



Acquisition Directorate



Surface Fact Sheet

October 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 = 357 ft*
Speed = 25 kts*
Range = 7,500 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 = 153 ft
Speed = 28+ kts
Range = 2,950 nm*
Endurance = 5 Days

* Preliminary Characteristics

Mission execution begins here.

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 has 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 has 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 are 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, CGC BERTHOLF (WMSL 750), was christened on November 11, 2006, and the U.S. Coast Guard conducted preliminary acceptance (delivery) of BERTHOLF, May 8, 2008 in Pascagoula, Miss. The delivery is a major milestone in BERTHOLF's transition to full operational status in the Coast Guard's fleet and represents preliminary acceptance of the cutter. BERTHOLF was commissioned on Aug. 4, 2008. NSC No. 2, the *Waesche* (WMSL 751), had its keel laid on September 11, 2006, and is more than 65 percent complete. Christened on July 26, 2008, *Waesche* is on track for delivery in 2009. Keel laying for NSC No. 3, *Stratton* (WMSL 752) is scheduled for summer 2009 with delivery scheduled for 2011.

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: With a successful milestone 1 (project authorization), the Coast Guard formally entered a concept and technology development phase on Jan 8, 2008.

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, 67 Coast Guard CPB's and two 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 six CPB's, two of which will be Coast Guard owned while four 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: This year the Coast Guard has accepted delivery of three Response Boat - Medium (RB-M), one to CG Station Little Creek, Va., one to Cape Disappointment, Wash., and one to Key West, Fl., where the new boats are undergoing operational test and evaluation. The Coast Guard will acquire 180 RB-M to replace its aging 41-foot and non-standard utility boats. Three other Coast Guard stations have been selected to receive the RB-Ms in 2008.

Fast Response Cutter (FRC) Sentinel Class Patrol Boat (58 planned)

Mission Capability: With a design speed of more than 28 knots, a notional range of 2,950 nautical miles and an endurance of up to five days, the FRC will enhance Coast Guard response time, readiness and mission capabilities. The Sentinel Class Patrol Boat 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. The award for the design and construction of the FRC/Sentinel Class Patrol Boat was to Bollinger Shipyards, Inc., on September 26, 2008, for a first flight of between 12 – 34 boats based on the Damen 4708 design. Delivery of first boat late 2010.