



Acquisition Directorate

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION PROGRAM

Mission execution begins here.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The Coast Guard's Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) program enhances acquisition and mission execution by helping transition new technologies into the service's operational forces. The program is comprised of the Office of RDT&E near Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C., and the Research and Development Center (RDC) at New London, Conn. The RDC is the Coast Guard's sole facility performing applied RDT&E experimentation and demonstrations.

At any given time, the RDT&E program is working on more than 80 projects that support Coast Guard requirements across all mission areas. The program also provides Coast Guard leadership with knowledge necessary for making strategic decisions. The RDT&E program leverages partnerships with academia, other government agencies and private industry to anticipate and research solutions to future technological challenges. Examples of partners include the Office of Naval Research and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

RDT&E projects fall into seven main program areas: surface; aviation; command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnais-



Oil in ice recovery demo.

sance (C4ISR); acquisition support and analysis, environment and waterways, modeling and simulation center of excellence, test and evaluation. Test and evaluation activities support the entire Coast Guard in requirements verification planning, including mission-specific test preparation and deck-plate procedure execution. The program is equipped to support both development and operational test efforts in the surface, aviation, C4ISR and logistics domains.

For updates on many RDT&E projects, visit the R&D Center's website at <http://www.uscg.mil/acquisition/rdc/default.asp>.

FEATURES:

- Human factors analysis
- Requirements analysis and pre-acquisition technical development
- Assessment of feasibility and affordability of new technologies
- Risk management analysis at all stages of the acquisition process
- Independent technical analysis and operational effectiveness modeling
- Examples of recent RDC projects include:
 - Underwater imaging system prototype development.
 - Polar icebreaker business case analysis.
 - Ballast water treatment systems.
 - Oil-in-ice response demonstration.