

Lorient, 8 October 2015

DCNS commences sea trials for the FREMM *Languedoc*

The French Navy's third FREMM multi-mission frigate, the *Languedoc*, has been floated out from DCNS' Lorient shipyard to undergo sea trials off the coast of Brittany. The *Languedoc* is the third FREMM ordered by OCCARi1 on behalf of the DGA (French Defence Procurement Agency) and the French Navy.

The main objective of the sea trials was to test the performance of the vessel's propulsion and navigation system.

DCNS has already delivered two FREMM Multi-Mission Frigates on schedule to the French Navy. By mid-2019, DCNS will have delivered six FREMM's to the French Navy, in accordance with the Military Programming Law 2015-2019, as well as two FREMMs for the export market (The Royal Moroccan Navy and the Egyptian Navy).

The experience and lessons learned from the FREMMs already delivered enabled DCNS and its partners to proceed with the integration of the combat system's sensors and weapons prior to the FREMM *Languedoc*'s first sea outing. This led to a reduction in the total time required for vessel trials – from six weeks to the previous eight. This optimised trial duration illustrates the transition to "series mode" or multi-mission frigates.

"The acceleration of the trial scheduling for the FREMM *Languedoc* is a demonstration of DCNS capacity to ensure efficient serial production", explains Anne Bianchi, Director of the FREMM Programme at DCNS.

The FREMM programme

The FREMM programme will see DCNS build ten frigates, eight of them for the French Navy. Six of these will be delivered by 2019 and two frigates equipped with strengthened anti-aircraft capacities will be delivered before 2022.

Two further units have been sold and delivered to international clients: the Royal Moroccan Navy and the Egyptian Navy.

- The FREMM *Aquitaine*, first in series, delivered in 2012.
- The FREMM *Mohammed VI*, delivered to the Royal Moroccan Navy in 2014.
- The FREMM *Provence* delivered in June 2015.
- The FREMM *Tahya Misr*, delivered to the Egyptian Navy in June 2015.
- The FREMM *Languedoc*, which is conducting its first sea outing.
- The FREMM *Auvergne*, which was floated on 2 September.
- The FREMM *Bretagne*, for which the assembly is ongoing.

Technical characteristics of the FREMMs

Under the project management of DCNS, the heavily-armed FREMM frigates are equipped with the most effective weapon systems and equipment, such as the Herakles multifunctional radar, the Naval Cruise Missile, the Aster and Exocet MM 40 missiles and the MU 90 torpedoes.

- Length overall: 142 meters
- Width: 20 meters
- Displacement: 6,000 tonnes
- Maximum speed: 27 knots
- Crew: 108 persons (helicopter detachment included)
- Accommodation capacity: 145 persons
- Range: 6,000 nautical miles at 15 knots

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About DCNS

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1OCCAR: Organisation for Joint Armament Cooperation is an international organisation whose core-business is the through-life management of cooperative defence equipment programmes entrusted to it by the Member States. Amongst other things, OCCAR ensures the contracting of FREMM multi-mission frigates for France and Italy.