs had been evaluated on a fitness report (FITREP) form identical to that used by the officer community. The new CHIEFEVAL clearly separates the two, incorporating the guiding principles as the performance traits. Since their introduction to the fleet in September 2006, the guiding principles have been included in chief's mess training, chief selectee training, selection board precepts for E7-E9, the command master chief instruction and the Senior Enlisted Academy curriculum.

The guiding principles -- deckplate leadership, institutional and technical expertise, professionalism, loyalty, character, active communication and a sense of heritage -- replace the previous performance traits. Earlier traits included professional expertise, command or organizational climate/equal opportunity, military bearing/character, teamwork, mission accomplishment and initiative, leadership and tactical performance.

Once the CHIEFEVAL was deemed ready for fleet testing, it was sent to command master chiefs aboard every type of Navy vessel and to commands in every theater. Their feedback was forwarded to NPC to work out user-discovered issues.

The CHIEFEVAL will be ready for download from the NPC Web site, www.npc.navy.mil, and for use fleet-wide in July. Personnel downloading the form will also have access to a user reference guide, which will give step-by-step instructions. If questions persist, COMNAVPERSCOM (PERS-311) customer service is available to provide clarification at (901) 874-3313/4881/DSN 882.