



**COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT
14 FEBRUARY 2019**

LCS 20 COMPLETES ACCEPTANCE TRIALS

AUSTAL (ASX: ASB) today announced its tenth Independence Class Littoral Combat Ship, the future USS *Cincinnati* (LCS 20) successfully completed acceptance trials in the Gulf of Mexico.

Completing acceptance trials is the last significant milestone required by the U.S. Navy before the ship is delivered and commissioned into service. The trials involved the Navy conducting comprehensive tests to demonstrate the performance of the propulsion plant, ship-handling and auxiliary systems.

"I can't say enough about the positive results achieved by the Navy and industry team during these acceptance trials of the future USS *Cincinnati*. She's well into her journey to being delivered to the Navy this summer and will provide needed and cost-effective warfighting capability to the fleet and the nation" Capt. Mike Taylor, US Navy LCS program manager said.

"We are exceptionally proud of the LCS program, it is in a full rate of production and being delivered at a reliable and efficient pace. It is a real credit to our Austal USA team in Mobile," David Singleton, Austal CEO said.

Following delivery and commissioning, USS *Cincinnati* will join her nine sister ships already homeported in San Diego, USS *Independence* (LCS 2), USS *Coronado* (LCS 4), USS *Jackson* (LCS 6), USS *Montgomery* (LCS 8), USS *Gabrielle Giffords* (LCS 10), USS *Omaha* (LCS 12), USS *Manchester* (LCS 14), the future USS *Tulsa* (LCS 16) and the future USS *Charleston* (LCS 18).

Austal USA currently has four LCS under construction. Final assembly is well underway on the future USS *Kansas City* (LCS 22) and USS *Oakland* (LCS 24). Modules for the future USS *Mobile* (LCS 26) are under construction in the module manufacturing facility and construction on the future USS *Savannah* (LCS 28) commenced last summer. Additionally, Austal is preparing for construction of the future USS *Canberra* (LCS 30), *Santa Barbara* (LCS 32), *Augusta* (LCS 34), *Kingsville* (LCS 36) and *Pierre* (LCS 38).

The LCS is a highly manoeuvrable, lethal and adaptable ship designed to support focused mine countermeasures, anti-submarine warfare and surface warfare missions. The Independence-variant

LCS integrates new technology and capability to affordably support current and future mission capability, from deep water to the littorals.

The LCS is now the second-largest surface ship class in production. In 2018, five LCS were delivered to the Fleet and three will be delivered in 2019 — a pace of construction and delivery not seen since the 1990s.

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Further Information:

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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.