



COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT
3 FEBRUARY 2020

AUSTAL'S AUSTRALIAN OPERATIONS APPROVED TO BID FOR US NAVAL SHIP SUPPORT

Austal Limited (ASX:ASB) is pleased to announce that Austal's shipyards and service centres in Australia have been approved to bid for and provide support services, including ship repairs, maintenance and sustainment activity for United States Navy (USN) and Military Sealift Command (MSC) ships.

With the Agreement of Boat Repair (ABR) now in place, Austal's Australian operations may now bid to provide emergent repair services to deployed USN ships, including the Austal designed and constructed *Independence*-class Littoral Combat Ships (LCS). The ABR also allows Austal to bid for maintenance and repair of MSC ships deployed to the region, to include the Austal designed and constructed *Spearhead*-class Expeditionary Fast Transport (EPF) vessels.

Austal Chief Executive David Singleton said the approval from the U.S. Navy demonstrates Austal's global capability to provide OEM support to major naval fleets.

"With this approval, Austal can provide a range of vessel repairs, maintenance and in-service support to U.S. Navy and MSC ships operating throughout South East Asia.

"As the designer and builder, no-one knows the *Independence*-class LCS or *Spearhead*-class EPF better than us, and we're naturally very pleased and proud to now have the opportunity to provide local support for these vessels to the U.S. Navy, as opportunities arise," Singleton said.

The approval from the U.S. Navy allows Austal to bid for work on U.S. naval vessels that may visit Australia (including Cairns in Queensland, Darwin in the Northern Territory or Fremantle (Henderson) in Western Australia).

Austal has delivered ten *Independence*-class LCS to the U.S. Navy since 2010 and continues to construct six vessels at the Austal USA shipyard in Mobile, Alabama. A total of 19 *Independence*-class LCS have been contracted, along with 14 *Spearhead*-class EPF's, 11 of which have been delivered to the U.S. Navy.



Austal's Australian service centres are now approved to bid for support services, including ship repairs and maintenance, for the Austal designed and constructed Independence-class Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) and Spearhead-class Expeditionary Fast Transport (EPF) operated by the United States Navy. (Image: U.S. Navy)

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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.