

Strategic Marine Bags LTAC for Gardline Australia



Strategic Marine, a leading specialist shipbuilder with operations in Singapore, Australia and Vietnam, will build the Long Term Ashmore Capability (LTAC) for Gardline Australia Pty Ltd on behalf of the Government of Australia. The LTAC will be a 40-metre On Station Vessel designed for reliable, flexible self-sufficiency on long-term deployment in tropical areas.

The order was awarded after a successful tender prepared under a teaming arrangement between Gardline Australia Pty Ltd, the owner and operator of the current Ashmore Guardian, Strategic Marine, the builder of the new vessel, and McAlpine Marine design Pty Ltd, the designer.

Once delivered, the LTAC will be deployed by Australian Customs & Border Protection to Ashmore Island, an external territory of Australia lying 500 nautical miles from Darwin in the Indian Ocean.

The vessel's steel hull and aluminium superstructure design stems from Gardline's previous experience with its Ashmore Guardian, the vessel currently operating in the same location and which the LTAC is intended to relieve and replace in mid-2014.

Ron Anderson, Strategic Marine's Executive Director, said:

“We are delighted our long experience in the construction of transport and patrol boats for many governments gave Gardline the confidence to select us to build for them under their contact with the Australian authorities. Separately, this week Strategic Marine delivered the Njord Lapwing, the fourth in a series of eight vessels ordered by Njord Offshore (UK), underscoring Strategic's global capability to supply service ships for the offshore windfarm

Sector. The Lapwing follows February's delivery of the Njord Curlew and will be succeeded by next month's delivery of the Njord Petrel."



Among the LTAC's technical specifications are twin main Caterpillar 32 engines and a bowthruster, twin davits and tenders, a draft of 2.4 metres and breadth of 11.5 metres. There is accommodation for 17 crew and 26 passengers. It will be built at Strategic's multi-purpose shipyard in Vietnam.