

NATIONAL SECURITY CUTTER

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Legend-class National Security Cutter (NSC) is the centerpiece of the Coast Guard's fleet, capable of executing the most challenging operations, including supporting maritime homeland security and defense missions. The largest and most technologically advanced of the Coast Guard's newest classes of cutters, the NSCs will replace the aging 378-foot High Endurance Cutters, which have been in service since the 1960s.

Three NSCs have been commissioned in service. The Coast Guard Cutters Bertholf, Weasche and Stratton are homeported at Coast Guard Island, Alameda, Calif.

For updates on the NSC, visit the project's website at http://www.uscg.mil/acquisition/nsc/default.asp.



FEATURES:

- Automated weapons systems capable of stopping rogue vessels far from shore
- Large flight deck
- State-of-the-art command and control equipment to enhance interoperability
- Detection and defense capabilities against chemical, biological or radiological attack
- Advanced sensors to contribute intelligence to a common operating picture and provide enhanced maritime domain awareness

CHARACTERISTICS:

Number Planned: eight

Length: 418 feet

Beam: 54 feet

Draft: 22 feet 6 inches

Displacement: 4,500 long tons

Maximum Speed: 28 knots

Range: 12,000 nautical miles

Endurance: 60- to 90-day patrol cycles

Crew: 122

"With their unmatched combination of range, speed and ability to operate in extreme weather conditions, the case for the National Security Cutter is simple—we are a safer and more secure nation when they are patrolling the high seas."

-Rear Adm. John Korn, U.S. Coast Guard Assistant Commandant for Acquisition



STATUS:

C4ISR SYSTEMS

Coast Guard Command and Control (CGC2)

AN/SPS-73 Surface Search Radar TRS-3D/16-ES air search radar Identification friend or foe transponder Electro-optical/infrared sensor system Automatic Identification System AN/SQL-32 Electronic Warfare Suite

Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF)

Communications

HF

VHF

UHF EHF

SYSTEMS

Propulsion System

Two MTU 20V 1163 marine diesel engines One General Electric LM2500 main gas turbine

HULL, MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL

Electrical System

Three Caterpillar 3512B ship's service diesel generators

Shipboard Collective Protection System

Weapons Systems

One Mk 160 gun fire-control system
One Mk 110 57 mm naval gun system
One Phalanx 20 mm Close-In Weapon System
Two Mk 53 Nulka Decoy Launching Systems
Two Mk 36 Super Rapid Blooming Off-board
Chaff launch systems
Four .50-cailber machine guns
Two M240B 7.62 mm machine guns



Coast Guard Cutter Bertholf (WMSL 750)

EXTENDED OPERATIONS

Aviation

Two MH-65D helicopters

or

One MH-65D and two Unmanned Aircraft Systems (future capability)

Cutter Boats

Two Over-the-Horizon IVs

One Long Range Interceptor II



Coast Guard Cutter Stratton (WMSL 752)