

# Acquisition Update: Coast Guard Begins Final Stage Of Rescue 21 Installations With Contract Awards

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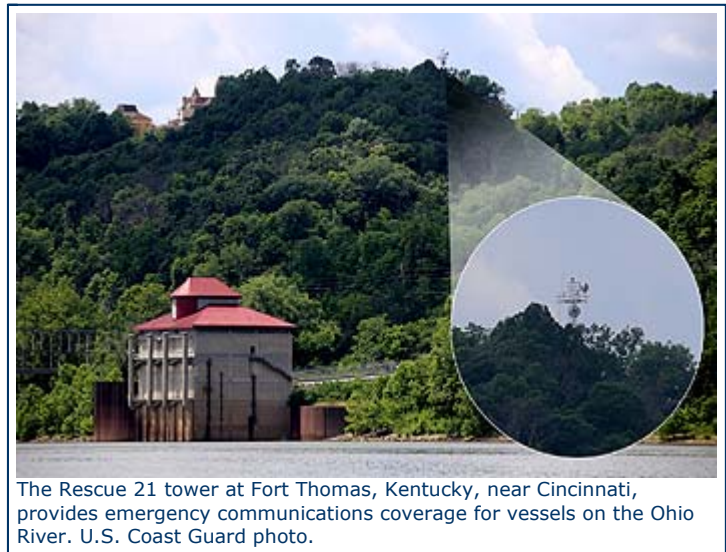
The Coast Guard awarded an \$8.9 million contract option July 6 to begin full rate production of Rescue 21 communications installations at 47 tower facilities along the Mississippi, Missouri, and Ohio river valleys, collectively termed by the Coast Guard as the Western Rivers region, and a \$9.6 million contract July 16 for upgrades at 30 tower facilities in Alaska.

The Western Rivers option was awarded under an existing contract to Eyak Technology LLC and includes the installation of communications equipment at three Coast Guard sector command centers. The award signals the program's transition

from the testing phase to the roll out of the improved system to continuously monitor digital selective calling along the Western Rivers and more accurately identify the location of callers in distress.

The contract to upgrade 30 Rescue 21 towers along the Alaska coast was awarded to General Dynamics One Source LLC. The upgrades will allow operators to monitor multiple radio channels simultaneously and will enable digital-selective calling, permitting vessels to transmit digital distress calls with position and other vessel information.

Rescue 21 is already providing coverage along the coasts of the contiguous United States, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Northern Marianas Islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota. The Coast Guard plans to complete Rescue 21 installations in Alaska and the Western Rivers by 2017.



The Rescue 21 tower at Fort Thomas, Kentucky, near Cincinnati, provides emergency communications coverage for vessels on the Ohio River. U.S. Coast Guard photo.