

U.S. Coast Guard photo.

## **Acquisition Update: U.S. Coast Guard Orders Four Long Range Interceptor-II Cutter Boats**

Dec. 12, 2013

The U.S. Coast Guard placed a delivery order on Dec. 12, 2013, for four Long Range Interceptor-II cutter boats. The delivery order is valued at \$3.973 million. The order was placed as part of a five-year production contract awarded in June 2012 to MetalCraft Marine U.S. of Cape Vincent, N.Y., to produce the LRI-II. The Coast Guard has contract options to procure up to 10 boats, which will be deployed aboard the Coast Guard's National Security Cutters (NSC). The contract has a potential total value of up to \$10.2 million.

The first LRI-II was delivered to the Coast Guard Feb. 20, 2013, and commenced testing activities soon after. The LRI-II project was approved for full-rate production June 27, 2013, after successful operational and interface testing with Coast Guard Cutter Bertholf.

The LRI-II is 35 feet long with a range of over 220 nautical miles and capable of achieving speeds in excess of 38 knots. The stern-launched LRI-II's high speed and extended range significantly enhances its host cutter's ability to execute missions while underway, particularly in migrant interdiction and law enforcement operations where teams need to be put on scene quickly. Its ability to extend the reach of its host cutter is also critical to search and rescue operations, enabling NSC cutter crews to patrol larger search areas. The LRI-II can carry up to 15 passengers, including crew, and safely operate in seas up to 13 feet.