

HII Begins Fabrication of Legend-Class Cutter Calhoun



Paul Bosarge, a burner work leaderman at Ingalls Shipbuilding, starts fabrication of steel for the newest Legend-class national security cutter, Calhoun. Also pictured (from left) are Cmdr. Jason Dunn, U.S. Coast Guard program manager representative, Braxton Collins, Ingalls' NSC hull superintendent, and Amanda Whitaker, Ingalls' NSC ship integration manager. Derek Fountain/Huntington Ingalls Industries

PASCAGOULA, Miss. – Huntington Ingalls Industries' Ingalls Shipbuilding division marked the start of fabrication of the U.S. Coast Guard's newest Legend-class national security cutter, Calhoun, on Nov. 12, according to a company release. The start of fabrication signifies that the first 100 tons of steel for a ship have been cut.

"Each new ship in this class has been an exciting opportunity to build on our legacy," said Jay Boyd, Ingalls' NSC program manager. "This is the 10th cutter in the class and a steady production line has allowed our shipbuilders to continually improve on how we build and deliver these technologically advanced cutters to the nation."

NSC 10 is named for Master Chief Petty Officer Charles L. Calhoun, who was the first MCPOCG. He served in the U.S. Navy for three years during World War II and was honorably discharged in February 1946 as a torpedoman second class but enlisted in the Coast Guard that September. Over the course of 14 years he held various Coast Guard leadership positions, serving as MCPOCG from August 1969 until August 1973.



Crew members from two new NSCs, Kimball (foreground), and

Midgett line their rails during a dual commissioning ceremony in August. The ships are the seventh and eighth Legend-class NSCs. Calhoun will be the 10th. U.S. Coast Guard/Chief Petty Officer John Masson

Ingalls has delivered eight Legend-class NSCs, two more are under construction and one additional is under contract. Stone, the ninth NSC, is scheduled for delivery in 2020.

NSCs can meet all maritime security mission needs required of the high-endurance cutter. They include an aft launch and recovery area for two rigid-hull inflatable boats and a flight deck to accommodate a range of manned and unmanned rotary wing aircraft.

The Legend class is the largest and most technologically advanced class of cutter in the Coast Guard, with maritime homeland security, law enforcement, marine safety, environmental protection and national defense capabilities. NSCs enhance the Coast Guard's operational readiness, capacity and effectiveness at a time when the demand for their services has never been greater.