



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Media Contact:  
Reese Riggle  
The Dalton Agency  
904-398-5222, ext. 226  
[rriggle@daltonagency.com](mailto:rriggle@daltonagency.com)

**W&O SUPPLY SELECTED AS DISTRIBUTOR OF VALVE SYSTEMS  
FOR U.S. NAVY'S NEXT-GENERATION COMBAT SHIP**

**Jacksonville, Fla. – November 29, 2006** - W&O Supply, the nation's largest distributor of marine valves, pipes, fittings and valve automation services, has received multiple contracts from Austal USA to supply electric automated valve systems and manual valve systems for the construction of two next-generation Littoral Combat Ships (LCS) for the U.S. Navy.

The LCS ships, a joint venture with General Dynamics, are being constructed at Austal USA's shipyard in Mobile, Ala. where W&O Supply has facilities.

The contracts for W&O Supply's electric automated valve systems and manual valve systems include automated valves, actuators, salt-water cooling valves, manual valves and the software required for the operation of the automated systems.

"We are pleased to have been chosen by Austal USA to be a partner for the U.S. Navy's next-generation combat ship," said David Turner, President and CEO, W&O Supply. "W&O Supply's innovative valve systems and teamwork in multiple locations nationwide ensures this project's success, enabling Austal USA to reliably deliver their product with confidence."

- more -

W&O Supply, Inc.  
3485 Evergreen Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32206 • 800.962.9696 • [www.wosupply.com](http://www.wosupply.com)

U.S. Navy LCS ships will primarily operate in shallow coastal waters and feature an innovative trimaran hull which allows the ships to reach sustainable speeds of 50 knots and travel distances of 10,000 nautical miles. The LCS will be faster and more agile than previous ships, which gives LCS a significant advantage in the combat situations tomorrow's Navy will face, such as attacks from smaller, faster vessels.

Austal USA is an Australia-based shipbuilding company. They are the world's largest builder of fast ferries, and in 2005 was awarded the contract by the U.S. Department of Defense to build two ships for the LCS project.

W&O Supply's automated valve systems, based on electric, pneumatic and hydraulic actuation units, use standard valve designs integrated with control systems tailored and customized to meet specific market applications.

Based in Jacksonville, Fla., W&O Supply is the nation's largest distributor of marine valves, pipes, fittings and valve automation services. The company represents the most recognizable brands in the marine shipbuilding industry with facilities across the United States.

### **About W&O Supply**

Founded in 1975, W&O Supply is the nation's largest supplier of valves, pipe, fittings, engineered products and automated valve systems for the marine and offshore industries. Headquartered in Jacksonville, Florida the company has 13 nationwide stocking locations and one international location in Belgium. W&O Supply is committed to providing integrated solutions for the marine industry including the U.S. Navy, commercial shipping companies, barge owners, cruise companies, offshore industry and shipyards all across North America and Europe. For more information about W&O Supply, visit [www.wosupply.com](http://www.wosupply.com).

###