

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

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**On The Horizon**



Source: <https://news.usni.org/2018/11/28/39030#more-39030>

**Upcoming Navy force assessment shouldn't alter 355-ship fleet plan**

The U.S. Navy is due to deliver its next force structure assessment (FSA) sometime in 2019. The big question for the shipbuilding community has been whether the Navy will deviate from the current plan for a 355-ship fleet.

According to a recent article in [USNI News](#), the service's top leaders are stating that 355 is still considered the minimum number of ships needed to face down possible threats from Russia, China and other potential adversaries. That's good news for shipbuilders.

**MERZ: NO CHANGE IN SHIPBUILDING STRATEGY**

Vice Adm. William R. Merz, the deputy chief of naval operations for warfare systems (OPNAV N9), recently spoke before the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Seapower. He affirmed that the 355-ship plan is on track and aligns with the Navy's philosophy of operating forward-deployed ships in multiple locations.

"As long as there's no deviation from that (philosophy), we don't anticipate a significant change in force structure by the FSA," Merz said. "Beyond that, then it's threat driven. What kind of presence do we need? All that's laid out in the National Defense Strategy, and right now we don't really have any indication we'll be coming off our 355 number. If anything it's going to continue to grow."

**GEURTS: 327 SHIPS IN 5 YEARS**

Assistant Secretary of the Navy James Geurts, who is the service branch's top weapons buyer and appeared before the same subcommittee, echoed Merz's comments. Geurts highlighted the Navy's aggressive shipbuilding plan, which includes achieving a 327-ship count within five years, on the way to the full 355-ship mark (or higher) in the 2030s.

The FSA is valuable, he said, not only in determining the number of ships "but also the types of ships the Navy should be buying and the capabilities these ships should have." Readiness is everything, and the FSA will help Navy leaders ensure that our service men and women have only the best fighting solutions at their disposal.

Learn more about the upcoming FSA by viewing the full article at [USNI.org](#).

[VIEW MORE DETAILS](#)



**Trade Talk**



**Small-scale LNG production can fuel big possibilities**

**BUILDING A "VIRTUAL" PIPELINE**

There are many regions and communities throughout North and South America that could benefit from tapping into nearby pockets of "stranded" natural gas – but they don't have the pipeline infrastructure in place to get the gas to where it's needed. Now Okra Energy has developed small-scale LNG plants that help gas producers and their customers – including homeowners and businesses such as mining companies and manufacturers – take advantage of this "virtual" liquid natural gas pipeline.

**SIX KEY STAGES**

According to an article in [Valve Magazine](#), the technology is rooted in modular liquefaction and regasification, and valves can play a big role in optimizing efficiencies. Okra's process features six key stages or modules:

1. Reception, metering and drying of the natural gas
2. Water and carbon dioxide removal
3. Liquefaction – liquifying the gas and removing trace particles
4. Refrigeration – achieved via compressed nitrogen
5. LNG storage and truck loading using 16,000 gallon tanks and transport trailers
6. Power and controls to enable power distribution to skids, plant components and equipment

Of course, a variety of valves are needed throughout these phases, but Okra's goal is to limit the number of valves in order to reduce costs, maintenance and potential leak points. Because in small-scale plants like these, every little efficiency matters. So the valves they do choose to use must work fast and work smart. That's an exciting challenge for today's valve manufacturers.

To learn more about how this fascinating technology works and the possibilities it offers, view the full article in [Valve Magazine](#).

[VIEW MORE DETAILS](#)



**Lisa's Letter**

**GRATEFUL FOR 2018, EXCITED FOR 2019**

In terms of both revenue and overall performance, 2018 was our strongest year ever – and we are exceptionally thankful for that. We experienced significant growth this past year and we are well positioned for more of the same next year.



**A SALUTE TO OUR TEAM**

In this season of gratitude, I want to thank our customers and vendors for their ongoing support and friendship. I also want to salute our amazing Dante Valve team. Our employees worked incredibly hard all year long. Rest assured, the financial success of our company will be coming back to the people who made it all possible – through our profit-sharing program and other end-of-year rewards.

**UPGRADING EQUIPMENT, PROCESSES AND TRAINING**

Yet as we celebrate past accomplishments, at Dante Valve we always look to the future, too. This past year, we invested significantly in new machining and QA equipment to ensure that our manufacturing capabilities stay state of the art. We plan to do more in 2019, to enhance our capacity and keep up with projected demand increases. We are also upgrading our processes and training to ensure we are optimizing our new equipment and providing the best service experience, while always adhering to the values articulated in our robust, recently updated ethics program.

**PAYING IT FORWARD**

Finally, to cap off a great year filled with hard work, good fortune and endless blessings, we want to pay it forward. We have made donations to the following charity organizations, which are close to our hearts and do amazing things for our communities and our heroic service men and women:

- [Foodbank of Southern California](#)
- [Foodbank of Southeastern VA and the Eastern Shore](#)
- [Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters](#)
- [Military Children's Charity](#)
- [Warriors and Quiet Waters](#)
- [Special Operations Warrior Foundation](#)

If you want to learn more about our plans for 2019, please contact me directly at [lpapini@dantevalve.com](mailto:lpapini@dantevalve.com).

In the meantime, on behalf of everyone at Dante Valve, we wish you and your family a joyful and restful holiday season!

**Lisa Dante Papini**

President



**Industry Happenings**

**Military**

[WEST – Western Conference & Exhibition](#)

February 13 – 15, 2019 | San Diego, CA

[Military Additive Manufacturing Summit](#)

February 6-7, 2019 | Tampa, FL

**Commercial**

[International Symposium Potable Reuse](#)

January 22-23, 2019 | Austin, TX

[2019 AHR Expo](#)

January 14-16, 2019 | Atlanta, GA



**What A Relief!**



**Danco D44UU**

Shipboard air compressor pressure relief valve in full conformance with Mil-V-22549. Connections are 1/2" inlet and 3/4" outlet union end silver braze. Bronze construction, top-guided with soft-seat design and a threaded cap. Rated to 400 PSIG.



**Kunkle Cast Steel Safety Valve**

[Models 300, 600 Certified Valves](#)

Forged from heavy-duty cast steel with a stainless steel nozzle, these safety valves are certified for air, gas and steam. Used in steam boilers, steam generators, air compressors, gas compressors, pressure tanks, pressure receivers, intercoolers, and oil/gas separators, these sturdy valves contain a bolted yoke design for easy maintenance.

For more information, visit us at [DanteValve.com](http://DanteValve.com) or call us at 888-212-3222

WEST COAST: EAST COAST: