



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Eastern Shipbuilding Group Announces the U.S. Coast Guard's Exercise of the Options for Construction of the Lead Offshore Patrol Cutter (OPC) and for the Long Lead Time Material for the Second OPC

Panama City, FL, Eastern Shipbuilding announced on September 28, 2018 that the U.S. Coast Guard exercised the fixed-price, incentive option on its Offshore Patrol Cutter (OPC) Contract to build the lead OPC, USCGC ARGUS (WMSM-915). In conjunction, the U.S. Coast also exercised the firm fixed price option for Long Lead Time Materials for OPC #2, USCGC CHASE (WMSM-916). These accomplishments result from two major reviews in July and August, specifically the Final Critical Design Review (FCDR) and Production Readiness Review (PRR).

Eastern's President Mr. Joey D'Isernia noted the following: *"Today represents the beginning of production for the USCG's future replacement of their 210-ft and 270-ft class Medium Endurance Cutters. Our team and subcontractors have worked extremely hard to get these options exercised on time. As we continue this partnership with the USCG, we will deliver vessels which will protect our country's shorelines and national security interests for the next forty plus years. Eastern Shipbuilding along with its vendor network from 29 other states will work tirelessly with the USCG project team to deliver high quality, highly capable vessels on time within budget. Today's success could not have been achieved without the hard work and dedication exhibited by the members of both the ESG and USCG project teams. We are excited to take this monumental next step and look forward to starting construction of USCGC ARGUS."*

The OPC is designed to conduct multiple missions in support of the nation's maritime security and border protection. The OPC will provide a capability bridge between the national security cutter, which patrols the open ocean in the most demanding maritime environments, and the fast response cutter, which serves closer to shore. The OPC design includes the capability of carrying an MH-60R or MH-65 Helicopter and three operational Over-The-Horizon (OTH) small boats. The vessel is also equipped with a highly sophisticated combat system and C4ISR suite that will enhance capabilities to execute the service's missions.

On September 15, 2016, the U.S. Coast Guard exercised the option for Detail Design on Eastern Shipbuilding Group's OPC contract. Eastern Shipbuilding Group will construct the Offshore Patrol Cutters to replace the Medium Endurance Cutters currently in service. The contract includes options for production of up to nine (9) vessels with options for two (2) additional vessels. The U.S. Coast Guard plans to acquire a total of twenty-five (25) Offshore Patrol Cutters.

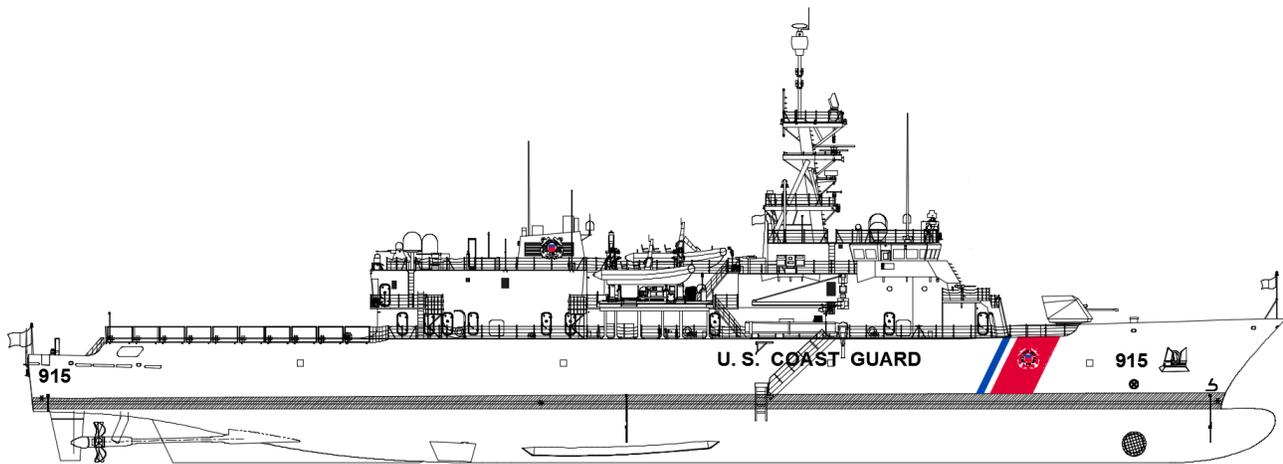
About Eastern Shipbuilding:

Eastern's original shipyard was established in 1976 for the purpose of constructing commercial fishing vessels for the company's founder and CEO, Brian R. D'Isernia. As the owner of a fleet of commercial fishing vessels, Mr. D'Isernia ventured into the world of shipbuilding after learning first hand that the only way to get the type of vessels he wanted was to design the vessels, write the specifications, and build them himself. As he built and developed his own fleet of vessels, other professionals in the industry took notice and also began requesting their own custom-built vessels. Soon customers in areas including New England, the Pacific Northwest and Alaska were contacting Eastern with requests for customized fishing vessels. By 1980, 26 commercial fishing vessels had been constructed and delivered.

Building on his passion for boats and the sea, Mr. D'Isernia decided to diversify Eastern's reputation from a 'Fishing Vessel' shipyard into a shipyard that could fulfill any type of custom vessel request, large or small. In 1981, Eastern's diversification began with the delivery of its first Offshore Supply Vessel. Today, Eastern's portfolio includes over 350 vessels and has become one of the most diversified vessel construction companies as a result of its state of the art production line and fabrication process. Eastern has built everything from Offshore Supply Vessels to Tugs, Articulated Tugs/Barges, Inland Towboats, a SWATH Vessel, Passenger Vessels, Ro-Ro/Passenger Ferries, Inland Transport Vessels, Barges, Fireboats, Research Vessels, SUBSEA Construction Vessels, Dredges, High Speed Passenger Vessels, Fishing Vessels, and more. Eastern currently operates two shipyards in Bay County and one shipyard in Gulf County, FL.

For More Information Please Go To:

www.easternshipbuilding.com



OPC Characteristics:

- Length: 360 feet
- Beam: 54 feet
- Draft: 17 feet
- Sustained Speed: 22 Plus knots
- Range: 8500 Plus nautical miles
- Endurance: 60 Days