



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Denise Curtis
Director of Communications
Mobile Chamber
(256) 496-4208
dcurtis@mobilechamber.com

Austal USA to Add Second Final Assembly Building, Creating 1,032 Jobs in Mobile

MOBILE, Ala. - The Mobile Chamber is proud to announce the expansion of Austal USA Mobile shipyard with the construction of an additional waterfront assembly facility to support the growth of shipbuilding in Mobile.

This significant project, with a capital investment of more than \$288 million dollars is set to create 1,032 new jobs over the next four years.

“Austal’s growth plans in Mobile will have a massive impact on the shipbuilding industry in the Port City,” said **Ellen McNair, secretary of the Alabama Department of Commerce**. “Not only will this expansion create more than 1,000 jobs with a significant new investment, but it will also broaden Austal’s manufacturing capabilities and solidify its future in Mobile.”

This infrastructure expansion includes the construction of Final Assembly Building #2 (FA 2), with three bays to build large steel modules including the Coast Guard’s Offshore Patrol Cutter (OPC) and the Navy’s TAGOS-25 ocean surveillance steel ships. It will also provide flexibility to manufacture modules for submarine and other surface ship programs.

“This is a big deal,” said **Mobile Chamber President and CEO Bradley Byrne**. “The new Final Assembly 2 will provide job growth as the OPC and TAGOS-25 programs transition from design to production and enhance the infrastructure needed for future contract competitions.”

FA 2 will provide 192,000 square feet of covered manufacturing space and will occupy four and a half acres to the south of Austal’s current waterfront facility.

“This groundbreaking ceremony represents a significant milestone for the city of Mobile, the state of Alabama and the U.S. defense industrial base,” commented **Austal USA President Michelle Kruger**. “As we have done throughout our history, Austal USA is again expanding our facility to meet the needs of the Nation.”

The project also includes waterfront improvements, and a shiplift system to safely and reliably launch completed ships from the assembly buildings. The system features an articulated lifting platform capable of lifting, launching and docking vessels in excess of 18,000 long tons.

“This is an exciting day for the entire Mobile region. Austal has proven it is invested in Mobile, and it is exciting to see its U.S. operations continue to grow here. Shipbuilding is an integral part of Mobile’s history, and thousands of our citizens continue to make a good living on the waterfront thanks to industry leaders like Austal,” said **Mobile Mayor Sandy Stimpson**.

Upon completion of this expansion, Austal USA’s Mobile facility will feature a 117,000 square foot steel panel line, two module manufacturing facilities with more than a million square feet of covered manufacturing space optimized for serial production, and seven assembly bays offering more than 400,000 square feet of indoor erection space.

“This expansion does more than strengthen our national defense and create high-quality jobs, it demonstrates the leadership of both Austal USA and Mobile County’s shipbuilding industry,” said **Mobile County Commission President Randall Dueitt**. “The \$288 million construction investment and more than 1,000 new jobs mean that Austal USA’s new waterfront assembly facility is yet another win for our local workforce because Austal’s AIDT training programs mean that local people have opportunities to prepare themselves for these new jobs.”

Overall, the Mobile facility spans 180 acres and will encompass more than 1.5 million square feet of indoor manufacturing space.

To execute the project, Austal USA has partnered with:

- Pearlson & Pearlson Inc., program manager and owner’s representative
- Kiewit Infrastructure South Co., lead for design and construction
- Pearlson Shiplift Corporation, designer and builder of the shiplift system

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Photo Courtesy: Austal USA

About the Mobile Chamber

The Mobile Chamber is a private business organization with more than 1,600 members and the economic developer for the City of Mobile and Mobile County. Over the last decade, Mobile’s economic development efforts have created 8,578 new jobs, retained 692 existing jobs, recruited 27 new businesses and expanded 67 area companies. Capital investments for projects have topped \$5.7 billion. These economic development achievements are supported by public and private investors through the Chamber’s Partners for Growth campaign. Additional information is on the Chamber’s [website](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).

About Austal USA

Austal USA is a ship manufacturer headquartered in Mobile, Ala., with service centers in San Diego and Singapore and a technology center in Charlottesville, Va. With the most modern steel panel line in the shipbuilding industry, Austal USA manufactures both aluminum and steel ships. Austal USA leverages a moving module production line and strict adherence to lean manufacturing principles to consistently deliver on-schedule and on-budget. Austal USA is under contract for several programs, including the U.S. Coast Guard’s Heritage-class Offshore Patrol Cutter (OPC), and the U.S. Navy TAGOS-25 ocean surveillance ship, Landing Craft Utility (LCU) vessel, Spearhead-class Expeditionary Fast Transport (EPF), Navajo-class Towing, Salvage and Rescue ship (T-ATS), Expeditionary Medical Ship (EMS), Auxiliary Floating Dry Dock Medium (AFDM), and Independence-variant Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) programs. Austal USA also supports Navy unmanned vessel programs leveraging its advanced autonomous machinery control system. Austal USA’s service business provides global support to U.S. Navy, Military Sealift Command and other customers. Austal USA’s

San Diego Service Center includes a waterfront facility that has the capability to drydock small combatants and similar sized ships. Earning 27 safety excellence awards, Austal USA continues to be one of the safest shipyards in America.