



COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT
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AUSTAL'S LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP USS *KANSAS CITY* (LCS 22) COMPLETES ACCEPTANCE TRIALS

AUSTAL Limited (ASX: ASB) is pleased to announce that the future USS *Kansas City* (LCS 22) has successfully completed acceptance trials in the Gulf of Mexico. USS *Kansas City* is the eleventh *Independence*-class Littoral Combat Ship (LCS), designed and built by Austal in Mobile, Alabama, to reach this milestone.

Acceptance trials involve comprehensive testing by an Austal USA-led industry team while underway, demonstrating to the Navy the successful operation of the ship's major systems and equipment. It is the last significant milestone before delivery of the ship. LCS 22 will be the third ship Austal USA delivers to the Navy in 2019.

Austal CEO David Singleton congratulated Austal USA for achieving this critical program milestone.

The *Independence*-class LCS is a high-speed, multi-mission, small surface combatant; capable of operating independently or in a group. These ships are designed to defeat growing littoral threats and provide access and dominance along coastal waters. A fast, manoeuvrable, and networked vessel, the LCS provides the required warfighting capabilities and operational flexibility to execute focused missions such as surface warfare, mine warfare and anti-submarine warfare.

The *Independence*-class LCS program is at a full rate of production, with five ships currently under construction. The future USS *Oakland* (LCS 24) has recently launched and is preparing for trials, while final assembly is well underway on the future USS *Mobile* (LCS 26) and USS *Savannah* (LCS 28). Modules for the future USS *Canberra* (LCS 30) are under construction in the module manufacturing facility, and construction on the future USS *Santa Barbara* (LCS 32) began in October

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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 is the only foreign-owned prime contractor designing, constructing and sustaining ships for the US Navy.

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