The focus of this programme is to enable the Royal Navy to deploy a fleet of more affordable, available, survivable surface ships which can operate freely in international and territorial waters in support of UK interests. This area of work is the lead science and technology programme for the integration of technologies onto surface ships. Research is aligned to four areas which include:

- surface defence and security operations
- integrated air defence
- platform and combat systems
- littoral manoeuvre

Working in partnership
This programme’s S&T is being used to influence the design of the Royal Navy’s Type-26 Frigate, which includes: The design of the ship’s Electric Motors; shock mitigation in the Mission Bay and the evolution in the Combat Management System, transitioning to an Open Architecture construct.

Some aspects of this programme will be contracted through a number of mechanisms throughout the 2015/16 year. Details of these routes to contracting can be found in the ‘How to sell to Dstl - get involved’ factsheet. Specific opportunities to get involved in this programme include:

- Maritime Collaborative Enterprise (MarCE) - BAE Systems is the prime contractor for this work
- EW&C Framework - This framework is still under contracting action.

For more information on this programme, contact: maritime@dstl.gov.uk or centralenquiries@dstl.gov.uk.

Approximate funding (2015/16):

£25.3 million - 80% is delivered externally*

*The 2015/16 funding is a projected forecast and is subject to change in-year.