

# Future USS Fort Lauderdale Completes Builder's Trials



The future USS Fort Lauderdale (LPD 28) was successfully launched at the Huntington Ingalls Industries (HII) Ingalls Division shipyard in Pascagoula, Mississippi, on March 28.

*HUNTINGTON INGALLS INDUSTRIES*

WASHINGTON – The future USS Fort Lauderdale (LPD 28), the Navy's 12th San Antonio class-amphibious transport dock ship, conducted builder's sea trials Oct. 26, Team Ships Public Affairs said Oct. 27.

Builder's trials consist of a series of in-port and at-sea demonstrations that allow the Navy and the shipbuilder, Huntington Ingalls Industries' (HII) Ingalls Shipbuilding Division, to assess the ship's systems and readiness prior to acceptance trials and delivery to the Navy.

"The completion of builder's trials is a great first step in ensuring operational readiness of the vessel and the capabilities it will soon bring to the fleet," said Capt. Scot Searles, San Antonio Class Program Office, program manager, Program Executive Office (PEO) Ships. "The collaboration between the Navy and our industry partners ensures that we'll have a capable and ready ship for our Sailors."

The San Antonio-class is designed to support embarking, transporting, and landing Marines and their equipment by conventional or air-cushioned landing craft. The ship's capabilities are further enhanced by its flight deck and hangar, enabling the ship to operate a variety of Marine Corps helicopters and the MV-22 Osprey tiltrotor aircraft. Because of the ships inherent capabilities, they are able to support a variety of amphibious assault, special operations, expeditionary warfare, or disaster relief missions, operating

independently or as part of Amphibious Readiness Groups, Expeditionary Strike Groups or Joint Task Forces.

HII's Ingalls Shipbuilding Division is currently in production of the future USS Richard S. McCool (LPD 29) and the future USS Harrisburg (LPD 30). LPD 28 and 29 will serve as transition ships to LPD 30, the first LPD 17 Flight II ship.