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# Acquisition Update: Coast Guard Research and Development Center opens new Modeling and Simulation Center of Expertise

**June 3, 2014**

NEW LONDON, Conn. – The Coast Guard Research and Development Center inaugurated its new Modeling and Simulation Center of Expertise with a ribbon cutting June 3.

The new center's mission is to help Coast Guard managers and commanders make better-informed decisions by giving them timely, cost-effective access to powerful modeling and simulation capabilities and analysis.

The new 3,200-square-foot facility on the first floor of the Research and Development Center at 1 Chelsea St. in New London includes office spaces, a conference room and a 12-person project demonstration room. Its dedicated servers and networked lab enable analysts to run simulations that will support acquisition, strategic, operational and tactical decisions throughout the Coast Guard.

The opening of the new center culminates a three-year effort to centralize the Coast Guard's modeling and simulation resources. By consolidating resources previously managed piece-meal by various program offices and commands, the Coast Guard expects to develop and maintain its M&S tool portfolio more effectively.

"The center will house the best and brightest operations research experts and the myriad of tools needed to answer those what-if questions posed by the Coast Guard Capabilities Directorate and area commanders," said Capt. Alan Arsenault, RDC commanding officer.



Celebrating the opening of the Coast Guard Research and Development Center Modeling and Simulation Center of Expertise are, from left to right, Claire Grady, Coast Guard Deputy Assistant Commandant for Acquisition; Rear Adm. Bruce Baffer, Assistant Commandant for Acquisition; Rep. Joe Courtney, 2nd District, Conn.; Capt. Alan Arsenault, RDC Commanding Officer; and Capt. Robert Thomas, Office of Research, Development, Test and Evaluation Chief. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Luke Clayton.

The new center also will make it easier for Coast Guard leaders to obtain modeling and simulation services. Capt. Matt Stanley, whose duties as chief of Office of Requirements & Analysis require him to procure M&S services for the Coast Guard's Assistant Commandant for Capability, says the new M&S Center "provides my Requirements and Analysis shop with a single point of contact and service for a wide variety of our modeling needs." Having already worked with the new center, he says, "The M&S COE helps me answer critical questions concerning Coast Guard capability for senior leadership much faster than I could have before."

The RDC performs research, development, test and evaluation in support of the Coast Guard's missions. For more information, visit <http://www.uscg.mil/acquisition/rdc/rdc.asp>