

Your naval
partner



Crisis or peace: a multipurpose response

STRENGTH at sea

DCNS

Supporting a force far from home

In today's world, the decisions to deploy inter army forces at long range stems from a large spectrum of situations. Crisis of an emerging kind – like humanitarian missions or inter-allied peace forces – have broadened the scope of intervention of most of the world's armies. To respond to these challenges, the highly configurable Mistral-family vessels impose themselves as the preferred solutions.

From the moment a force deployment is decided upon to the time a ship loaded with sea, air and land forces reaches crisis point, real-time data received and analysed permanently allows to update a clear view on local situation. In summer 2006, the French army on its way to a humanitarian mission in Lebanon had to reconfigure its ship no less than 3 times to adjust to evolving crisis.

FNS Mistral made this possible because of why and how it has been designed in the first place. All of the ship's contents – whether troops, food, ammunition or vehicles – can be loaded in less than 5 hours thanks to a set of dedicated access as well as optimised dispatching on-board.

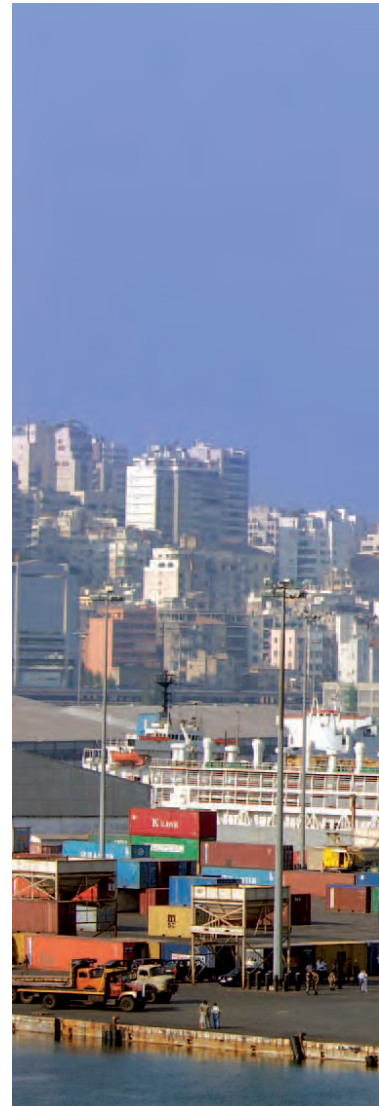
Most importantly, the ship is truly **multipurpose**, capable of performing many different tasks ranging from a **basic LHD** (Landing Helicopter Dock) to providing the highest **NATO standard hospital** suited to the needs of a city of 40,000 inhabitants. No wonder: the ship was designed to be nearly 100 % **reconfigurable** to suit not only each country's strategy but also the specifics of each mission.

The Mistral-family vessels are truly multipurpose, capable of performing many different tasks ranging from a basic LHD to providing the highest NATO standard hospital.

The Mistral-family ships do more than transporting forces at long range: capable of hosting from 450 up to 1,200 troops and/or civilians, these units are a **political tool**. Allowing for **long duration missions**, they provide commanders with the capacity to choose the very best moment to deploy forces. More importantly, because of its **configurable centre of command**, the ship allows inter army and/or inter allied headquarters to command and control operations securely on-board the ship as long they need.

FNS Mistral provides other unique features, some of which bring a major advantage in times of crisis. In addition to offering a large surface for avia operations, the **"flush deck"** acts as a buffer, allowing the ship to reconfigure en route, even when loaded at its full capacity.

Last but not least, FNS Mistral benefits from comprehensive **communication** capabilities thanks to DCNS' **state-of-the-art data link system**. All **automated equipments on the ship are redundant**, which guarantees continuity whatever the situation.



Lastly, the ship's **POD propulsion system** provides users with a high level of **manœuvrability**.

