

HMAS Success (II)



HMAS *Success* (II), based on the French 'Durance' Class Ship was built in Australia by Cockatoo Dockyard Pty Ltd at Sydney, New South Wales. She was launched from their slipway on 03 March 1984 by her launching Lady, Her Excellency Lady Stephen, wife of the then Governor-General of Australia and commissioned into the Royal Australian Navy on 23 April 1986. She is the largest ship built entirely in Australia for the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) and also the largest ever built in the port of Sydney.

HMAS *Success* (II) is an Auxiliary Oiler Replenishment (AOR) vessel of 18,000 tonne fully loaded and 157.2 metres in length. She is not the first ship to be named *Success*. In all, 19 British men-of-war ships are known to have carried the name, most during the 17th and 18th centuries.

Contemporary maritime operations demand that naval combat units be supplied with fuel, ammunition, food and stores whilst underway at sea. HMAS *Success* (II) is designed for this task. She is capable of day and night Replenishment at Sea (RAS) to ships alongside and concurrently by her embarked helicopter to other ships in company via Vertical Replenishment (VERTREP). Four main RAS stations are fitted, two of which have dual functions and can be used to transfer either fuel or solid cargo. RAS operations are controlled from the Cargo Control Room amidships. During solid cargo transfer a traveller riding on a tension highline between *Success* (II) and a fixed point in the receiving ship supports the load.



HMAS *Success* on her way to Rabaul, PNG during Indo-Pacific Endeavour 2018.

During fuel transfers, the highline is used to support a hose which hangs from several travelling saddles and which has a quick connecting probe to mate with the fuel receiving point in the ship being fuelled. The solid cargo transfer stations are designed to handle sizeable loads of up to nearly 2 tonnes. All winches use hydraulic transmissions with electro hydraulic controls. The RAS



Commanding Officer	Commander Grant Ziiko
Type	Support Ship
Role	Combat Logistics
Pennant	OR 304
International Callsign	VLNN
Motto	Strive To Win
Home Port	Fleet Base East
Builder	Cockatoo Island Dockyard, Sydney, NSW
Laid Down	9 August 1980
Launched	3 March 1984
Launched by	Her Excellency Lady Stephen, wife of the then Governor-General of Australia
Commissioned	23 April 1986
Dimensions & Displacement	
Displacement	18,000 tonnes (full load)
Length	157.2 metres
Beam	21.2 metres
Draught	8.6 metres
Performance	
Speed	20 knots
Range	8600 nautical miles
Complement	
Crew	220
Propulsion	
Machinery	2 x SEMT-Pielstick 16 diesels
Armament	
Guns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 x Vulcan Phalanx Mk 15 CIWS (for selected deployments)

system is designed to cope with the extreme demands caused by ship motion in rough weather and varying sea states. HMAS *Success* (II) thus enables RAN fleet units to operate with a greater degree of flexibility and independence from shore support than has previously been possible from other RAN sources.

The ship's company of 220 is required to operate and maintain the propulsion, replenishment, auxiliary machinery and support systems in *Success* (II). Providing underway replenishment support to the fleet is a challenging and continuing task requiring technical proficiency and high seamanship standards. As would be expected in a modern warship, accommodation and recreation areas are spacious and well designed. Meals are provided from one centralised galley that includes a bakery. The medical centre includes an operating theatre, infirmary and dental surgery.



HMAS Success (centre) conducts a replenishment at sea with HMA Ships *Adelaide* (right) and *Melbourne* followed by HMAS *Toowoomba*.

The first HMAS *Success*

The first HMAS *Success* (I) (H02) was an S Class DD built by Wm Doxford & Son Ltd., Sunderland UK. She was laid down on the 29 June 1918, launched 27 January 1920 and decommissioned 21 May 1931. She was eventually sold on 04 June 1937. HMAS *Success* (I) was 276ft in length with a beam of 26ft 9ins and a draft of 10ft 10ins. Her displacement was 1075 tons and had a speed of 36kts.

HMAS *Success* (I) armament consisted of three 4 inch Mk IV BL; one 2-pounder Qf; one .303-inch Maxim MG; two .303-inch Lewis MG; one twin .303-inch Lewis MG; two twin 21 inch Mk IV TT; two DC trowers and four DC chutes. Originally built for the Royal Navy, she was to be renamed *Rabaul* by the RAN but this was rescinded on 11 June 1920 and the original name of *Success* was retained.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 x 12.7mm machine guns
Radars	2 x Kelvin Hughes Type 100G
Helicopters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 x AS 350B Squirrel or 1 x Seahawk
Awards	
Battle Honours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KUWAIT 1991 EAST TIMOR 1999-2000
Resources	
Datasheet	HMAS <i>Success</i> (II)
News Articles	Navy Daily
Facebook	HMAS <i>Success</i> II
Image Gallery	HMAS <i>Success</i> (II)