



The Richard Etheridge will be capable of achieving speeds in excess of 28 knots and is designed to independently conduct multiple missions, including port, waterway, and coastal security; fishery patrols; search and rescue; and national defense. Sentinel-class patrol boat is equipped with a stern launch ramp that allows the boat to deploy its cutter boat in a wide range of sea conditions.

The Richard Etheridge's 24-person crew will conduct additional testing and evaluation prior to the cutter's commissioning in 2012. The cutter will be homebased in Miami and primarily perform operations to save lives, enforce U.S. and international maritime law, and ensure security in the Coast Guard's 7th District area of responsibility that includes the nation's southeastern maritime border and Caribbean Sea.

The third Fast Response Cutter, the William Flores, is tentatively scheduled to be launched 10 November.

All Sentinel-class Fast Response Cutters will be named after enlisted Coast Guard heroes. Richard Etheridge became the first African-American to command a life-saving station when, in 1880, the service appointed him as the keeper of the Island Life-Saving Station in North Carolina.

T deploys autonomous PowerBuoy for U.S. Navy Maritime Security Program

Ocean Power Technologies, Inc., a leading wave energy technology company, announced the deployment for sea trial of a unique autonomous wave energy device, marking an important milestone in the expansion of the company's PowerBuoy product line.

This latest deployment is an autonomous PowerBuoy® designed and manufactured by OPT under the U.S. Navy's Littoral Expeditionary Autonomous PowerBuoy (LEAP) program for coastal security and maritime surveillance. The LEAP PowerBuoy structure, incorporating a unique power take-off and onboard energy storage system, is significantly smaller and more compact than the company's standard utility PowerBuoy. It provides persistent, off-grid energy in remote ocean locations for a wide variety of maritime security and monitoring applications.

Under the LEAP program, OPT has integrated its autonomous PowerBuoy with radar network and communications infrastructure from Rutgers University's Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences in partnership with CODAR Ocean Sensors. This PowerBuoy provides power at the

lower levels needed for the sophisticated vessel detection and tracking system, enabling maritime surveillance in the near coast, harbors, and littoral zones worldwide. Mikros Systems Corporation provided data and systems architecture support for the PowerBuoy/radar network.

Currently, systems requiring remote power at sea are often powered by diesel generators, which need frequent maintenance and fuel replenishment. The LEAP PowerBuoy system was developed by OPT to provide constant power in all wave conditions for the sea-based radar and communications system. The company's proprietary power management techniques and onboard energy storage capability are key innovations of the system, and enable operation even in extended zero-wave sea conditions. In addition, the system has been engineered to require no maintenance for three years.

The LEAP system was deployed on 11 August 2011 by a U.S. Coast Guard vessel and will be ocean-tested approximately 20 miles off the coast of New Jersey. It will be integrated with the Rutgers University-operated, land-based radar network that provides ocean current mapping data for the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and US Coast Guard search and rescue operations. The ocean test of the LEAP vessel detection system will therefore demonstrate dual-use capability of the radar network and verify OPT's technology as a persistent power source for systems requiring remote power at sea.

For more information, visit www.oceanpowertechnologies.com.

Hill delivers submarine ahead of schedule

Huntington Ingalls Industries has announced that its Newport News Shipbuilding (NNS) division delivered the Virginia-class submarine *California* (SSN781) to the U.S. Navy on 8 August. The delivery came more than 8.5 months early to the contract date and nearly five months faster than NNS' previous delivery of New Mexico.

California, the world's most modern and sophisticated nuclear-powered attack submarine, recently returned to NNS following the successful completion of its third and final round of sea trials. "This is the day

that shipbuilders work toward," said Becky Stewart, Vice President for submarine programs at NNS. "Delivery marks the passing of ownership from the shipbuilder to the Navy, and we couldn't be more proud of this ship and the shipbuilders that built her. Our team put a lot of hard work into this submarine, and it shows. *California* is the fourth Virginia-class delivery for us, and each successive ship has been delivered with the highest quality at a lower cost and shorter schedule."

California is the eighth submarine in the Virginia class and the first delivered by NNS since the return of the Newport News Shipbuilding name. The ship's construction began 15 February 2006, and the keel was laid during a ceremony held 1 May 2009. *California* was christened 6 November 2010, and launched 13 November 2010. The commissioning has been scheduled for 29 October by the Secretary of the Navy.

Designed to meet the Navy's requirements in a post-Cold War era, Virginia-class submarines use advanced technologies to increase firepower, maneuverability and stealth. The 377-ft long submarines are capable of submerged speeds of more than 25 knots and can stay submerged for up to three months at a time.

SeeByte provides SeeTrack Military training to the Polish Navy

SeeByte, the global leader in creating smart software technology for unmanned systems, has successfully provided the Gdansk University of Technology (GUT) and the Polish Navy full training to accompany their recent purchase of SeeByte's SeeTrack Military software.

Having acquired SeeTrack Military earlier this year, SeeByte's team trained two engineers from GUT and two members of Poland's Naval staff, including Lieutenant Adam Polak of the Polish Naval Academy, at SeeByte's headquarters in Edinburgh. The Polish Navy's 8th Coastal Defense Flotilla commands the Mine Countermeasures (MCM) vessels, while GUT work closely with the Navy to ensure it is equipped with state-of-the-art, new generation technology to carry out these duties.

SeeTrack Military is a mission-planning, monitoring, and post-processing tool that provides users with the ability to view their operating environment in a single, integrated picture while saving time, money, and valuable man-hours. This latest purchase by GUT brings the current number of NATO-friendly countries utilizing the mission-planning, monitoring and post-processing software tool to 12.

For more information, visit www.seebyte.com.