

HII Marks Arkansas (SSN 800) Construction Milestone at Newport News Shipbuilding



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NEWPORT NEWS, Va., Sept. 27, 2023 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) – HII shared today (NYSE: HII) that its Newport News Shipbuilding (NNS) division has reached a significant milestone in the construction of *Virginia*-class submarine *Arkansas* (SSN 800).

Arkansas (SSN 800) is now “pressure hull complete,” meaning that all of the hull sections were joined to form a single, watertight unit.

“It’s exciting to reach pressure hull complete, because it’s a visible sign that construction has progressed to the point where *Arkansas* really starts to take its final shape,” said Jason Ward, NNS vice president of *Virginia*-class submarine construction. “We absolutely understand the important mission ahead for *Arkansas* and are working with urgency to get this powerful national security asset to the Navy as soon as possible.”

NNS is one of only two shipyards capable of designing and building nuclear-powered submarines. The advanced capabilities of *Virginia*-class submarines increase firepower, maneuverability and stealth.

This milestone comes following the christening of *Massachusetts* (SSN 798) and keel authentication of *Oklahoma* (SSN 802) at NNS so far in 2023.

Photos accompanying this release are available at:

<https://hii.com/news/hii-arkansas-ssn-800-newport-news-shipbuilding-pressure-hull-2023>.

Arkansas is the Navy's 27th *Virginia*-class fast attack submarine. The ship's sponsors are the six women of the historic group known as the Little Rock Nine, the first African American students to attend all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, during desegregation. NNS honored all nine members, including the three men, during the [November 2022 keel authentication](#) ceremony.