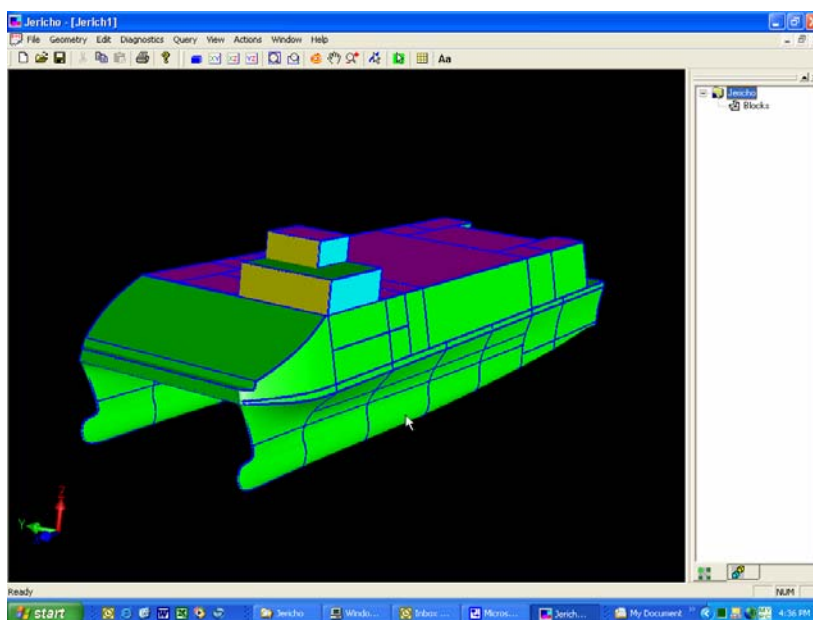


PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SUBJECT:	Damping Material Performance Tested and Confirmed on X-Craft
TO:	Distribution
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The Office of Naval Research's (ONR) experimental X-Craft has been used to develop and verify the potential for a novel damping treatment to reduce habitability noise. Noise Control Engineering used its recently developed 3-D acoustic prediction software – *Designer Noise* – to 'tune' the performance of the damping characteristics and placement of the spray-on treatment on the vessel. As an extension of our SBIR effort, ONR funded this joint effort by NCE and Quiet Solution (QS). The resulting QuietShip damping material is superior to existing Navy damping tiles in performance, weight, and cost of installation. Tests conducted by NCE on X-Craft confirm this material provides significant reduction in structureborne induced noise and reduced vibration due to incident airborne noise

from nearby equipment.

Noise Control Engineering Inc of Billerica Massachusetts is an engineering consulting firm that specializes in shipboard noise & vibration control and marine acoustics. NCE has an SBIR to develop Designer Noise, an advanced noise prediction tool for the US Navy. This tool was applied to X-Craft late in the design process with the aim of reducing the on-board noise. X-Craft was constructed by Nichols Brothers of Washington (NBBB). It is a high speed (50+ knots) light-weight craft, thus it has a high power to weight ratio. This combination usually leads to high habitability noise levels.

NCE performed the engineering calculations, recommended the damping parameters, and recommended the areas to be treated while QS developed and installed the damping material – QuietShip. NCE conducted tests with NBBB's cooperation on similar treated and untreated panels to verify the acoustical effectiveness. This treatment is ideal for abating machinery noise on light-weight, high-speed craft such as LCS, HSV, Deepwater and DD-X. With the proper evaluation by Designer-Noise the treatment properties and areas of coverage can be optimized for reduced impact on weight, space and cost. As a result of this process, noise impacts on the Warfighter will be minimized.