Atlantic Targets &
Marine Operations

The Atlantic Targets and Marine Operations (ATMO) Division, part of the NAVAIR Threat/Target Systems Department, supports test and evaluation and fleet training by providing land, sea and aerial target services. Five major East Coast activities in Maryland, Virginia and Florida provide the professional staff and state-of-the-art equipment and facilities to create realistic threat simulations in air, land and sea environments. Technical experts work closely with customers to design, develop and modify target systems and deploy a range of vessels to support unique maritime requirements.

ATMO technical capabilities include:

• Operation of maritime surface vessels
• Operation and maintenance of surface and aerial targets
• Design and fabrication of prototype land targets
• Preparation and planning for full-scale sea target hulks used in weapons effects testing
• Underwater and land test-article recovery operations

MARITIME SUPPORT VESSELS
ATMO operates manned, remotely controlled and towed watercraft to provide a wide variety of maritime support services. Vessels range in size from 10-foot jet skis up to a 600-foot decommissioned LPH ship. ATMO also operates three 200-foot offshore support vessels and an ocean-going tug. These vessels can be used for deploying and recovering aerial and surface targets, Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) and Unmanned Underwater Vehicles (UUV), sonobuoy support, and the deployment of explosives to support fleet shock trials.

Inshore support vessels are also available, offering crane and dive services and target command and control platforms. This includes small, Rigid Hull Inflatable Boats (RHIB), several “go-fast” boats, a 65-foot gun platform and multipurpose 100-foot support craft.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Atlantic Targets & Marine Operations
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www.navair.navy.mil/targets

Realistic Operational Threat Environments

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SEABORNE TARGETS

Seaborne targets include manned and remote-capable littoral and open-ocean targets. Powered, towed and floating targets are available:

- 56-foot QST-35 Seaborne Powered Target (SEPTAR) (missile/launch threat)
- 8-meter High-Speed Maneuverable Surface Target (HSMST) (40+ knots, independent operation with portable command-and-control unit)
- Ship-Deployed Surface Target (SDST) Roboski
- Low-Cost Modular Towed Target (LCMT)
- HARM/Infrared (IR) Drifting Barge Target
- Pax Pontoon Target

ATMO personnel also create custom-designed towed targets, depending on customer requirements. Towed targets can be configured with silhouettes for gunnery events and a variety of radar cross-section reflectors and electronic warfare emitters.

LAND TARGETS

ATMO provides a wide variety of land targets that include fixed, mobile and anti-radiation targets. ATMO also fabricates full-scale, three-dimensional plastic targets that are low-cost, durable, mobile and threat realistic. They can be augmented to provide an IR signature and can be mounted on a trailer or skid.

LIVE-FIRE TARGETS

ATMO supports Live-Fire Test and Evaluation (LFT&E) programs designed to measure ship survivability against newly developed weapons or validate ship survivability characteristics. The division manages the test platform from cradle-to-grave, ensuring customer, environmental and test requirements are met.

AERIAL TARGETS

Aerial targets carry a variety of internal and wingtip-mounted payloads in support of mission requirements. Payloads include passive and active radar augmentation, IR flares, electronic countermeasures (ECM), seeker simulators, scoring, Information Friend or Foe (IFF) and dual wingtip-mounted tow bodies.

The Integrated Avionics Unit, Air Data Computer and Global Positioning System (GPS) provide a highly accurate navigation solution. Recently incorporated Low Altitude Control Enhancement (LACE II) software allows the target to perform complex, programmable, three-dimensional maneuvers and operate at altitudes as low as seven feet.

Subscale, subsonic recoverable targets include BQM-74E and BQM-34S.