

GE In 'A Good Position' to Power Navy's DDG(X), Company Official Says



Derlim Cotte (center) and Cheri Undheim from Florida State College at Jacksonville's Vision Education & Rehabilitation Center look at the inside of a LM2500 Gas Turbine Motor in 2019 at Southeast Regional Maintenance Center's Gas Turbine Shop. *U.S. NAVY / Scott Curtis*

ARLINGTON, Va. – GE, which provides gas turbine engines to naval ships around the world, is looking to provide engines for the U.S. Navy's next-generation guided-missile destroyer (DDG(X)), a company official said.

"We're in a good position," said George Awiszus, director, Military Marketing and Business Development for GE Marine, noting the success of his company's family of marine engines, which company marketing materials point to a 99% reliability and 98% availability of its LM2500 engines.

Awiszus noted during an Aug. 4 interview with *Seapower* that the U.S. Navy is looking to making its next-generation destroyer a "full electric ship."

He said the current Arleigh Burke-class DDG "is maxed out" in terms of electrical power and that more power will be needed for the sensors, weapons and propulsion that likely will be installed in the DDG(X).

Awiszus praised the Navy's efforts to get industry, including shipyards and naval architects, involved early in the concept design process.

GE will be providing LM2500+G4 engines for the new Constellation-class frigate. LM2500 engines already are in use on the Fincantieri FREMM frigate that is the basis for the

Constellation class. The Constellation's engines will feature the Composite Enclosure that provides better noise attenuation, a 5,500-pound weight reduction, costs 50% less than the steel enclosure and keeps the engine room cooler. GE will have delivered 24 engines with the Composite Enclosure by year's end.

GE improves its marine engine designs over time as lessons are learned, new materials are provided, and processes are refined. The company now offers electric starting capability as an option along with hydraulic or pneumatic starting methods.

GE has delivered 1,365 LM2500 and LM6000 gas turbine engines to navies worldwide and 2,585 used for industrial purposes.