



# Acquisition Directorate

# NATIONAL SECURITY CUTTER

Mission execution begins here.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

At 418 feet, the Legend-class National Security Cutter (NSC) is designed to be the flagship of the U.S. Coast Guard's fleet, capable of executing the most challenging maritime security, law enforcement and national defense missions, including supporting the mission requirements of joint U.S. combatant commanders. The largest and most technologically advanced of the recapitalization program's three major classes of cutters, the NSCs will replace the aging 378-foot High Endurance Cutters that have been in service since the 1960s. The first two NSCs, Bertholf and Waesche, have been commissioned and are conducting operational patrols. Stratton (NSC 3) has been delivered to the Coast Guard. The fourth NSC, Hamilton, is under construction and NSC 5 (James) is under contract with Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding in Pascagoula, Miss.



## FEATURES:

- Automated weapons systems capable of stopping rogue merchant vessels far from shore
- Larger flight decks
- State-of-the-art command and control equipment to enhance interoperability
- Detection and defense capability against chemical, biological or radiological attack
- Advanced sensors contribute intelligence to a common operating picture and provide enhanced maritime domain awareness

## CHARACTERISTICS:

- Number Planned:** Eight
- Length:** 418 feet
- Beam:** 54 feet
- Draft:** 22 feet 6 inches
- Full Load Displacement:** 4,500 long tons
- Propulsion:** Combined diesel and gas turbine with two 9,655-horsepower diesels and one 30,565-brake horsepower turbine
- Max Sustained Speed:** 28 knots
- Range:** 12,000 nautical miles
- Endurance:** 60 to 90-day patrol cycles
- Armament:** Mk110 57 mm. gun; 20 mm close-in weapon system (CIWS); Mk53 decoy launching system (NULKA)
- Sensors:** X and S band radar; 3-D air search radar; SPQ-9B radar; AN/SLQ-32 electronic warfare suite
- Stern Launch:** Two cutter boats
- Aviation Facilities:** MH-65D or MH-60T helicopter
- Berthing:** 148

*“With their unmatched combination of range, speed and ability to operate in extreme weather conditions, the case for the national security cutter is simple – we are a safer and more secure nation when they are patrolling the high seas.”*

*—Rear Adm. John Korn, U.S. Coast Guard Assistant Commandant for Acquisition*