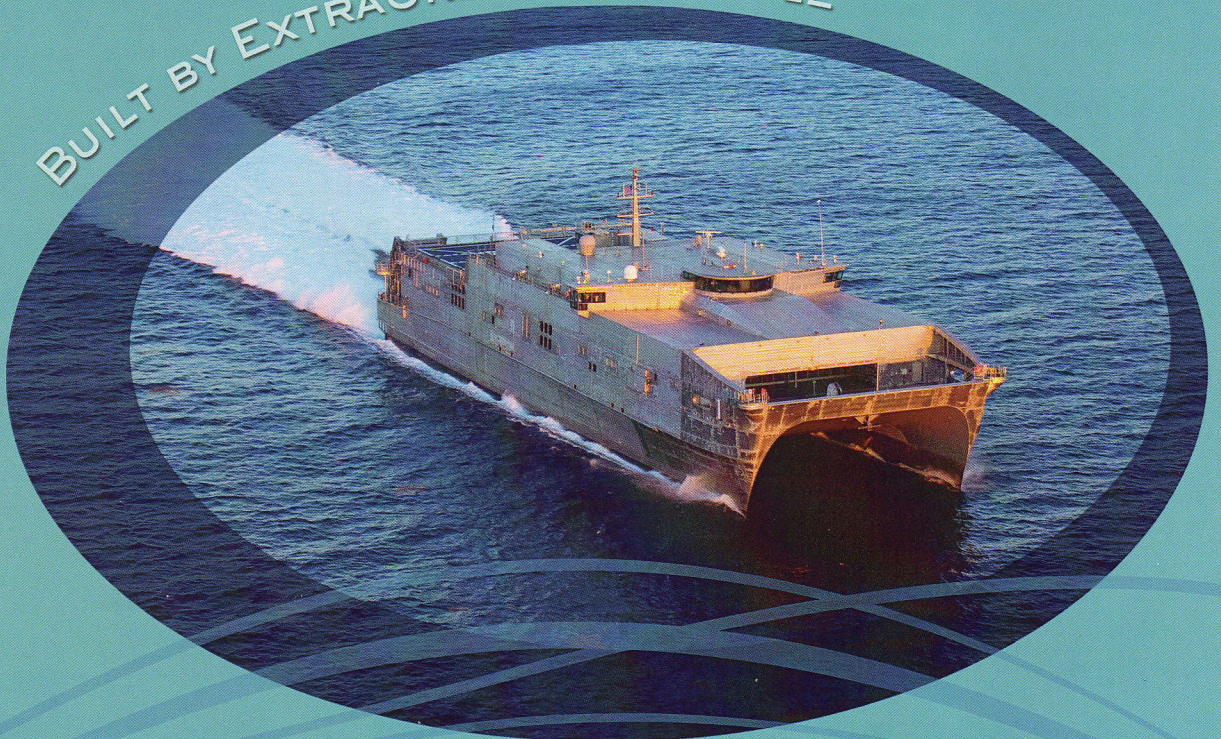


AUSTAL



**USNS SPEARHEAD
(JHSV 1)**

BUILT BY EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE



USNS SPEARHEAD (JHSV 1)

DUCERE CLASSEM - TO LEAD THE FLEET

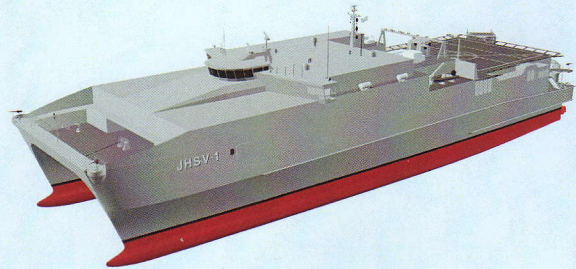


Spearhead is defined as the leading force in a military drive or the driving element in an action or endeavor. It is a fitting name for the nation's first Joint High Speed Vessel (JHSV) – a revolutionary platform that will be used for fast, intra-theater transportation of troops, military vehicles, and equipment to U.S. forces around the globe. Whether used for rapid insertion of Marines, Soldiers, and Special Operations Forces for military operations or the delivery of supplies and support for humanitarian operations worldwide, JHSV will answer the call. The vessel will provide our combatant commanders with an unprecedented level of flexibility and support, allowing them to remain at the tip of the spear as they advance our national security strategy.

