

## REFUELING AND COMPLEX OVERHAUL

# RCOH

## OPTIMIZING CARRIER PERFORMANCE

“A carrier RCOH may be the most challenging engineering and industrial task undertaken anywhere by any organization.”

—RAND National Defense Research Institute Study, 2002

Halfway through a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier's 50-year service, it undergoes mid-life Refueling and Complex Overhaul (RCOH), which includes refueling of nuclear reactors, overhauling most machinery, and modernizing warfare systems.

RCOH ensures carriers incorporate improved capabilities needed for success in their remaining 25 years of service.



## IMPORTANCE OF ON-TIME MAINTENANCE

Delaying any RCOH negatively impacts fleet readiness and creates inefficiencies in the program, including increased costs and prolonged learning curves. Continued and steady RCOH multi-year funding provides the aircraft-carrier workforce and industrial base much needed stability the generates efficiencies contributing to strong, on-budget program performance.

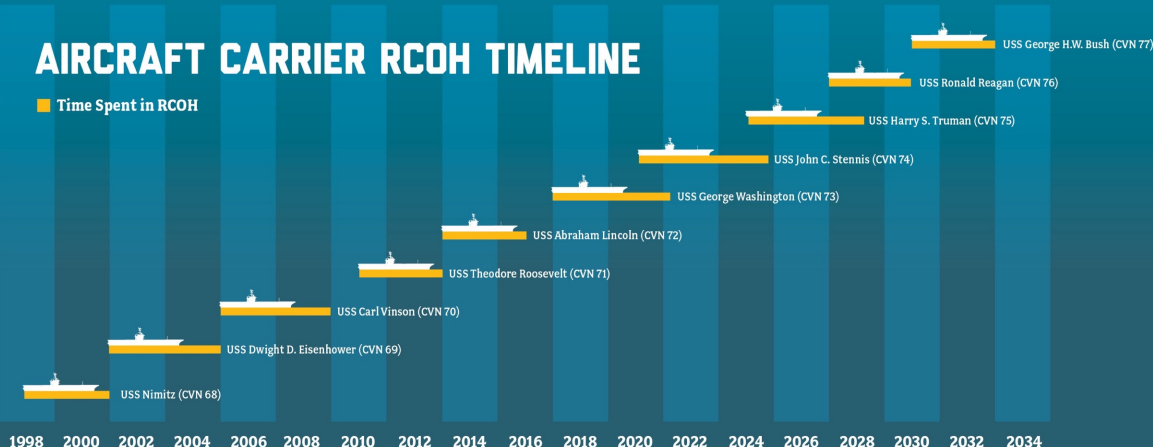
Modern aircraft carriers are in high demand for national defense missions around the world.

Refueling and Complex Overhaul (RCOH) increases the value and recapitalizes the carrier, continuing the most modern and technologically advanced Niimitz-class carriers in the U.S. fleet, a vital part of our national defense.

Current law prohibits the retirement of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers before the ship's first RCOH.

## AIRCRAFT CARRIER RCOH TIMELINE

■ Time Spent in RCOH



## AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

HAVE A

**50 YEAR**  
SERVICE LIFE.



RCOH means availability for another

**25 YEARS**

TO DEFEND AGAINST **NEAR-PEER THREATS** AND EVOLVE TO MEET **U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY NEEDS.**

**36 STATES**  
PROVIDE MATERIALS FOR RCOH