

Contactless Vessel Stopping Capability



Science and
Technology

ENHANCING THE NATION'S BORDER SECURITY

The fundamental mission of the United States Coast Guard (USCG) is to ensure our nation's maritime safety, security, and stewardship. This includes homeland security missions that can require law enforcement activities. All maritime security missions may require vessel interdiction. This is especially true for maritime drug and alien interdiction missions in the border districts, where attempts to evade apprehension occur on a daily basis.

Currently, the USCG does not have integrated technical solutions for small surface vessel disablement that have been proven to be reliable and effective. Specifically, there are no capabilities for vessel disablement that are consistently effective and safe to use on personal non-compliant vessel (NCV) types less than 30-feet long with outboard or impeller engines.

SOLUTION: CONTACTLESS VESSEL STOPPING CAPABILITY

The goal of the Contactless Vessel Stopping Capability effort is to develop a new technology that quickly and reliably disables a fleeing vessel from a safe distance and causes no undue risk to the USCG crew or the personal NCV passengers.

By taking proactive measures to address this issue, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) components can ensure the safety and security of U.S. borders and interdict illegal activities that threaten the nation's well-being.

DHS COLLABORATION: LAW ENFORCEMENT AND USCG

The DHS Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) has tasked its Maritime Safety and Security Program, in collaboration with the [First Responder Technologies initiative](#) (under S&T's First Responder Capabilities Program), with developing an innovative device to safely disrupt or disable vehicles for first responders and law enforcement. This effort is titled "Contactless Vehicle Stoppage."

Ultimately, combining the foundational technology development of these efforts will achieve efficiency in solving similar problem sets across multiple DHS stakeholders and mission spaces. Additionally, the intended result of this collaborative effort will mitigate loss of life, serious injuries, and property damage.



IMPACT OF SOLUTION

The USCG's effectiveness in fulfilling its missions could be significantly enhanced by incorporating contactless disablement capabilities in the maritime environment. With the ability to engage NCVs in broader scenarios and from greater distances, the USCG would be transformed into a more efficient and effective force. The integration of these capabilities would enable the USCG to better protect the nation's interests and ensure that its waters remain secure.

PARTNERS

- USCG
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection

STAKEHOLDERS

- Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division, China Lake
- DHS S&T First Responder Capabilities Program
- Joint Intermediate Force Capabilities Office

