

# JOINT MARITIME TEST FACILITY



Acquisition  
Directorate



Boarding Teams Tactical Communications Testing used the Joint Maritime Test Facility ex-USS Shadwell in June 2015



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Strategically located in Mobile, Alabama, as an organizational element of the Coast Guard Research and Development Center and the Navy's Naval Research Laboratories
- Maintains a permanent liaison between RDC and NRL in support of the RDC-NRL joint research agreement
- Provides relevant maritime test environments that meet (or have appropriate waivers for) all federal, state and local environmental standards
- Provides RDC and NRL principal investigations with:
  - Full-scale, in situ mock-ups as the sole national testing facility for maritime fire protection research
  - Relevant in situ maritime test environments for other RDC/NRL mission support equipment research



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## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Joint Maritime Test Facility – an organizational element of the Coast Guard Research and Development Center and the U.S. Navy's Naval Research Laboratories – provides an instrumented, real-world maritime test environment for the evaluation and demonstration of shipboard fire protection and other RDC/NRL mission support equipment. The JMTF is the only facility in the world with a maritime vessel, the ex-USS Shadwell, for conducting shipboard security and safety testing that holds an environmental permit for conducting full-scale fire tests.

Nearby Little Sand Island contains additional facilities including a newly refurbished test tank for large-scale oil fire scenarios. The in situ burn test

tank is in the process of being restored and readied for operations. The facilities provide relevant maritime test environments that meet (or have appropriate waivers for) all federal, state and local environmental standards.

To improve operational performance, efficiency, mission execution and resiliency, the JMTF has worked with partner Domestic Nuclear Detection Office for identification of equipment with capabilities to detect explosives and radioactive materials.



## FOCUS AREAS

- Underwater imaging system: to develop UIS concept of operations
- Mobile asset tracking and reporting device: to enhance Coast Guard responses to incidents of national significance
- Nonlethal weapons munitions: to build upon the capability to enforce maritime law
- Special monitoring of applied response technologies: to identify technology improvements to current oil spill response
- Improved in situ burning for offshore use: to identify tools to determine its use as a response option
- Viability of wellhead ignition in situ burning: to assess its use as a response and its impact on other response strategies

Mission execution begins **here**.