



FACT SHEET

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Newport News Shipbuilding, a division of HII

About Us

For 139 years, the ships built at Newport News Shipbuilding (NNS), like the American shipbuilders who built them, have served our nation in peace and war, in times of adversity and in times of abundance. Our legacy of "Always Good Ships," includes the design, construction, overhaul and repair of more than 800 ships for the U.S. Navy and commercial customers.

Today, Newport News Shipbuilding, a division of HII, is the nation's sole designer, builder and refueler of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and one of only two shipyards capable of designing and building nuclear-powered submarines. We also provide fleet services for naval ships.

We are the largest industrial employer in Virginia, employing more than 26,000 people, many of whom are third- and fourth-generation shipbuilders.

For more detailed information about Newport News Shipbuilding, please visit: <https://hii.com/what-we-do/divisions/newport-news-shipbuilding/>

Aircraft Carriers

Carrier Construction

For more than 75 years, the American shipbuilders at NNS have designed and built more than 30 aircraft carriers, including the world's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, *Enterprise* (CVN 65), and all 10 of the *Nimitz*-class nuclear-powered carriers. Today, our shipbuilders are designing and building the next-generation of aircraft carriers—the *Gerald R. Ford* class – that utilizes 23 new technologies to provide the U.S. Navy with a highly flexible and survivable platform to meet the operational needs of the 21st century. The first-in-class, USS *Gerald R. Ford* (CVN 78), was delivered to the U.S. Navy in May 2017. The aircraft carrier features advanced capabilities that will increase the power of our military's fleet with reduced manning. The second-in-class, *John F. Kennedy* (CVN 79), is scheduled to be delivered to the Navy in 2025. Construction is also underway for *Enterprise* (CVN 80) and *Doris Miller* (CVN 81).



Construction of the next-generation of aircraft carriers and the most advanced submarines is well underway



Carrier Refueling and Complex Overhaul (RCOH)

We are the only shipyard to perform RCOH work on *Nimitz*-class aircraft carriers. The undertaking was described in a 2002 Rand Study as one of the most challenging engineering and industrial tasks undertaken anywhere by an organization. The project is performed once during a carrier's 50-year life and includes refueling of nuclear reactors, as well as significant repair, upgrade and modernization work. USS *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74) is the seventh *Nimitz*-class carrier to undergo RCOH. In April 2024, NNS completed the dry dock portion of the RCOH and moved USS *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74) to an outfitting berth at the shipyard, where the remainder of the RCOH work and testing will be completed.



Nuclear-Powered Carrier Inactivation

NNS is the only shipyard to provide for the inactivation of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers. Once the service life of a carrier is complete, the ship comes to NNS for defueling of its nuclear reactors. The inactivation of the aircraft carrier *Enterprise* (CVN 65) is complete and is the first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier to undergo the process.

Submarines

Submarine Construction

Using expertise developed from building more than 60 submarines over four decades, NNS is one of only two shipyards capable of designing and building nuclear-powered submarines. Currently, we are building the most advanced attack submarines in the world: the *Virginia* class.

Designed to meet the Navy's requirements in a post-Cold War era, the advanced capabilities of these ships increase firepower, maneuverability and stealth. NNS is producing these submarines as



part of an innovative agreement with General Dynamics Electric Boat (GDEB).

The team has delivered 24 *Virginia*-class boats, and work continues on additional submarines. USS *New Jersey* (SSN 796) was delivered to the U.S. Navy in April 2024.

NNS is also working on the *Columbia*-class program, the Navy's No. 1 budget priority and the replacement for the sea-based leg of the nuclear triad. NNS is a major contractor and shipbuilding partner in the *Columbia*-class program, constructing and delivering six module sections per submarine under contract to GDEB.



Submarine Design and Engineering

NNS designs and provides on-site installation of state-of-the-art technologies for *Los Angeles*-class and *Seawolf*-class attack submarines to keep our fleet the most capable in the world. Additionally, we are supporting Electric Boat, through design and engineering efforts, on the *Columbia*-class Ballistic Missile Submarine Program.

Fleet Support Programs

From design to construction, maintenance to technical and life cycle logistics, we provide quality services to the submarine and aircraft carrier communities, wherever there is a need, through mobile and in-house capabilities at our facilities in Newport News and San Diego, and at naval bases around the world.

Other Locations

Beyond the main shipyard in Newport News, Va., which encompasses 550 acres along the James River, NNS operates two additional locations to support production. The Newport News Shipbuilding Norfolk Campus opened in 2023 in Norfolk, Va. It is located at a development known as Fairwinds Landing and primarily supports *Gerald R. Ford*-class aircraft carrier panel production. Newport News Shipbuilding – Charleston Operations in Goose Creek, S.C. began operating under NNS in 2025. It is located on 45-acres with more than 480,000 square feet of manufacturing space, supporting the construction of nuclear-powered submarine and aircraft carrier modules and structures.



About HII

HII is a global, all-domain defense provider. HII's mission is to deliver the world's most powerful ships and all-domain solutions in service of the nation, creating the advantage for our customers to protect peace and freedom around the world. As the nation's largest military shipbuilder, and with a more than 135-year history of advancing U.S. national security, HII delivers critical capabilities extending from ships to unmanned systems, cyber, ISR, AI/ML and synthetic training. Headquartered in Virginia, HII's workforce is 44,000 strong. For more information, please visit:

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