

**Abstract ID:** 11660

**Title:** Gun Weapon System (GWS) MK 48 for USCG Legends Class Cutters

**Abstract Text:** Topic Addressed: The GWS MK48 being installed aboard US Coast Guard Legends Class Cutters is a recent example of a gun weapon system developed rapidly for the US Coast Guard's newest Homeland Security maritime platform.

Relevance to Conference Theme: The GWS MK 48 was developed in response to the urgent gun fire control needs of the US Coast Guard. The system supports a range of Coast Guard missions including law enforcement and defensive operations in support of ownship and other protected units. The connection to the conference is primarily in describing the integration of both lethal and non-lethal tactics into GWS MK 48 and the process of integration of a foreign gun mount into a US Gun Weapon System.

Objective of Presentation: Traditionally, gun weapon systems are designed to defeat targets through destruction forcing the use of ad-hoc methods when tasked with non-destructive fire missions. The US Coast Guard requirements for the GWS MK 48 included both military (kill target) and law enforcement (warning or disabling fire) missions. The design of the GWS MK 48 will be described to show how these two types of missions were integrated to provide the service a system that supports the escalation response progression of Warn-Disable-Kill in an interconnected, ordered fashion. The second aspect of the presentation will examine the efforts needed to incorporate a foreign gun mount into a US service. The challenges included reconciling foreign terminology and US terminology as well as determining how to translate US gun system use expectations within the limits of the gun mount design.