Through her name and her sponsor, retired Army Chief Warrant Officer Four Kenneth Wahlman, USNS Spearhead celebrates the fundamental role of military transport in the most revered chapters of our nation's history and the unparalleled contributions of Transportation Mariners throughout the ages. In 1899, Sir Winston S. Churchill claimed "Victory in war is the beautiful, bright colored flower. Transport is the stem without which it could never have blossomed." From the role of the Army's Navy in 1776 when

General George Washington and his Continental Army stealthily crossed the Delaware to defeat British forces, to the unwritten achievements of the Military Sealift Command's USNS Spearhead and all JHSVs to follow, this legacy of service and support continues.

Pictured above left; Austal USA Aluminum Fabricator Kelvin Watkins and Chief Warrant Officer Four Kenneth M. Wahlman at the keel laying ceremony for Spearhead (JHSV 1) held at Austal USA in July 2010. [Credit: Mobile Press-Register; G.M. Andrews/Staff Photographer]



Below left; the participants in the keel laying ceremony.

Below right; two Austal aluminum fabricators welding the hull of the JHSV 1.





USNS SPEARHEAD (JHSV 1) COAT OF ARMS

SYMBOLISM

SHIELD: Dark blue and gold are the colors traditionally associated with the Navy, representing the sea and excellence. Joint High Speed Vessel (JHSV) is a new class of ship conceived as a joint endeavor among the Army, Navy, Marines and Special Operations Command. This vessel will be delivered to, owned and operated by the U.S. Navy's Military Sealift Command. The **USNS SPEARHEAD** is the first ship in the new class, as illustrated by the spearhead, signifying military readiness for the missions assigned. The lightning bolts symbolize speed. Brick red is the color traditionally associated with the U.S. Army Transportation Corps. The spearhead on the way pile suggests the prow of a ship on the water and, combined with the lightning bolts, alludes to the JHSV being one of the fastest ships in the fleet.

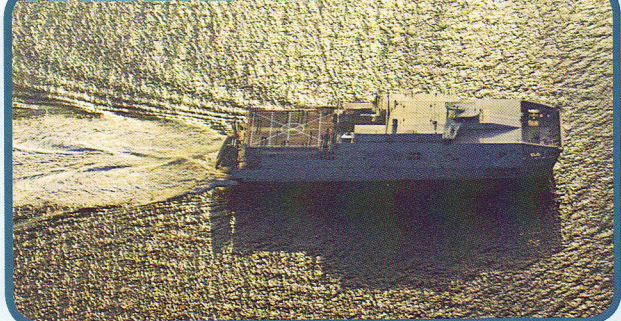
SUPPORTERS: The trident represents Navy and maritime authority and, placed behind the shield, implies the Naval command's support for each uniformed service associated with the project. The crossed Army sword and Marine Corps Mameluke symbolize the cooperation and teamwork of each armed force required to accomplish the mission.

MOTTO: The motto, 'DUCERE CLASSEM' translated 'TO LEAD THE FLEET' further emphasizes the **USNS SPEARHEAD** as the first of her class and one of the fastest ships in the arsenal. The black and gold colors of the scroll are emblematic of the United States Army and United States Special Operations.

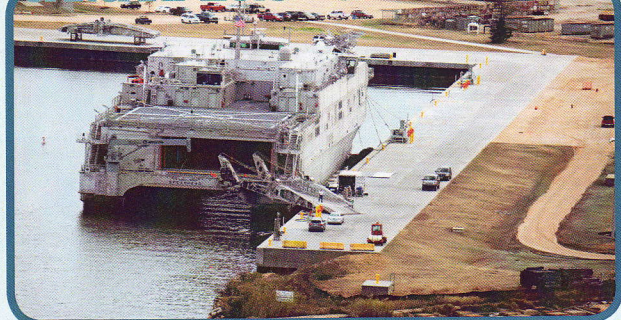
SEPTEMBER 2011 - LAUNCH



APRIL 2012 - BUILDER'S TRIALS



JANUARY 2013 - SAIL AWAY



AUSTAL JHSV TEAM



GENERAL DYNAMICS
Advanced Information Systems