Race to build Canada's next submarine fleet

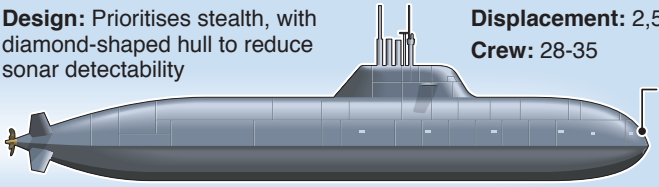
Canada is preparing to acquire 12 conventionally-powered submarines to replace its ageing fleet of Victoria-class boats, with rival designs from Germany and South Korea competing for the lucrative contract

TKMS* Type 212CD: Developed for German and Norwegian navies, first vessel due to enter service in 2029

Design: Prioritises stealth, with diamond-shaped hull to reduce sonar detectability

Displacement: 2,500 tonnes

Crew: 28-35



Propulsion: 2 x MTU 4000 diesel-electric engines with air-independent propulsion (AIP) fuel cell system

Armament: Torpedoes, anti-ship missiles, short-range surface-to-air missiles, anti-torpedo defences

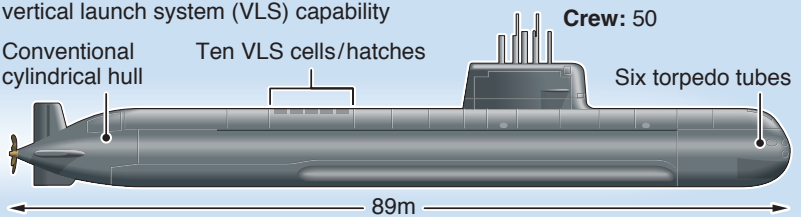
Schedule: TKMS offering Canada four submarines by 2036 – achieved by Germany and Norway temporarily giving up one boat from production line

Hanwha Ocean KSS-III: Batch-I class currently in service with South Korean navy. Canada being offered larger Batch-II class

Design: Prioritises firepower, includes vertical launch system (VLS) capability

Displacement: 3,600 tonnes

Crew: 50



Propulsion: 3 x MTU 4000 diesel-electric engines combined with AIP fuel cell system

Armament: Torpedoes, ballistic missiles, anti-ship and land attack cruise missiles, mobile mines

Schedule: Canada could receive four submarines by 2035, with additional eight vessels delivered at rate of one per year up until 2043

Sources: Naval Technology, The Canadian Press

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