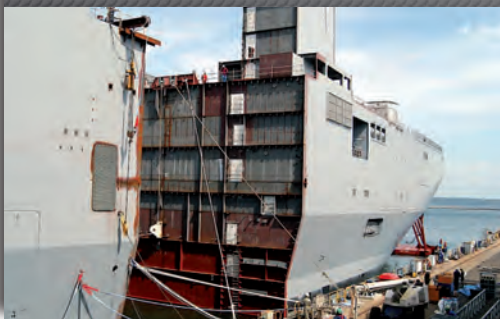
Ordered by the French Navy at the very beginning of the new millenium, FNS Mistral was definitely operation-proven in October 2007 during the two week NATO exercise "Noble Midas". Gathering no less than 40 combat vessels from 12 different nations, the exercise showed that FNS Mistral truly contributed to inter-operability, providing NATO with the capacity **to conduct operations securely on-board** whilst **supporting the indispensable readiness of forces**. As a result, the FNS Mistral has been NATO certified.



FOCUS ON

Innovation with industrial success

End of 1999, the French MoD awarded DCNS as designer and prime contractor, for the delivery of two Mistral-class ships, in the frame of a partnership with Alstom-Chantiers de l'Atlantique shipyard and Thales.



such as all-electric propulsion, high level of automation, and integrated high-capability communications, DCNS and its partners set up an optimised industrial organisation to drastically reduce both time schedule and costs. FNS Mistral was designed to be built simultaneously in two parts in two shipyards, with a final assembly within DCNS (Brest) premises in France where all final works and tests were successfully performed. Thanks to their versatile design and DCNS successful experience Mistral-family vessels can be easily built in cooperation with local partners.

