GSM - Gas Turbine Systems Technician (Mechanical)

Gas Turbine Systems Technicians (Mechanical) operate, repair and perform organizational and intermediate maintenance on electrical components of gas turbine engines, main propulsion machinery, auxiliary equipment, propulsion control systems, and assigned electrical and electronic circuitry up to the printed circuit and alarm warning circuitry.

**WHAT THEY DO**
- Maintaining and repairing gas turbine engines and auxiliary equipment;
- Working with blueprints, schematics and charts;
- Performing administrative procedures related to gas turbine propulsion system operation and maintenance;
- Performing work area inspections;
- Testing lubricating oil and distillate fuels for contamination, neutralization and precipitation;
- Operating standard test equipment;
- Stopping engines and checking proper performance;
- Replacing and adjusting operating tolerance of contacts, micro switches, relay switches, pressure switches and temperature switches;
- Operating electric plant control and main propulsion equipment;
- Performing preventive maintenance on ship's fuel system and air system;
- Maintaining sea water service system, waste drain system, oil purification system and manually operated valves;
- Using hoisting and lifting devices and maintaining special tools;
- Maintaining and operating ship's service gas turbine generators and support systems;
- Maintaining and controlling ship's service steam water chemistry;
- Maintaining the controllable pitch propeller system.

**CAREER PATH AFTER RECRUIT TRAINING**
Enlisted are taught the fundamentals of this rating through on-the-job training or formal Navy schooling. Advanced technical and operational training is available in this rating during later stages of career development. Temporary assignments to general duty, sometimes aboard ship, may be required while awaiting advanced training assignments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Present Location</th>
<th>Approximate Training Time</th>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>Training Methods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic Engineering Common Core and GSM “A” School</td>
<td>Great Lakes, IL</td>
<td>15 weeks</td>
<td>Introduction to technical documentation, basic mechanical theory, safety precautions and programs, alignment and operation of piping systems and equipment, hand tools, precision instruments, lubricants, bearings, couplings, gears, valves, pumps and the Maintenance Material Management System (3M); Introduction to technical documentation, basic watch standing procedures, alignment and operation of piping systems and equipment, hand tools, precision instruments, lubricants and lubricating systems, bearings, couplings, gears, valves, pumps, the Maintenance Material Management System (3M), gas turbine engine theory, propulsion machinery, digital logic control system, electromechanical and electro hydraulic servo devices, electrical power and generative distribution</td>
<td>Self-Paced Group instruction and practical application</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During a 20-year period in the Navy, GSMs spend about 65 percent of their time assigned to fleet units and 35 percent to shore stations.

**WORKING ENVIRONMENT**
Gas Turbine Systems Technicians usually work in engine rooms or shops that may be hot and noisy aboard many types of modern ships. At shore they may work at major repair or training facilities. Work is physical and analytical (trouble-shooting) for electronic components.
GSM - Gas Turbine Systems Technician (Mechanical)

**OPPORTUNITIES**

Opportunities for placement in this rating are excellent. Approximately 2,800 men and women work in this rating.

**QUALIFICATIONS & INTERESTS**

Personnel in this rating must have mechanical ability, manual dexterity and normal color perception. They should also have experience working with machines and have had some courses in physics.

**MANAGE A NAVY CAREER WITH NAVY LADR**

See the Navy LaDR (Learning and Development Roadmap) for this rating:

GSM [https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/LaDR/gsm_e1_e9.pdf](https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/LaDR/gsm_e1_e9.pdf)

**EARN COLLEGE CREDIT**

The American Council on Education recommends that semester hour credits be awarded in the vocational certificate and lower-division bachelor’s / associate’s degree categories for courses taken in this rating on word processing or data entry applications and office management procedures. See the college credits available via a Joint Services Transcript for this rating:


**EARN DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL) NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED APPRENTICESHIPS**

The United Services Military Apprenticeship Program (USMAP) is a formal military training program that provides active duty and Full Time Support (FTS) Service members the opportunity to improve their job skills and to complete their civilian apprenticeship requirements while they are on active duty. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) provides the nationally recognized “Certificate of Completion” upon program completion. Visit United Services Military Apprenticeship Program (USMAP) for apprenticeships:


**EARN INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS**

Navy COOL catalogs and defines comprehensive information on occupational credentials - including certifications, licenses, and apprenticeships - correlating with every Navy rating and some collateral duties. It provides “how to” instructions for pursuing these credentials, links to credentialing organizations, and cross-references to programs that help Sailors pay for credentialing fees. Shortly following the initial rating technical training (Class “A” technical school), Sailors may be able to take advantage of earning civilian/industry certifications & licenses (credentials), funded through Navy COOL.

**EARN SKILL SETS TOWARDS CIVILIAN RELATED OCCUPATIONS**

The skill sets for this rating crosswalk to civilian related occupations listed by the U.S. Department of Labor. See Related Civilian, Federal and Military Sealift Command Occupations for this rating on Navy COOL.

Visit the Navy COOL website:


**DOWNLOAD THE NAVY COOL APP**

Navy COOL App (iOS):


Navy COOL App (Android):


Note: Since Navy programs and courses are revised at times, the information contained on this card is subject to change.

Revised: November 2019