



COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT  
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## AUSTAL DELIVERS SECOND EPF TO U.S. NAVY IN 2017

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AUSTAL (ASX:ASB) today announced that its American subsidiary, Austal USA, delivered the USNS *City of Bismarck* (EPF 9) to the United States Navy. This is the ninth ship delivered as part of a US\$1.9 billion contract for 12 vessels.

"Austal takes great pride in sending another EPF to join the Military Sealift Command (MSC), fleet, a milestone that is a credit to our hard working and talented shipbuilding team in Mobile," Austal CEO David Singleton said.

"The EPF is a versatile platform that can deliver troops to all corners of globe with speed and efficiency," Mr Singleton said.

"These vessels give the US Navy tremendous capability that allows them access to littoral (coastal), regions including to over 1000 port locations in South and Southeast Asia," he said.

"The EPF platform has also been used this year as part of the civil-military operation 'Continuing Promise 2017' where the USNS *Spearhead* (EPF 1) visited the countries of Guatemala, Honduras and Columbia and provided humanitarian aid and medical missions to over 15,000 people.

This same vessel was then used for a rapid response mission to provide relief to the US Virgin Islands following the devastating Hurricane Irma," Mr Singleton said.

EPF 9 is the second ship in this program delivered by Austal in 2017, with USNS *Yuma* (EPF 8) received by Navy earlier this year.

In addition to the EPF program, Austal is also under contract to build the Independence-variant Littoral Combat Ships (LCS) for the U.S. Navy. Six LCS have been delivered while an additional seven are in various stages of construction.

The *2018 National Defence Authorization Act*, signed into law by US President Donald Trump, will see America commit to an enlarged 355-ship naval fleet. The EPF is well placed to fit into this fleet expansion as a proven low cost, technologically advanced and versatile vessel.

-ENDS-

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About Austal

Austal is an Australian shipbuilder and global defence prime contractor which designs constructs and sustains some of the world's most advanced commercial and defence vessels.

Austal successfully balances commercial and defence projects and celebrates 30 years of success in 2018. Austal has designed, constructed and delivered more than 300 commercial and defence vessels for more than 100 operators in 54 countries worldwide.

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

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.

About Austal USA

Austal USA is a subsidiary of Australian-based Austal Limited. Austal USA is headquartered in Mobile, Ala., with offices in San Diego, Washington, D.C., and Singapore. The company is well positioned to support both commercial and government ship construction as well as post-delivery service and support worldwide. Austal USA is on contract with the U.S. Navy to build two high-speed advanced ship classes, the Expeditionary Fast Transport (formerly known as the Joint High Speed Vessel) and the Independence-variant Littoral Combat Ship. Austal USA is not only the newest and most state-of-the-art shipyard in the U.S., but also one of the safest as the company has earned 10 safety awards in its short 18-year history.

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