



Home

New On This Site

Products & Services

Company A-Z

Industry Projects

Features & Commentary

White Papers

Jobs & Careers

Industry News

Gallery

Events & Exhibitions

Newsletter Sign-Up

Advertise With Us

About Us

Client Area

Home Industry Projects Mistral Class - Amphibious Assault, Command and Force Projection Ship

Mistral Class – Amphibious Assault, Command and Force Projection Ship, France



Email Article



Print



Link To
Us



Related
Projects



Key Data

Crew	160
Accommodation	Up to a maximum of 900
Length	199m
Beam	32m
Draft	6.2m
Full load	21,300t
Displacement	
Speed	19kt

[Full specifications](#)

Get the new
look New
Statesman
for just **£1.58**
a week with
an annual
subscription



Suppliers

Calzoni

Pompe Garbarino

Newsletter Sign-Up

For all the latest news in
the defence industry, sign
up here



Email address



The Mistral and Tonnerre BPC (bâtiment de projection et de commandement) ships, are the French Navy's new 21,300t amphibious assault, command and power projection ships. The ships have been built by DCN in partnership with Thales and Chantiers de l'Atlantique. Each ship has the payload capacity and versatility to carry up to 16 heavy helicopters and one-third of a mechanised regiment, plus two LCAC hovercraft or up to four landing craft.

In April 2007, DCN became DCNS. This followed an agreement in which Thales became a 25% shareholder in the new company and DCN acquired the naval business of Thales France (excluding naval equipment).



The Mistral Class is fitted with a high-performance communications suite which makes the ship suitable for deployment as a command vessel. The ships also have the capacity to accommodate a combined (multi-national) joint (i.e. multi-service) task force (CJTF).


"Mistral was delivered to the French Navy in February 2006."

The contract for the two vessels was placed in January 2001. Keel for the FS Mistral (L9013) was laid in July 2003 and it was launched from the Brest dockyard in October 2004. Mistral was commissioned into the French Navy in February 2006. Tonnerre (L 9014) was laid down in August 2003 and launched in July 2005. It was commissioned in February 2007.


In July 2006, Mistral was deployed of the coast of Lebanon in support of the French Navy Operation Baliste, evacuating French nationals during the conflict involving Israel and the Lebanon.

The Mistral and Tonnerre replace the L9021 Ouragan and L9022 Orage which were built at Brest Naval Dockyard and entered service in 1965 and 1968.




 [Expand Image](#)
Tonnerre (L 9014) was delivered in February 2007.



 [Expand Image](#)
The second command and force projection ship for the French Navy, Tonnerre (L 9014).



 [Expand Image](#)
The Mistral (L9013) command and force projection ship.

Construction

The hulls were built in three main sections. DCN constructed the hull centre and aft sections at St Nazaire, Brest. Alstom Marine-Chantiers de l'Atlantique in Saint Nazaire constructed the forward section of the hull which was transferred to the DCN shipyard at Brest for assembly. DCN subcontracted Stocznia Remontowa in Gdansk to carry out construction and fitting for the centre and aft sections.

Command and control

The Mistral Class is fitted with the DCN Senit 8 derivative combat data system and will be fitted with the French Navy's SIC 21 command system for joint operations, which is being developed by Thales.

A high-performance communications suite includes the Thales Syracuse III satellite communications system.

Aircraft

The ship has the capacity to carry up to 16 medium or heavy helicopters below deck, for example the NH90, SA 330 Puma, AS 532 U2 Cougar or AS 665 Tigre helicopters. The flight deck has six landing spots and a 1,800m² hangar. The 5,000m² flight deck can accommodate up to six helicopter movements simultaneously.

Amphibious assault capability


The Mistral will carry either four CTM, landing craft utility (LCU) or two air-cushion landing craft (LCACs).

The French Navy has plans to purchase new high-speed landing craft, engins de débarquement amphibie (EDA) which could be carried on the Mistral.

The ship has a crew of 160 with 20 officers. A mission voyage involving the transport of troops and equipment would typically take two to three weeks. Mistral and Tonnerre carry sufficient stores for the crew and 450 troops for 45 days between replenishments. The maximum speed is 19kt and the range at 14kt is 11,000nm.


The 69-bed, 750m² hospital is equipped with two operating theatres. If



 [Expand Image](#)


Mistral was handed over to the French Navy in February 2006.



 [Expand Image](#)

Each ship can carry up to 16 heavy helicopters and one-third of a mechanised regiment, plus two LCAC hovercraft or four landing craft.



 [Expand Image](#)

Mistral is the French Navy's first all-electric warship and is fitted with two Alstom 7MW electric azimuth pods.

"The Mistral and Tonnerre are to replace the L 9021 Ouragan and L 9022 Orlage."

additional hospital or medevac space is required, the hangar can also be converted into a modular field hospital.

Weapons

The Mistral is armed with two MBDA France Simbad launchers for the Mistral air defence missile. Mistral has infrared guidance and a range up to 6km.

The ship also has two Breda Mauser 30mm naval guns and four 12.7mm machine guns.

Countermeasures

The ship's electronic support measures include the Thales ARBR 21 radar warning receiver.

Sensors

The vessel's surveillance radar is the MMR-3D NG G-band multi-role radar from Thales Naval France. The MRR-3D has a lightweight phased array antenna and operates as both a surveillance radar and a self-defence system sensor, with automatic mode switching.

"The Mistral is the French Navy's first all-electric warship."

In surface surveillance mode, the MRR-3D NG can detect low and medium-level targets at ranges of up to 140km and in long-range 3D air surveillance mode targets up to 180km; in the self-defence mode, it can detect and track any threat within a radius of 60km.

Navigation radar is the Sperry Marine Bridgemaster, operating at I-band.

Propulsion

The Mistral is the French Navy's first all-electric warship and is fitted with two Alstom 7MW electric azimuth pods. The power-generation system consists of three 16V32 and one 18V200 Wartsila diesel generators providing 20.8MW power.

naval-technology.com is a product of Net Resources International. Copyright 2010 Net Resources International, a trading division of SPG Media Limited.



[Expand Image](#)

Mistral and Tonnerre carry sufficient stores for the crew and 450 troops for 45 days between replenishments.



[Expand Image](#)

Mistral has the capacity to accommodate a Combined (multi-national) Joint (multi-service) Task Force (CJTF).



[Expand Image](#)

The vessels have ample capacity for use as hospital ships or for medical evacuation missions.



[Related links](#)

[Combat Management, Command and Control \(C4I\)](#)

[Countermeasures, Electronic Warfare and Decoys](#)

[Navies Turn to a Floating Force](#)

[Construction Begins on French Navy's Third Mistral Class Ship](#)



[Related Projects: Aircraft Carriers and Amphibious Ships](#)

• [Porte-Avions 2 \(PA2\)](#)

• [Juan Carlos I Landing Helicopter Dock](#)

• [CVN 78 Gerald R Ford Class - US Navy CVN 21 Future Carrier Programme](#)

• [CVN 77 George H W Bush Aircraft Carrier](#)

• [Mistral Class - Amphibious Assault](#)

Post to:



[Delicious](#)



[Digg](#)



[reddit](#)



[Facebook](#)



[StumbleUpon](#)