



Dec. 6, 2024

HII's Weekly News Digest is compiled every Friday by the Corporate Communications team to summarize and highlight news stories of significance to the company.

HII Acquires W International Assets: The Post and Courier reported on Wednesday that HII will acquire substantially all of the assets of W International, a South Carolina metal fabricator, in a deal that is expected to close by the end of December. Matt Needy, current vice president and chief transformation officer for HII's Newport News Shipbuilding division, will become general manager of the site. NNS President Jennifer Boykin said the acquisition will enhance the Goose Creek site's ability to access support functions such as engineering, quality and planning that exist at NNS. While HII is acquiring W International's assets, including state-of-the-art equipment and 480,000 square feet of manufacturing space on 45 acres of leased land, it is not acquiring the company itself. Instead, W International will be a separate, unrelated entity retained by founder and CEO Ed Walker, and none of the legal or regulatory matters associated with the company will transfer. The Virginian-Pilot reported on Wednesday that W International specializes in manufacturing shipbuilding structures, modules and assemblies. The 500-person workforce at W International will support the construction of nuclear-powered submarine and aircraft carrier modules and structures for the U.S. Navy. USNI News reported on Wednesday that moving submarine work out of the main shipyards at NNS and General Dynamics Electric Boat is a key effort by the submarine industrial base to increase the production rate to two *Virginia*-class attack submarines and one ballistic nuclear missile *Columbia*-class a year. HII currently outsources about a million hours of submarine work outside of Newport News.

Congress Convenes As Dec. 20 Shutdown Deadline Looms: Congress is racing to address the Dec. 20 funding deadline, with lawmakers leaning toward a continuing resolution (CR) that extends into President-elect Donald Trump's term. Politico reported Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer stated Monday that progress is being made on a bipartisan bill to avert a shutdown. Speaker Mike Johnson faces pressure from conservatives favoring a longer CR to grant the incoming GOP majority control over 2025 spending decisions to include provisions critical to military and federal programs. The first objective for Congress this month is likely to be passage of the National Defense Authorization Act, or NDAA, annual legislation that sets policy for the Defense Department, according to congressional aides. Floor votes could come as early as next week, according to aides reported by Reuters on Monday. Any delays in passing a funding resolution could disrupt government operations, including federal contracts that are essential for HII's shipbuilding projects.

USS *Zumwalt* (DDG 1000) Destroyer Will Be First To Carry Hypersonic Weapons: The Associated Press reported on Saturday, Nov. 30, that HII's Ingalls Shipbuilding division is preparing USS *Zumwalt* (DDG 1000) for another round of tests as the shipyard outfits the stealth destroyer with missile tubes that will be used to house hypersonic weapons. Once the system is complete, USS *Zumwalt* will provide a platform for conducting fast, precision strikes from greater distances, adding to the usefulness of the warship. Once complete, the "Conventional Prompt Strike" system will launch like a ballistic missile and then release a hypersonic glide vehicle that would travel at speeds seven to eight times faster than the speed of sound before hitting the target. Each of the *Zumwalt*-class destroyers would be equipped with four missile tubes, each with three of the missiles for a total of 12 hypersonic weapons per ship. The Navy wants to begin testing the system aboard USS *Zumwalt* in 2027 or 2028, according to the service.

Social Media Highlight Of The Week

Posted Tuesday on HII's Facebook page:

"Our #NewportNewsShipbuilding division is christening the U.S. Navy's newest *Virginia*-class submarine – *Arkansas* (#SSN800) – this weekend. Members of the Little Rock Nine, the first African American students to attend Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, are the ship's sponsors and will participate in the ceremony.



Join us on this page at 11 a.m. Eastern time on Saturday, Dec. 7, for live coverage of the christening ceremony."

Services Seek Realistic Simulations For Digital Warfare: Defense One reported on Thursday that training models and simulations need to "move beyond the physical domains" to keep pace with global threats, Adm. Christopher Grady, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told participants during the Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation and Education Conference. Grady said it is more difficult to simulate space, cyber, electronic spectrum and irregular warfare, although creating and training in those environments is necessary to train warfighters. Simulated environments must also integrate allies and partners so that participants can train together across all domains. Meanwhile, Defense One also reported on Thursday that the Pentagon's top body in charge of developing military requirements is expected to release new data standards next year that will make it easier for combatant commands and services to conduct large scale exercises in virtual environments. The joint requirements oversight council, or JROC, is currently working on a capstone initial capabilities document, which will outline data standards for simulation and modeling systems the military uses. The document is expected in March, Grady said.

Ingalls Shipbuilding Authenticates Sam Nunn (DDG 133) Keel: The Defense Post reported on Nov. 25 that HII's Ingalls Shipbuilding division has laid the keel of the U.S. Navy's 83rd *Arleigh Burke*-class guided-missile destroyer *Sam Nunn* (DDG 133). The destroyer is the fifth vessel to receive a Flight III configuration that incorporates next-generation air and missile defense radar as well as a combat system, enabling competitiveness in the face of multiple surface, air, and underwater threats simultaneously. During the ceremony at Ingalls, the initials of the former U.S. senator's daughter and ship sponsor, Michelle Nunn, were etched into the hull's future keel plate. Sam Nunn also attended the event.

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Please note: Social media is blocked on HII computers for most employees. Employees are encouraged to visit HII's Facebook page and other social media sites on personal time and from non-work devices.

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