



## Acquisition Directorate



The U.S. Coast Guard's C4ISR Program develops and integrates electronic equipment and computer systems on Coast Guard cutters.



### BENEFITS

- Effective electronics systems to equip cutters for the full range of Coast Guard missions
- Improved interoperability with partner agencies, other U.S. military units and allied nations
- Advanced radio, satellite and internal communications
- Improved sensor capabilities, including enhanced radar and infrared scanner
- Standardized equipment on Coast Guard cutters
- Efficient design that lowers long-term maintenance costs

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR) acquisition program acquires and integrates electronic sensors and computer networking, data processing and information-sharing equipment, enabling Coast Guard operators to perform mission tasks, develop situational awareness and improve coordination with U.S. agencies and allied nations. The program also provides command and control equipment that enables cutter crews to navigate, maneuver, target and fire weapons; collect and analyze sensor data; and perform other tasks to support ship operations.

The C4ISR Program conducted combat trials in December 2015 for the Sea Commander system, which provides sensor information, target tracking, weapons control and other tactical capabilities for the national security cutter (NSC). Sea Commander has been installed on Coast Guard Cutter Wausche, and the C4ISR Program began upgrading the other NSCs in summer 2016.

The program also acquires communication and information-sharing capabilities for Coast Guard cutters. The project is equipping cutters to transmit voice and data communications via radio and satellite more efficiently. Chat and instant messaging have improved coordination with other vessels and aircraft during missions, and

improved data sharing allows NSC commanders to share briefing materials and other files with partners. The new systems allow operators to organize missions with multiple units from the Coast Guard, other U.S. agencies and allied nations using shared tactical and intelligence information from multiple sources.

In 2016, the C4ISR Program completed the installation of upgraded internal communications equipment on in-service cutters. The new equipment includes improved wireless radio systems and hands-free headsets that increase efficiency in firefighting and other emergency situations.

The C4ISR Program is currently working with the polar icebreaker and offshore patrol cutter programs to help them develop requirements for the electronic systems on future cutters.

Advanced C4ISR systems are necessary for the Coast Guard to carry out its law enforcement, environmental protection, and search and rescue missions. The service has also taken on greater counterterrorism and homeland defense responsibilities, and upgraded systems are required to meet those challenges. The C4ISR Program strives to ensure that Coast Guard operators are always equipped with the capabilities needed to execute mission tasks.

For updates on C4ISR, visit the program's website at <https://www.uscg.mil/acquisition/c4isr/>

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[www.uscg.mil/acquisition](http://www.uscg.mil/acquisition)

Mission execution begins *here*.