**Washington D.C.** – Today, Congressman Rob Wittman applauded the Northrop Grumman Newport News Shipyard on receiving the U.S. Government's highest rating for excellence in workplace health and safety.

"Northrop Grumman's employees today continued to demonstrate their commitment to safely building some of the finest vessels that our service members rely on to protect our shores. Performing their jobs to the highest standard of safety and excellence is highly commendable", said Wittman.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Voluntary Protection Program awarded the shipyard with STAR status, the highest level of recognition. The Program is a partnership between employers and OSHA to promote workplace safety and health. Since 1995, Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding has been the largest STAR site in the U.S. demonstrating a consistently declining accident rate that is among the lowest in the shipbuilding industry.

*Congressman Rob Wittman represents the First District of Virginia. He was elected to his first full term in November 2008 and serves on the Natural Resources Committee and the Armed Services Committee where he is the Ranking Member of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.*