



**COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT
30 SEPTEMBER 2013**

AUSTAL DELIVERS LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP CORONADO (LCS 4)
3rd ship delivered by Austal to the Navy in less than a year

Independence-variant Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) *Coronado* (LCS 4) was delivered to the Navy on September 27, after successfully completing Acceptance Trials at the end of August. *Coronado* is the second Independence-variant LCS that has been delivered to the U.S. Navy.

The LCS program is in full swing at Austal USA with four other ships under construction at this time. *Coronado* (LCS 4) will soon be followed by *Jackson* (LCS 6) which will launch at the end of this year. Construction is well underway on *Montgomery* (LCS 8) and *Gabrielle Giffords* (LCS 10). *Omaha* (LCS 12) started construction in the last month.

Austal is the largest manufacturing employer in the area, with over 3,700 shipbuilders, an increase of 3,000 in just a few short years. In addition, there are 1,146 suppliers from 32 states that support the Independence-variant LCS program.

The LCS is a fast, agile, focused-mission platform designed for operation in near-shore environments yet capable of open-ocean operation. This vessel is the second of twelve 127-metre Independence-variant LCS class ships Austal has been contracted to build for the U.S. Navy (including USS *Independence* (LCS 2), delivered to the U.S. Navy in 2009). The final 10 of the 12 LCS ships were awarded to Austal as prime contractor subsequent to a \$3.5 billion block buy in 2010.

Austal has also been contracted by the U.S. Navy to build ten 103-metre Joint High Speed Vessels (JHSV) under a 10-ship, \$1.6 billion contract. Two of the ten have already been delivered. Austal continues to make steady forward progress on the JHSV program as USNS *Millinocket* (JHSV 3) prepares for Builder's Sea Trials in the northern hemisphere autumn and will be delivered to the U.S. Navy later this year. Construction on *Fall River* (JHSV 4) and *Trenton* (JHSV 5) is also well underway in Austal's Mobile, Alabama shipyard.

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About Austal

Austal is a global defence prime contractor. The Company designs, constructs and maintains revolutionary platforms such as the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) and the Joint High Speed Vessel (JHSV) for the U.S. Navy, as well as an extensive range of patrol and auxiliary vessels for defence forces and government agencies globally. Austal also designs, installs, integrates and maintains sophisticated communications, radar and command and control systems.

Austal benefits from its position as a world leader in the design, construction and support of customised, high-performance aluminum vessels for the commercial high-speed ferry market, a record gained over a period of nearly 25 years.

Austal's primary facilities comprise a dedicated defence shipyard in Mobile, Alabama; a dedicated defence shipyard in Henderson, Western Australia; and a dedicated commercial shipyard in Balamban, Philippines. The company also provides vessel support services from its facilities in the United States, Australia, Asia, the Caribbean, and the Middle East.