

# PRESS RELEASE

Paris, 7 June 2023



## Naval Group to study unmanned combat underwater vehicle

**On 4 May 2023, the French defence procurement agency (DGA) awarded Naval Group a new contract to study the design of a future Unmanned Combat Underwater Vehicle (UCUV).**

---

The nine-month study will allow Naval Group to examine principal use cases and develop system architectures for an Unmanned Combat Underwater Vehicle.

Aurore Neuschwander, Naval Group's Director of Drones, Autonomous Systems and Underwater Weapons said, *"Naval Group is very proud to support the French Ministry of the Armed Forces in the study of this new unmanned capability, which will help to kick-start the development of high-capacity autonomous systems."*

### Unmanned systems: the future of collaborative naval warfare

The naval use of unmanned and autonomous military systems is seen as a genuine strategic asset, and is increasingly sought after by navies for their intelligence, surveillance and seabed control missions.

Capitalizing on its expertise in the design and development of autonomous underwater systems and federating numerous French partners, Naval Group has been investing its own funds since 2016 to develop a first demonstrator of a large underwater drone (XL-UUV). This demonstrator will be qualified at sea in the summer of 2023, which will enable the company to test various technological bricks in a short cycle. Among the unique capabilities developed by Naval Group and its partners is the Controlled Decision-Making Autonomy (ADC®), designed to be the onboard brain for drones, while offering sailors the ability to supervise all unmanned systems in complete safety, and to plan and carry out complex missions, as a complement to manned ships.

This first UCUV project paves the way for additional work to quickly develop the key technological bricks of such a drone, in relation to the development of the first demonstrator.

**Press Contacts:**

**Faïza ZAROUAL**

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

[faiza.zaroual@naval-group.com](mailto:faiza.zaroual@naval-group.com)

**Véronique PAGE**

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

[veronique.page@naval-group.com](mailto: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 4.3 billion euros and employs 16029 people (full-time equivalents / 2022 data).

[www.naval-group.com](http://www.naval-group.com)

