

Astute Class Submarine

New Generation Attack Submarine for blue water operations



Under a £2bn Prime Contract, BAE SYSTEMS at Barrow is undertaking the design, build and initial in-service support of three 7800 tonne Astute Class Submarines Type SSN for the Royal Navy. The Prime Contract has the potential for further submarines of the Class and includes weapons upgrade of boats in the previous Swiftsure and Trafalgar Classes (also built at Barrow) being undertaken by BAE SYSTEMS at Weymouth.



Principal Characteristics

Missions

Designed for littoral, deep sea or worldwide deployment

Operational Roles

Capable of worldwide operational deployment

Primary Roles

Anti-submarine warfare
Anti-surface vessel warfare

Secondary Roles

Land Attack (optional)

Length Overall	97m
Displacement	7800 tonnes
Design Diving Depth	over 300m
Submerged Speed	about 30 knots
Patrol Endurance	90 days
Complement	89 crew

Figures subject to change as design evolves.

Armament

Weapons load is 50% greater than the Trafalgar Class attack submarines.

Six 533mm missile tubes

In the region of 30 weapons

Spearfish torpedoes

Tomahawk missiles (SLCM)

Propulsion

Harnessed (nuclear) power - the reactor, requiring no refuelling, will provide all the power an Astute Class submarine needs for life

One PWR2 Pressurised Water Reactor

Geared turbine drive and pump jet propulsor

Diesel-electric emergency propulsion system and diesel generator.



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