



# Acquisition Directorate

# NATIONWIDE AUTOMATIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM

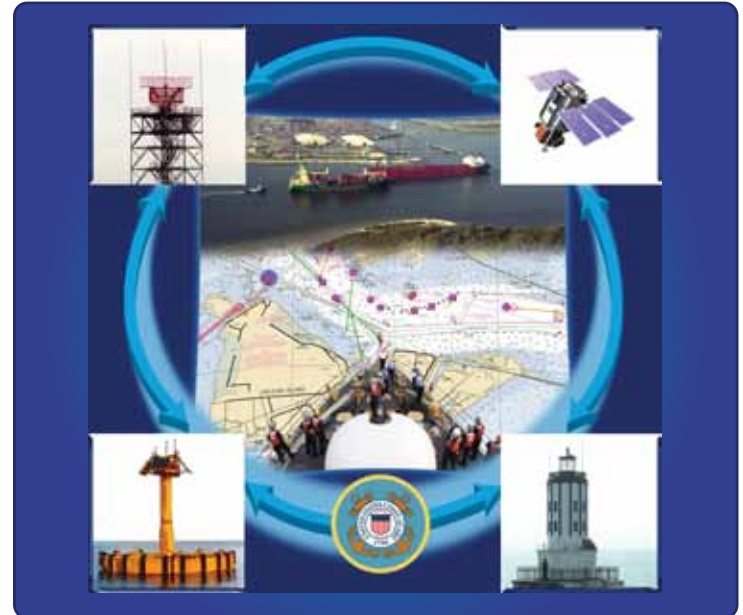
Mission execution begins here.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Coast Guard's Nationwide Automatic Identification System (NAIS) enhances maritime domain awareness with a focus on improving security, navigational safety, search and rescue, and environmental protection services. NAIS is based on the Automatic Identification System (AIS), a technology sanctioned by the International Maritime Organization as a global standard for ship-to-ship, ship-to-shore and shore-to-ship communications. NAIS uses digital VHF wave forms to continually transmit and receive voiceless data. The NAIS project was initiated in response to the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002.

The system combines AIS data—such as vessel location, source and speed—with other government information and sensor data to form a holistic view of maritime vessel traffic near the continental U.S. and its territorial waters.

Informed by a comprehensive view of traffic on the nation's waterways, decision makers are better positioned to respond to safety and security risks. NAIS improves the safety of vessels and ports through collision avoidance and strengthens national security through detection, identification and classification of potential threats while they are still offshore.



Since September 2007, the Coast Guard has had an interim NAIS capability at 58 U.S. ports and 11 coastal areas to receive data from out to 24 nautical miles offshore. The system currently receives 64 million AIS messages per day from approximately 7,900 unique vessels. The permanent system will provide transceive capability, transmitting data out to 24 nautical miles and receiving data from out to 50 nautical miles.

For updates on NAIS, visit the project's website at <http://www.uscg.mil/acquisition/nais>.

## FEATURES:

- Land, sea and space-based AIS radio frequency infrastructure capable of receiving and transmitting information from and to AIS-equipped vessels in U.S. coastal zones, waterways and ports
- Consists of an integrated system of AIS, data storage, processing and networking infrastructure
- Leverages the in-place (or existing) infrastructure and communication towers of the Coast Guard's Rescue 21 system
- Coast Guard Sectors Delaware Bay, Hampton Roads and Mobile, representing a total of eight ports, are the first to receive the permanent system