



# U.S. COAST GUARD



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#### OPERATIONAL DRESS UNIFORM (ODU) UPDATE

We have made considerable progress since my last update just two weeks ago. The initial rollout backlog has been reduced from 965 to 94 personnel, and the most critical inventory shortages have been reduced to just two sizes of coats/tops (38L and 40L). While our inventory levels in a handful of other sizes remains guarded and available for new accessions and rollout only, we are able to meet most service needs. With the disruptive effects of hurricane IVAN behind us, we now expect to be able to clear the entire initial rollout backlog within the next four weeks. Our final shipment of critical sizes from the current contractor is expected on 15 November 2004.

As previously reported, the complete initial rollout backorder list is posted on the Uniform Distribution Center (UDC) website at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wp/udc/>. Those active and reserve members who have not yet received their initial issue and do not see their name on the UDC site should follow the instructions on the website by sending an email to the designated UDC point of contact. The UDC staff will research the matter and work with the member to have their name added to the backorder list as appropriate.

The UDC is currently processing individual orders from members now seeking to replace worn ODU uniforms. In the short-term, these individual sales are limited to those sizes that are in abundance. New accessions remain a priority. The Auxiliary rollout is still scheduled to begin in calendar year 2005 following the receipt of ODUs from a new contract that was awarded by Defense Supply Center Philadelphia earlier this month. The exact start date for the Auxiliary rollout will be announced once the new manufacturer has passed the First Article testing process.

Regards,

*RADM Kenneth T. Venuto*  
Ken Venuto

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