The national security cutter acquisition program addresses the Coast Guard’s need for open-ocean patrol cutters with the seakeeping, habitability, endurance and technological advancement to serve as command and control centers in the most demanding maritime environments. Each NSC is built to serve as operational-level headquarters for complex law enforcement, defense and national security missions involving Coast Guard and multiple partner agency participation.

The NSCs feature advanced command, control, communication, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance equipment, aviation support facilities, stern cutter boat launch, and long-endurance station keeping. The NSCs are replacing the 378-foot high endurance cutters, which have been in service since the 1960s.

Four NSCs are in service. Coast Guard Cutters Bertholf, Waesche and Stratton are based in Alameda, California. Coast Guard Cutter Hamilton is based in Charleston, South Carolina.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number Planned:</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length:</td>
<td>418 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beam:</td>
<td>54 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft:</td>
<td>22 feet 6 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displacement:</td>
<td>4,500 long tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum Speed:</td>
<td>28 knots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range:</td>
<td>12,000 nautical miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endurance:</td>
<td>60- to 90-day patrol cycles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For updates on the NSC, visit the program’s website at http://www.uscg.mil/acquisition/nsc/
C4ISR SYSTEMS

Coast Guard Command and Control (CGC2)
- AN/SPS-73 surface search radar
- TRS-3D/16-ES air search radar
- Identification friend or foe transponder
- Electro-optical/infrared sensor system
- Automatic Identification System
- AN/SLQ-32 electronic warfare suite

Communications
- HF
- VHF
- UHF
- EHF

HULL, MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS

Propulsion System:
- Two MTU 20V 1163 marine diesel engines
- One General Electric LM2500 main gas turbine

Electrical System:
- Three Caterpillar 3512B ship’s service diesel generators.

Shipboard Collective Protection System

Weapons Systems
- One Mk 160 gun fire-control system
- One Mk 110 57-mm naval gun system
- One Phalanx 20-mm close-in weapon system
- Two Mk 53 Nulka decoy launching systems
- Two Mk 36 Super Rapid Blooming Offboard Countermeasures chaff launching systems
- Four .50-caliber machine guns
- Two M240B 7.62-mm machine guns

EXTENDED OPERATIONS

Aviation:
- Two MH-65D helicopters
- One MH-65D and two unmanned aircraft systems (future capability)

Cutter Boats:
- Two OTH-IVs
- One LRI-II