

PRESS RELEASE

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Naval Group delivers the last multi-mission offshore patrol vessel for Argentina

The last of the four Argentinian offshore patrol vessel (OPV), OPV 87 A.R.A. *Contraalmirante Cordero*, was delivered today to the Argentine Navy. The delivery and commandment handover ceremony of the last vessel of the series marks the completion of a successful program.

A.R.A. *Contraalmirante Cordero* has been delivered to the Argentine Navy today in Concarneau in the presence of Francisco Cafiero, Secretary for International Defence Affairs at the Argentine Ministry of Defence, Vice Admiral Enrique Antonio Traina, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Argentine Navy and Alain Guillou, EVP International Development at Naval Group. It is part of the contract signed by Naval Group with Argentina in 2019 for the supply of four Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPV - "Patrulleros Oceánicos Multipropósito" in Spanish).

The A.R.A. *Contraalmirante Cordero* is the last vessel of the series and its delivery marks the success of a program that has met all its deadlines: the A.R.A. *Bouchard* (ex-L'Adroit) was delivered in December 2019 two months ahead of schedule, and the second and third offshore patrol vessels A.R.A *Piedrabuena* and A.R.A *Storni* were delivered in April and October 2021, in line with the original schedule.

This success was made possible thanks to the close collaboration between Naval Group, Kership and Piriou, who worked side by side with the Argentinean Navy. The excellent overall customer satisfaction rate, measured at 97%, confirms the excellent conduct of this program.

Captain Santiago Villemur, representative of the Argentinian Navy in France said: *"We are conscious that delivering 4 ships in 3 years, training the crews and providing the associated logistics services was a real challenge. Our thanks and gratitude go to all the men and women of Naval Group and its industrial partners who have worked tirelessly to achieve this feat. These ships are already contributing to the defence of Argentina's sovereign interests by enabling the Argentine Armada to carry out its missions at sea."*

Stéphanie Giroud, director of the program at Naval Group added: *"It is with great pride and emotion that we are delivering the last vessel of the series to Argentina on the exact date stipulated in the contract and are witnessing the raising of the Argentinean flag in Brittany for the fourth time. The success of this project is a collective one and is due to the excellence of the relationship established with the Argentinean Armada, whose high standards and confidence have motivated our teams to meet the client's expectations to the maximum. It is also the result of a constructive and innovative industrial partnership between the teams of Naval Group, Kership and Piriou."*

OPV 87, an innovative and sea proven vessel

The Argentine offshore patrol vessels benefit from innovations developed by Naval Group and proven by the French Navy, which has operated L'Adroit in several oceans for six years for multiple maritime security operations, alone or in cooperation. The three patrol vessels of the series constructed in Concarneau offer the same assets and features as those of the A.R.A. *Bouchard*. Several developments have been incorporated to meet the needs of the Argentine Navy as closely as possible. Better armed and motorised than the *Bouchard*, equipped with an active stabilisation system and a bow thruster, it is also Ice proven, i.e. adapted to navigation in the cold waters of Antarctica. They offer:

- Very high endurance and excellent sea-worthiness;
- A 360° visibility from the bridge and a unique mast for a panoramic radar coverage;
- The rapid, safe and discrete deployment of intervention crafts launched by a double system of ramps at the stern of the patrol vessel.

This range of ships also benefits from Naval Group's expertise in information and command systems, allowing for extensive surveillance of the maritime space and the detection of suspicious behaviours. The A.R.A. *Contraalmirante Cordero* is equipped with the POLARIS® system and NiDL® tactical data link system, specifically developed by Naval Group for state action missions at sea and sea-proven by the French Navy

Technical features

The Offshore Patrol Vessel is able to stay on high seas during more than three weeks, to reach a speed of 20 knots and to accommodate a helicopter. Implemented by a reduced crew of 40 members, it is also able to accommodate about twenty extra passengers.

- Length: 87 meters
- Beam: 14 meters
- Displacement: 1,650 tons
- Max. speed: over 20 knots
- Accommodation: 59 (crew and passengers)
- Endurance: > 7,000 nautical miles
- Boarding capacity: two light crafts of 9 meters and one 10-ton class helicopter

Videos and photos available on www.salledepresse.com

Press Contacts:

Faïza ZAROUAL

Mob.: +33 (0)6 31 65 78 25

Faiza.zaroual@naval-group.com

Véronique Page

Mob. +33 (0)6 37 18 01 32

veronique.page@naval-group.com

About Naval Group

Naval Group is a partner to its customers' maritime sovereignty. An international player in naval defence and heir to French naval know-how, Naval Group develops innovative solutions to meet the needs of navies. Present throughout the entire life cycle of the ships, the group designs, builds, integrates and maintains submarines and surface ships, as well as their systems and equipment, through to dismantling. It also provides services for shipyards and naval bases. A high-tech company, it builds on its exceptional expertise, its unique design and production resources and its ability to set up strategic partnerships and successful transfers of technology. Attentive to the challenges of corporate social responsibility, Naval Group is a member of the United Nations Global Compact. With operations on five continents, the group has a turnover of 4.1 billion euros and employs 16028 people (full-time equivalents / 2022 data).

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