



# RHUMB LINES

*Straight Lines to Navigate By*



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## Littoral Combat Ship (LCS)

*"The awards represent a unique and valuable opportunity to lock in the benefits of competition and provide needed ships to our fleet in a timely and extraordinarily cost-effective manner,"*

**– Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus**

### Vital Asset to the Fleet

- A fast, agile, mission-focused platform designed to operate in near-shore environments, yet capable of open-ocean operation, LCS will eventually make up almost one quarter of the surface combatant fleet.
- Its modular design allows LCS to be tailored specifically for the mission at hand – flexible solutions deliver needed capabilities for evolving threats.

### Buying Both LCS Designs

- By leveraging the competitive, fixed-price proposals from both bidders, the Navy received authorization from Congress to pursue a dual-block buy, for a total of 20 ships, from both shipbuilding teams, Lockheed Martin Corporation and Austal USA.
- This dual-block buy opportunity increases near-term ship procurement at significant cost savings, meets operational requirements sooner, and still maintains options for future competition.
- One LCS will be awarded to each of the LCS shipbuilders using Fiscal Year 10 appropriated funds. With this award, Lockheed Martin and Austal USA will be able to begin work on LCS 5 and LCS 6.
- The contracts will each include line items for an additional nine ships per team subject to annual budget requests and congressional approval. The Navy anticipates awarding one additional FY11 ship to each builder as quickly as possible.
- Under the dual award, both shipbuilders will also deliver a technical data package, providing a wide range of viable alternatives for effective future competition.

### LCS Program Today

- Both of the lead ships, [USS Freedom \(LCS 1\)](#) and [USS Independence \(LCS 2\)](#), are in service, executing fleet operational tasking as well as conducting a comprehensive test and evaluation program.
- The LCS shipbuilding teams are currently building their second ships with lessons learned from the lead ships incorporated into the designs. Both shipbuilders have significantly improved performance over their lead ships as a result of design stability and through improvements in facilities and production efficiencies.
- [LCS 3 \(Fort Worth\)](#), under construction at Marinette Marine, was recently launched on Dec. 4, 2010. [LCS 4 \(Coronado\)](#) is under construction at Austal USA. Both ships are expected to be delivered in 2012.
- The Navy remains committed to a 55-ship LCS program, with an acquisition strategy that uses competition, fixed price type contracts, and block buy procurement in order to meet our overarching objectives of performance and affordability.

### **Mission Packages**

- Three Flight 0 Mission Module Packages:
  1. [Mine Warfare](#) – to hunt, identify, localize and neutralize mines.
  2. Littoral Anti-Submarine Warfare – to detect, track and neutralize quiet diesel electric submarines operating in shallow water.
  3. Littoral Surface Warfare – to search, detect, localize and engage small boats.

### **Facts & Figures**

- High speed and shallow draft assure access to the littorals: capable of 40+ knots with a draft less than 20 feet.
- Complement: 40 Sailors (core crew) plus mission package crews.
- Engineering: combined gas turbine (2) and diesel (2) engines with steerable water jets; diesel generators (4).