Coast Guard Outlines Process for Filling Mission Gaps

NATIONAL HARBOR, Md. – The Coast Guard has a four-step process for setting and making requirements on missions to prevent and mitigate mission gaps.

“We look at a problem and find the best way to solve it,” Capt. Michael MacMillan, chief of the office of requirements and analysis, said during a floor presentation here at Navy League’s Sea-Air-Space 2019.

The service accomplishes this by publishing four different types of documents. The first is a capability and analysis report. The second, which marks the beginning stages of the acquisition process, is drawing up a mission needs statement. From there the service will put together a concept of operations document, the primary purpose of which is coming up with ideas for filling in capability. The final document produced is the operational requirements document, which outlines specific requirements, such as how fast a ship needs to go or how long an aircraft needs to stay airborne.

“We don’t get to make our own missions, but we make requirements on the ones we have,” MacMillan said.

The Department of Homeland Security agency has 13 core missions, with a bulk of those coming from search-and-rescue missions and drug interdiction.

The

captain said that its important industry representatives understand the process
to help themselves and the Coast Guard.