

CASE STUDY

Lockheed Martin Mitscher Ablative

CLIENT SITUATION

This project sought the necessary labor, tooling, PPE and material for the delivery of ORDALT 79353 as it relates to the internal and external plenum ablative installation onboard the USS Mitscher. The USS Mitscher would be docked at the General Dynamics, NASSCO shipyard in Norfolk, Virginia while the work took place – which included the Rhoads' team cleaning the plenums in both the Aft and Forward Vertical Launch Systems and installing ablative tiling internally and externally along sidewalls and endwalls.



RHOADS SOLUTION

Rhoads worked closely with the Lockheed Martin Maritime Systems and Training MK VLS Installation Manager and the Alteration Installation Team Lead throughout all phases of this contract. The first steps of this project involved scraping, grinding, cleaning and removing all soot and hazardous dust from inside each plenum in both launch systems. Proper PPE was worn at all times in order to avoid contact and inhalation of the dust and dirt that Rhoads' was tasked with clearing. Once the plenums were fully rid of all dust, dirt, and soot, ablative tiles were installed on both the interior and exterior walls of the plenums.

RESULT

The Rhoads' team fought through months of delays and issues while working in the General Dynamics, NASSCO Shipyard due to electrical problems on board the ship which caused work stoppages on a countless number of days. Teams of shipyard employees continuously falling behind their schedules forced Rhoads' team to work second and third shift at times to avoid accessibility issues. Ultimately, the Rhoads' team persevered through all issues and pushed throughout the winter months to complete all work in time for the USS Mitscher to depart the General Dynamics, NASSCO shipyard.

**Contact us today to
learn how Rhoads
Industries can help
with your next project.**

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