About Us

For 134 years, the ships built at Newport News Shipbuilding, 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, a division of Huntington Ingalls Industries, 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 25,600 people, many of whom are third- and fourth-generation shipbuilders.

For more detailed information about Newport News, please visit https://nns.huntingtingalls.com

Aircraft Carriers

Carrier Construction
For more than 75 years, the American shipbuilders at Newport News have designed and built more than 30 aircraft carriers, including the world’s first nuclear-powered carrier, USS 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. The first-in-class, 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. Construction of John F. Kennedy (CVN 79) began in February 2011, and was christened and launched in December 2019. Advance fabrication of the new Enterprise (CVN 80) is underway.

Carrier Refueling 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 nearly four-year 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. We progressing through final outfitting and testing on the sixth ship, USS George Washington (CVN 73) that arrived at Newport News in August 2017 to begin its RCOH. We currently are supporting the pre-advanced planning effort for the USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) RCOH.

Nuclear-Powered Carrier Inactivation
Newport News 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 the shipyard for defueling of its nuclear reactors. The inactivation of the USS Enterprise (CVN 65) is complete and is the first nuclear carrier to undergo the process.

Submarines

Submarine Construction
Using expertise developed from building more than 60 submarines over four decades, Newport News 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. Newport News is producing these submarines as part of an innovative agreement with General Dynamics Electric Boat. The team has delivered 18 Virginia-class boats, and work continues on 11 boats. Delaware (SSN 791) was delivered to the U.S. Navy in October 2019.

Submarine Design and Engineering
Newport News designs and provides on-site installation of state-of-the-art technologies for the 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.
Contract Work

The Kenneth Kesselring Site
Newport News provides maintenance services on nuclear reactor prototypes at the Kenneth Kesselring site, a research and development facility in West Milton, N.Y., that supports the U.S. Navy.

About Huntington Ingalls Industries
Huntington Ingalls Industries is America’s largest military shipbuilding company and a provider of professional services to partners in government and industry. For more than a century, HII’s Newport News and Ingalls shipbuilding divisions in Virginia and Mississippi have built more ships in more ship classes than any other U.S. naval shipbuilder. HII’s Technical Solutions division supports national security missions around the globe with unmanned systems, defense and federal solutions, and nuclear and environmental services. Headquartered in Newport News, Virginia, HII employs more than 42,000 people operating both domestically and internationally. For more information, please visit www.huntingtingalls.com.