

# HII Moves Enterprise (CVN 80) for First Time, Enabling Construction of Two Aircraft Carriers at Once



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NEWPORT NEWS, Va., Nov. 19, 2024 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) – HII (NYSE: HII) announced today that its Newport News Shipbuilding division has successfully transferred the mid-body hull section of *Gerald R. Ford*-class aircraft carrier *Enterprise* (CVN 80), allowing the shipyard to begin the concurrent assembly of two *Gerald R. Ford*-class aircraft carriers in the same dry dock.

The evolution began Thursday, Oct. 31 with the controlled process of slowly filling the dry dock with more than 100 million gallons of water, marking the first time CVN 80 has been floated. It was then transferred to the west end of the dry dock, where construction on the ship will continue.

Early next year, the shipyard expects to commence assembling *Doris Miller* (CVN 81) in the east end of the dry dock, marking a historic first that two *Gerald R. Ford*-class aircraft carriers will be under construction in the dry dock at the same time. The dual construction of *Enterprise* (CVN 80) and *Doris Miller* (CVN 81) is enabled by the successful implementation of the CVN 80/81 two-ship contract modification awarded in 2019 and modifications made to the dry dock by NNS with investment by HII and the U.S. Navy.

Photos and a video accompany this release are available at: <https://hii.com/news/hii-moves-enterprise-cvn-80-for-first-time-enabling-construction-of-two-aircraft-carriers-at-once/>.

“It is only fitting for this *Enterprise*, CVN 80, to be part of a historic first at NNS, considering the previous *Enterprise*, CVN 65, was the world’s first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, proudly built here at the shipyard,” said Les Smith, NNS vice president *Enterprise* (CVN 80), *Doris Miller* (CVN 81) and future aircraft carrier programs. “Thousands of dedicated shipbuilders are working with urgency on these aircraft carriers that we know will play a vital role in the Navy’s fleet.”

NNS is the only shipyard capable of designing, building and refueling nuclear-powered aircraft carriers for the Navy. *Enterprise* is the first aircraft carrier designed digitally and built digitally using visual work instructions on laptops and tablets rather than paper drawings.