Acquisition Directorate

Surface Fact Sheet

January 2008

National Security Cutter (NSC)

Length = 418 ft
Speed = 28 kts
Range = 12,000 nm
Endurance = 60 to 90 Days

Offshore Patrol Cutter (OPC)

Length = 360 ft
Speed = 25 kts
Range = 9,000 nm
Endurance = 45 Days

Preliminary Characteristics

Coastal Patrol Boat (CPB)

Length = 87 ft
Speed = 25 kts
Range = 600 nm
Endurance = 5 Days

Response Boat - Medium (RBM)

Length = 45 ft
Speed = 42 kts
Range = 250 nm
Endurance = 1 Day

Fast Response Cutter (FRC)

Length = 120 - 160 ft
Speed = 28+ kts
Range = 2,950 nm
Endurance = 5 Days

Preliminary Characteristics

Mission execution begins *here.*

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National Security Cutter (NSC) (8 planned)

Mission Capability: The Deepwater NSC will be the flagship of the Coast Guard's fleet, with capabilities matched to maritime security and national defense mission requirements. The NSC will have a stern ramp to accommodate small boat launch and recovery in higher sea states than conventional davit systems aboard legacy cutters. The new generation of cutter boats, including the Long Range Interceptor and Short Range Prosecutor, improve a cutter crew's over-the-horizon and local force protection capabilities. Contrasted with legacy cutters, the NSC will feature increased range and endurance (60–90 day patrol cycles); more powerful weapons; larger flight decks; chem-bio & radiological environmental hazard detection and defence; and improved Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) equipment. The cutters will be equipped with air and surface search radars and target classification sensors. The cutters' ISR range and capabilities will be extended and augmented by manned and unmanned aircraft.

Status: The NSC program is one of the most rapid ship-building programs in the Coast Guard's history. The first NSC, Bertholf (WMSL 750), was christened on November 11, 2006, and is more than 95 percent complete. Delivery of Bertholf is planned for 2008. NSC No. 2, the Waesche (WMSL 751), had its keel laid on September 11, 2006, and is more than 44 percent complete. NSC No. 3 materials acquisition began in 2007.

Offshore Patrol Cutter (OPC) (25 planned)

Mission Capability: The Deepwater acquisition plan includes 25 OPCs, which will notionally be 360 feet long, powered by four diesel engines, with an endurance of 45 days. OPCs are to be adaptable, multi-mission vessels with a C4ISR electronics suite, and capable of sustained, intensive small boat and flight operations in support of law enforcement, defense and search & rescue missions. The OPCs will complement the NSCs' capabilities, including air surveillance with helicopters and unmanned air vehicles; increased situational awareness through an integrated C4ISR electronics suite; improved force protection and automated armament (including a 57mm deck gun); and improved defenses for operating in chemical, biological, or radiological contaminated environments.

Status: The Coast Guard is re-evaluating the requirements and design of the OPCs.

Coastal Patrol Boat (CPB) (73 planned)

Mission Capability: The 87' Coastal Patrol Boat was tailored to meet a myriad of Coast Guard missions, including Search and Rescue, Law Enforcement, Fisheries, Drug Interdiction, and Alien Interdiction. This vessel has also proven to be versatile in adapting to Homeland Security missions.

Status: To date, 65 Coast Guard CPB's and 2 Republic of Malta CPB's (sold through the Acquisition Directorate's Foreign Military Sales [FMS] program) have been accepted. Contract options have been executed for the purchase of an additional 8 CPB's, 4 of which will be Coast Guard owned while 4 will be owned by the USN.

Response Boat Medium (RB-M) (180 planned)

Mission Capability: The RB-M will conduct a broad range of vital Coast Guard missions, including homeland security, search and rescue, and law enforcement.

Status: The RB-M is the replacement for the Coast Guard's fleet of 41 ft Utility Boats and other large non-standard station boats. On 21 June 2006, the Coast Guard awarded a contract to Marinette Marine Corp.. (MMC). The Coast Guard expects to purchase approximately 180 RB-Ms over a period of eight years. MMC is partnered with Kvichak Marine Industries for construction which will take place at KMI's facility in Seattle and then expand with a second production line in Wisconsin. The RB-M is based on a CAMARC design. MMC will also provide extensive interim logistics support to the RB-M fleet working with EDO Corporation. Delivery of the first RB-M is expected in early 2008.

Fast Response Cutter (FRC) (58 planned)

Mission Capability: With a notional design speed of more than 28 knots, a range of 4,230 nautical miles and an endurance of up to seven days, the FRC will enhance Coast Guard response time, readiness and mission capabilities. Notionally, the FRC will be armed with a stabilized 25mm machine gun mount, and multiple 50 cal. machine gun mounts. Coast Guard patrol boats are among the workhorses of the fleet, performing a full range of missions including port, waterway and coastal security, fishery patrols and national defense.

Status: The original Deepwater acquisition strategy for the FRC was accelerated by 10 years to fill the operational gap of the aging 110ft. ocean going patrol boats, in order to meet the Coast Guard's urgent need for more endurance hours. Request for Proposal was issued on 22 June 2007, with proposals due 20 November 2007, for a first flight of between 12 – 34 boats based on an existing in-production design.