

# Acquisition Update: Coast Guard Accepts 16th HC-144A Ocean Sentry

Jan. 16, 2014

The Coast Guard accepted delivery of the 16th HC-144A Ocean Sentry Maritime Patrol Aircraft today at the Airbus Military production facility in Seville, Spain. This action marks the first of three Ocean Sentries planned to be delivered in 2014.

Upon arrival in the United States later this month, the Coast Guard will induct the newest Ocean Sentry into the Aviation Configuration Management System at the Coast Guard Aviation Logistics Center, Elizabeth City, N.C. The aircraft will begin operations as the first of three Ocean Sentries to be based out of Coast Guard Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas later this year, joining the service's fleet of 15 Ocean Sentries currently operating at Coast Guard Air Stations in Cape Cod, Mass., Mobile, Ala., and Miami, Fla.



The Coast Guard accepted delivery of the 16th HC-144A Ocean Sentry, joining aircraft currently in operation at Air Stations in Miami, Fla. (pictured above), Mobile, Ala., and Cape Cod, Mass. With an endurance of more than 10 hours, the Ocean Sentry provides enhanced capabilities to carry out key Coast Guard missions, including search and rescue, disaster response, and drug and migrant interdiction. U.S. Coast Guard photo.

The Ocean Sentry is a derivative of the EADS/Airbus Military CN235-300M used around the world. As configured for Coast Guard operations, it includes cockpit instruments and controls that reduce crew workload and enhance situational awareness. The Ocean Sentry's roll-on/roll-off Mission System Pallet is equipped with tactical communications and contact monitoring workstations that enable crews to collect and transmit information with operational commanders in real time and over long distances. The Ocean Sentry is equipped with a rear ramp, allowing crews to configure the aircraft to meet varying needs, including medical evacuation or passenger and freight transport.