Variable Depth Sonar (VDS) CAPTAS-4
Unrivalled performance for Task Group level missions as Theatre Operations and Power Projection

- More than 60 CAPTAS systems are in operation across 10 member navies of the CAPTAS Users’ club.
- Operational at sea since 2002 on-board more than 10 different types of platform.
CAPTAS family/
CAPTAS-4
World’s favourite and most sea-proven low frequency active and passive VDS

Presentation
Ultra-long range simultaneous active and passive 360° surveillance,
permanent all-round torpedo alert.

Original CAPTAS-4 (independent tow) for large frigates as FREMM and T23. New compact version available with two different handling systems.

Compact - independent tow version:
• To enable simple and safe deployment & recovery, to optimize
the depth for receiver and transmitter, and to increase the
operational flexibility (passive only or active only multi-static
operations) or both.

Compact - dependent tow version:
• To provide even lighter and more compact solution for specific
platform needs.
• Single tow line to ease operational use with other towed system.

Multi-static interoperability with CAPTAS family VDS, Thales Hull-Mounted Sonars (HMS) family, FLASH dipping sonar and SonoFlash sonobuoy, together providing the best performing Anti-Submarine Warfare Sonar Suite for large frigates.

MAIN FEATURES
System features
• Integrated on-board training capability
• Performance prediction function to optimize sonar use.
• User-friendly HMI, with 3D analysis and chart underlay to
increase situation understanding.
• Guard depth function.
• Mammals safe: adjustable source level.
• Mission module for cross decking (optional).

Transmit array features
• Four Free Flooded Rings transmit array, very high source
level.
• Omni-directional low frequency transmission.
• Low reverberation effect due to limited vertical directivity
and wide bandwidth

Receive array features
• Triplet array to instantly resolve left/right ambiguity.

OPERATIONAL BENEFITS
Detection range
Typical up to 150 km (2nd oceanic convergence zone in Atlantic Ocean)

Functions
Concurrent Active & Passive surveillance and torpedo warning + analysis + audio

Accuracy
<100 m ≤1°

Operational limits
Up to Sea State 6

Operating depth
Compact: up to 235 m depth

TECHNICAL FEATURES
Active
Frequency
Below 2 kHz

Bandwidth
Wide FM

Pulse modes
FM, CW, COMBO

Pulse length
Up to 16 s

Passive frequency
Exceeding 4 kHz

INSTALLATION / MODULARITY
Version
Footprint
Weight

Original
(FREMM–T23–T26)
~ 84 m²
~ 34 t

Compact Independent
tow (FDI)
~ 45 m²
~ 25 t

Compact Dependent
tow (F110)
~ 43 m²
~ 20 t

Compatible with the Thales BlueScan integrated multi-sensors acoustic system