



COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT  
3 SEPTEMBER 2020

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## **AUSTAL USA DELIVERS 12<sup>TH</sup> EXPEDITIONARY FAST TRANSPORT, USNS NEWPORT (EPF 12), TO US NAVY**

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Austal Limited (ASX:ASB) is pleased to announce that USNS *Newport* (EPF 12) has been delivered to the United States Navy from Austal USA state-of-the-art shipyard in Mobile, Alabama.

USNS *Newport* is the 12<sup>th</sup> *Spearhead*-class Expeditionary Fast Transport (EPF) ship to be delivered to the United States Navy – and brings the total number of ships delivered to the Navy by Austal USA to 24 in ten years, including three this year.

Austal Chief Executive Officer David Singleton said the delivery of EPF 12 by Austal USA further strengthens the status of its Mobile, Alabama shipyard as an industry-leading facility.

“Austal USA has now delivered 24 ships to the US Navy, in just over ten years, including three in this year alone. This is a remarkable achievement and testament to the productivity and efficiency of the shipyard, which is now expanding to enable the shipbuilding and support of steel vessels,” Mr Singleton said.

“The ongoing, successful delivery of both the *Spearhead*-class EPF and *Independence*-class LCS shipbuilding programs has positioned the Austal USA shipyard to pursue new aluminium and steel shipbuilding opportunities in the future.”

The *Spearhead*-class EPF is a 103-metre high-speed aluminium catamaran with a large, 1800 square metre cargo deck, medium-lift helicopter deck and seating for 300+ embarked troops; providing a fast, high-payload transport capability to combatant commanders around the world.

The Austal-designed EPFs support a wide range of missions – from maritime security operations to humanitarian aid and disaster relief. An EPF’s flexibility also allows it to support potential future missions; such as special operations, command and control, and primary medical operations.

One additional *Spearhead*-class EPF is under construction at Austal USA’s shipyard; the future USNS *Apalachicola* (EPF 13), while the future USNS *Cody* (EPF 14) is scheduled to commence construction before the end of the year.

In addition to the EPF program, Austal USA is contracted to deliver 19 *Independence*-class Littoral Combat Ships (LCS) for the U.S. Navy. Twelve *Independence*-class LCSs have been delivered, with an additional five ships in various stages of construction and two contracted but yet to start.



***The future USNS Newport (EPF 12) was constructed by Austal USA in Mobile, Alabama (Images: Austal)***

This ASX announcement has been approved and authorised for release by David Singleton, Austal Limited's Chief Executive Officer.

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**About Austal:**

Austal is Australia's global shipbuilder and defence prime contractor designing, constructing and sustaining some of the world's most advanced commercial and defence vessels.

For more than 30 years Austal has contracted more than 300 vessels for over 100 commercial and defence operators in 54 countries, worldwide.

Austal is Australia's largest defence exporter and first ASX-listed shipbuilder. Austal has industry-leading shipyards in Australia, the United States of America, Philippines and Vietnam with service centres worldwide, including the Middle East.

Austal delivers iconic monohull, catamaran and trimaran commercial vessel platforms – including the world's largest trimaran ferry and multiple defence programs such as the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) and Expeditionary Fast Transport (EPF) for the United States Navy.

Austal has grown to become the world's largest aluminium shipbuilder and is Australia's largest defence exporter.

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