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Surface Combatant Ship Programs for Future Readiness

"Based on requirements from the combatant commanders, we are using our surge capacity. There is a deficit for naval forces globally. The Navy must execute an affordable shipbuilding plan with the capability and capacity to meet our nation's global maritime needs."

– VADM Barry McCullough, Deputy CNO, Integration of Capabilities and Resources

The Navy is acquiring the force structure with the capability and capacity to continue executing the Maritime Strategy. The Navy must adjust investments to recapitalize the force while providing capabilities to prevent and win wars.

Aegis Cruiser/Destroyer Modernization Program

- Modernization programs bridge the gap to future surface combatants and facilitate a more rapid and affordable capability insertion process.
- Hull, mechanical and electrical upgrades will be made to all cruisers and destroyers to reduce crew workload and ensure these ships reach their expected service life.
- Combat systems upgrades provide the capability to pace emerging threats and ensure these ships remain combat relevant throughout their expected service life.

DDG 51

- Fifty-six DDG 51 guided missile destroyers have been delivered with six in various stages of construction.

Littoral Combat Ship

- The 55-ship LCS program is critical to achieving a minimum of 313 ships, the floor of the Navy force structure.
- LCS will carry modular focused-mission packages that deploy manned and unmanned vehicles to execute a variety of missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface warfare and mine countermeasures.
- LCS's inherent characteristics (speed, agility, shallow draft, payload capacity, reconfigurable mission spaces, air/water craft capabilities) combined with its core systems (Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Intelligence, sensors and weapons), provide the flexibility to operate independently or in groups to support the warfighting commanders.

DDG 1000

- Dual-lead ship contracts were signed in February 2008 for construction of the first two ships. DDG 1000 pre-fabrication ceremonies were held in Bath, Maine, on Feb. 11 and Gulfport, Miss., on Feb. 12.

Next Generation Cruiser (CG(X))

- CG(X) is envisioned to be a multi-mission surface combatant tailored for Integrated Air and Missile Defense and Joint Air Control Operations. It will contribute to the achievement of the strategic imperatives defined in the Maritime Strategy.
- CG(X) will provide integrated air and missile defense and airspace control to support joint forces in the Sea Base, aerial ports of debarkation/sea ports of debarkation and operating ashore.

Key Messages

- The surface Navy is leading efforts to reduce total operating costs and impact on the environment.
- Modernizing the fleet's cruisers and destroyers is key to an affordable shipbuilding plan.
- The Navy must modernize its ships and develop and build new ships and systems to pace evolving threats.

Facts & Figures

- USS Freedom (LCS 1) commissioned Nov. 8, 2008.
- USS Independence (LCS 2) will commission this year.
- USS Bunker Hill (CG 52) completed the first Cruiser Modernization in San Diego, Calif.
- USS Stockdale (DDG 106) is scheduled to commission April 18.