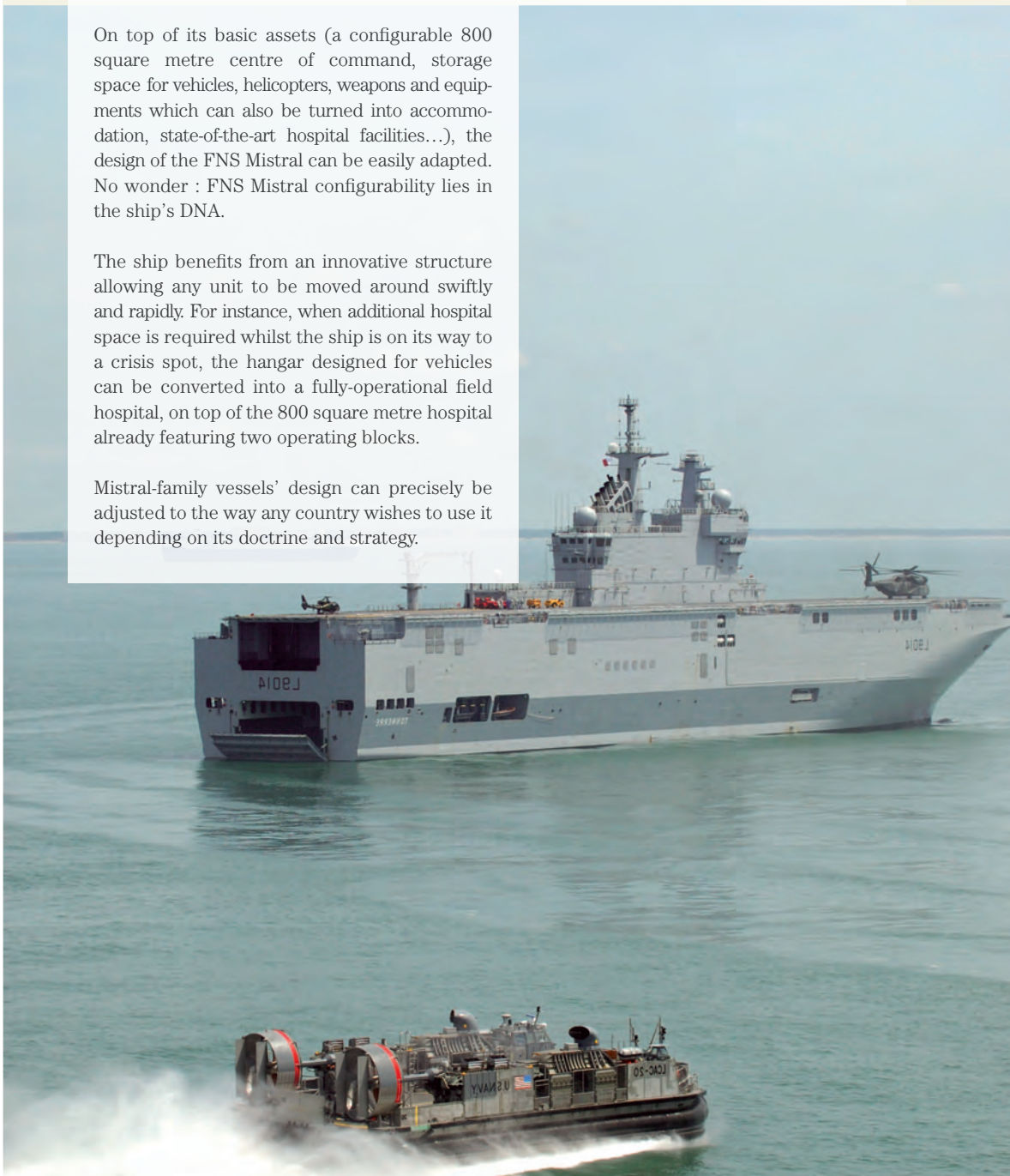
A highly configurable ship

DESIGNER OF THE MISTRAL-FAMILY, DCNS HAS PAID A PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE VERSATILITY AND ADAPTABILITY OF ITS DESIGN.

On top of its basic assets (a configurable 800 square metre centre of command, storage space for vehicles, helicopters, weapons and equipments which can also be turned into accommodation, state-of-the-art hospital facilities...), the design of the FNS Mistral can be easily adapted. No wonder : FNS Mistral configurability lies in the ship's DNA.

The ship benefits from an innovative structure allowing any unit to be moved around swiftly and rapidly. For instance, when additional hospital space is required whilst the ship is on its way to a crisis spot, the hangar designed for vehicles can be converted into a fully-operational field hospital, on top of the 800 square metre hospital already featuring two operating blocks.

Mistral-family vessels' design can precisely be adjusted to the way any country wishes to use it depending on its doctrine and strategy.





Crisis operation proven

Projecting Joint Forces around the globe to ensure a swift response to crisis is a key challenge today for France.

In summer 2006, FNS Mistral was commissioned and immediately sailed to Lebanon to support the evacuation of thousands of civilians thanks to helicopters and LCMs.



FNS Mistral demonstrated its capacity as a true heavy-duty crisis management tool as projection and command ship.

Acting as a force multiplier for the French Navy, FNS Mistral and FNS Tonnerre have clearly boosted the French Navy's fleet to new heights. In 2008, Mistral-class vessels became the heart and brain of NATO's NRF, a force of some 25,000 men capable of being deployed, under a 5-day notice, anywhere abroad for one month of high intensity combat action. French navy ordered a third mistral-class vessels in 2009 "*Le Dixmude*".



STRENGTH at sea

DCNS is Europe's key global player providing high-value-added naval defence systems. The Group offers the world's navies a turnkey approach to warships, including all related equipment and services. As prime contractor, designer, builder, and integrator, the Group masters the overall value chain and life-cycle of naval systems, from initial design to full operational maintenance.

An international player

DCNS capacity for innovation allows it to respond to the complex challenges of navies around the world by proposing cost-efficient integrated solutions, which are both interoperable (air/naval/land) and applicable to inter-allied operations.

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