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On The Horizon



Tracking the latest naval fleet and shipbuilding goals.

With a rising Chinese military on the horizon and regional tensions constantly churning, former U.S. Secretary of Defense, Mark Esper, declared in October that America must rapidly upgrade and diversify its naval fleet to better reflect the demands of modern warfare.

At the time, the Defense Department's goal was to drive the U.S. ship count to at least 500 by 2045, including having more than 355 ships by the mid-2030s. Military leaders also aimed to reconfigure the fleet to create more flexibility and improve responsiveness, by:

- Significantly increasing the number of attack submarines, small surface combatants and amphibious warfare ships
- Nearly tripling the number of combat logistics force ships
- Investing in more unmanned and optionally manned surface and subsurface vehicles
- Reducing the number of aircraft carriers while repurposing America-class amphibious assault ships as "light" carriers

Now the White House has come out with its yearly "Report to Congress on the Annual Long-Range Plan for Construction of Naval Vessels." This new plan, which was affirmed by the Navy's recent, preliminary Future Naval Force Study (FNFS), features these highlights and goals:

- A 30-year shipbuilding initiative covering FY2022 to FY2051
- Achieving the 355-ship target count between FY2031 and FY2033
- A total force of 500 ships – including unmanned platforms – by the mid-2030s
- A 400-ship battle force fleet by 2045

We should note that the spending levels in the plan are based on long-term U.S. economic real growth of 2.0%. Also, the full FNFS study is not complete, as the Navy is still analyzing various platform ship types and mixes. In addition, with a new Biden administration soon assuming power, armed forces priorities and demands could change – so stay tuned.

Want more details? View the complete [Long-Range Naval Vessel Construction Plan](#).

[VIEW MORE DETAILS](#)

Trade Talk

Aussie Pumps



Rugged new Aussie Pumps trash pump design transforms industries.

You just never know when or where a great idea will hit you. A recent article on [KHL.com](#) relayed the tale of how John Hales, chief engineer from Aussie Pumps – Dante Valve's Australian partner – was inspired to create a more robust trash pump design after visiting a rental yard full of conventional trash pumps. He noticed that each of the pumps featured frames that were bent and/or damaged as a result of rough handling.

Hales used this experience to invent a new design for Aussie's pumps that made the devices even more robust and able to face gritty, unforgiving environments such as construction and mining sites.

"We called it the Mine Boss," said Hales of the new trash pump design. It's engineered and built with the most rugged, reliable materials, "so that it can survive even the toughest handling," he added. With 38mm hot-dipped galvanized frames, integrated lifting bars and more, these workhorse devices also meet Aussie Pumps' legendary performance standards of fast priming and handling large solids in suspension with flows of up to 1,800 liters per minute.

Want to learn more about these breakthrough trash pumps? View the full article on [KHL.com](#).

[VIEW MORE DETAILS](#)

Lisa's Letter

Bidding farewell to a challenging year.

As this year comes to a close, I look back with astonishment at the nearly surreal nature of the past nine months. This year was our 60th Anniversary. This was a significant milestone for Dante Valve but was overshadowed, appropriately, by the COVID-19 global pandemic. We had planned a series of celebratory events and projects that were postponed and eventually cancelled.



Lisa Dante Papini - President

On a positive note, November was national U.S. Navy Aircraft Carrier Month. I joined Rick Giannini, President of Milwaukee Valve to speak with Greg McCarthy on his Breaking the Deck podcast, which can be found [here](#). We discussed the role of suppliers in the construction, maintenance and service of our nation's aircraft carriers. Greg's Breaking the Deck podcast has great content about carriers - from Mike Butler, program director at Newport News Shipbuilding for the John F. Kennedy (CVN 79) discussing his program's cost savings to Fleet Master Chief April Beldo, USN (Ret.) discussing the naming of the Doris Miller as well as her own leadership role as the first African American female command master chief of an aircraft carrier. It's definitely worth checking it out.

With 2020 behind us, we bid farewell to this extremely challenging year. All of us at Dante Valve wish you and your family a happy and healthy holiday season, along with a brighter, more hopeful, 2021.

If you have comments or questions about this issue or any of the topics in this email, please contact me at lpapini@dantevalve.com. And as always, thank you for your support of Dante Valve!

Lisa Dante Papini
President

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