HII Hosts U.S. Marine Corps Officers at Ingalls Shipbuilding



PASCAGOULA, Miss. – HII hosted U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Eric Austin, deputy commandant for combat development and integration, along with fellow Marine Corps officers Tuesday at the company's Ingalls Shipbuilding division.

The group met with Ingalls leadership and toured the shipyard, including visits to *Bougainville* (LHA 8) and *Harrisburg* (LPD 30), two of the five amphibious warships currently under construction at Ingalls. *Harrisburg*, the first Flight II *San Antonio*-class amphibious transport dock, recently completed builder's trials and is preparing for acceptance trials ahead of delivery to the U.S. Navy later this year.

“Our focus is on delivering amphibious capability to the fleet as quickly and efficiently as possible,” said Brian Blanchette, Ingalls Shipbuilding president. “By combining the expertise of Ingalls shipbuilders with the capabilities of our industry partners, we’re increasing throughput, strengthening the industrial base and accelerating delivery of the ships sailors and Marines depend on.”

Discussions during the visit included HII’s recently announced efforts to expand distributed shipbuilding across the amphibious ship portfolio. By working with manufacturing and industry partners nationwide, Ingalls is increasing production capacity, reducing constraints and accelerating delivery of amphibious warships to the fleet. The approach combines Ingalls’ expertise in warship integration, testing and delivery with the capabilities of partners across the maritime industrial base.

“Amphibious warships are essential to the Marine Corps’ ability to operate as a naval expeditionary force,” Austin said. “With the commitment of a skilled workforce and industry team, we look forward to the delivery of LHA 8 and LPD 30 to Marines and sailors in the fleet.”

Ingalls currently has two LHAs under construction, including *Bougainville* (LHA 8) and *Fallujah* (LHA 9), and three Flight II LPDs under construction, including *Harrisburg* (LPD 30), *Pittsburgh* (LPD 31) and *Philadelphia* (LPD 32). Additionally, Ingalls is in the early procurement and planning phase for *Helmand Province* (LHA 10), *Travis Manion* (LPD 33), LPD 34 and LPD 35.

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