



# Acquisition Directorate



# Surface Fact Sheet

August 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 = 120 - 160 ft  
Speed = 30+ 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 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, 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 63 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, 65 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 eight CPB's, four 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 two Response Boat - Medium (RB-M), one to CG Station Little Creek, Va., and one to Cape Disappointment, Wash., 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. Four other Coast Guard stations have been selected to receive the RB-Ms in 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 five 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.