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The Minesweeping Control System (MCS) is a modern ECDIS based electronic chart system (ECS) designed to support minesweeping operations with AMAS sweeps.

Thales Australia's MCS provides precise navigation of the tow platform and positioning of the sweep along its runs. Designed for use on manned vessels it incorporates Thales Australia's ECDIS based navigation software, VASCO-II.

It provides the professional tools required to plan, execute, and monitor route survey, minesweeping and minelaying operations. Data recorded by the VASCO-II software can also be used for mission assessment onboard using the VASCO-II software or ashore using the MPSS-GIS software.

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AMAS MINESWEEPING CONTROL SYSTEM (MCS)

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AMAS MINESWEEPING CONTROL SYSTEM

(MCS)

MCS SYSTEM OVERVIEW

The MCS is a modular portable system which can be temporarily fitted to a craft of opportunity or installed on a dedicated MCMV.

The system consists of:

- The tactical station
- The helmsman's station
- One or two DGPS receivers.

MCM FUNCTIONALITY

For example the MCM operator can:

- Create, save and load Q-routes
- Segment Q-routes
- Assign tracks to each segment
- Assign run numbers to each track
- Monitor completed and incomplete runs
- Lay warshot mines
- Lay and recover exercise mines.

Utilising the Microsoft Windows XP® based graphic user interface, and able to display both HCRF (raster) and S57/S63 (vector) charts the VASCO-II software is intuitive and user-friendly.

At mission start, the operator can initiate the first track and monitor the MCMV's progress and cross track error as it navigates along a planned track. At the end of each leg the operator can select the next leg and complete a log detailing the results of the lap.

The run sequence can be changed as required for operational flexibility and additional runs can be added while under way.

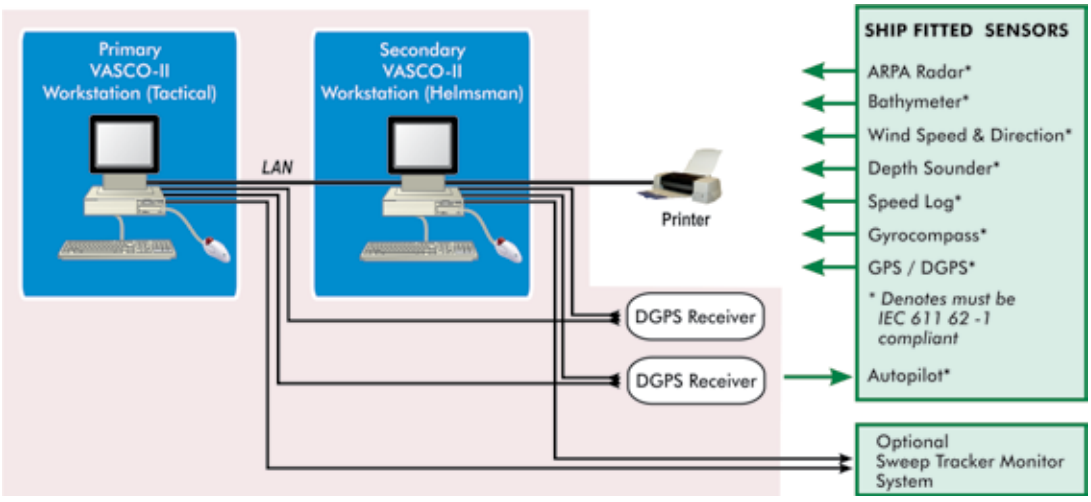
Importantly, the use of the Sweep Tracker Monitor System allows the vessel cross track error to be adjusted to maintain the sweep on the planned track.

A second computer and display are provided to assist the helmsman to steer the ship accurately along the planned route.

THE HELMSMAN STATION

The helm display allows the helmsman to view the planned route and vessel position on a different chart scale, orientation, and display scheme to that selected at the tactical station.

In the event of a failure of the tactical station computer, the helmsman station computer will automatically assume the role of the Primary VASCO-II computer.



Minesweeping Control System (MCS)

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