# Near Future Submarine (NFS) programme: Human Factor Engineering (HFE) and it's technological challenges

Farnborough 22 May 2024





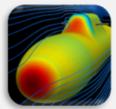








































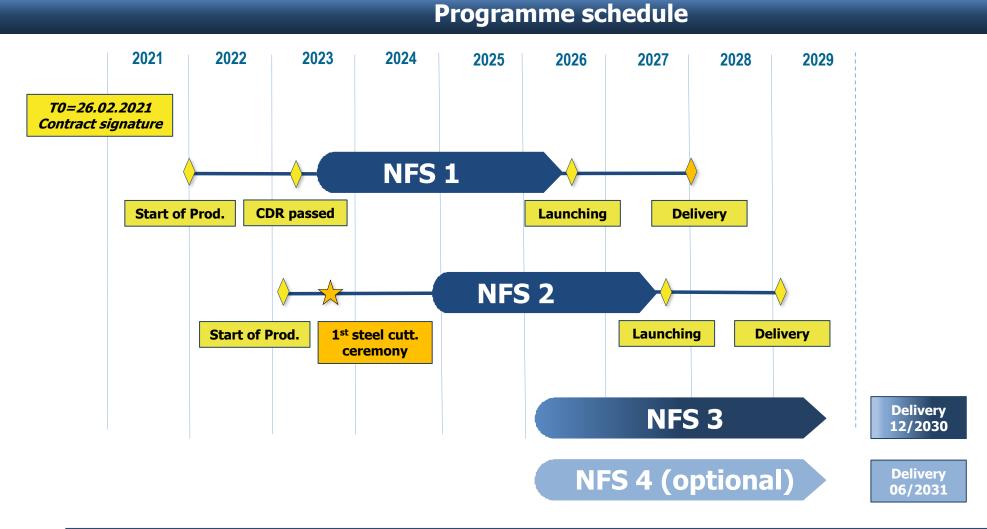


## Agenda

- **❖** NFS Programme overview update
- HFE design & analysis
- ❖ NFS HF overview Focus on:
  - New development systems
  - On the horizon technologies
  - Over the horizon needs and technological challenges



# U212 NFS Programme overview





# U212 NFS Programme overview

#### **WHY NFS**

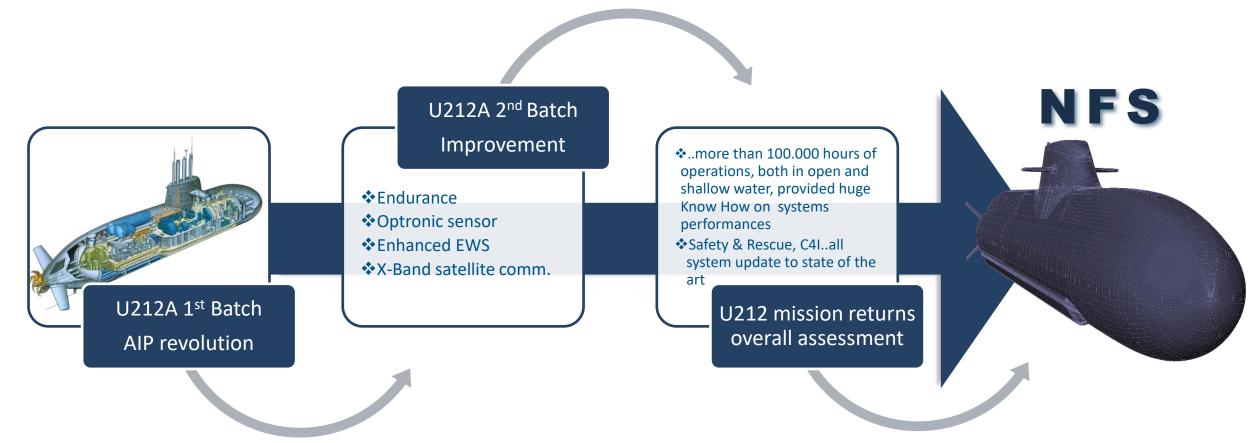
...to maintain the consistency and update of the Italian Navy submarine fleet, in order to ensure adequate underwater domain surveillance and control capability, taking into account the future complex scenarios of underwater operations





# U212 NFS Programme overview

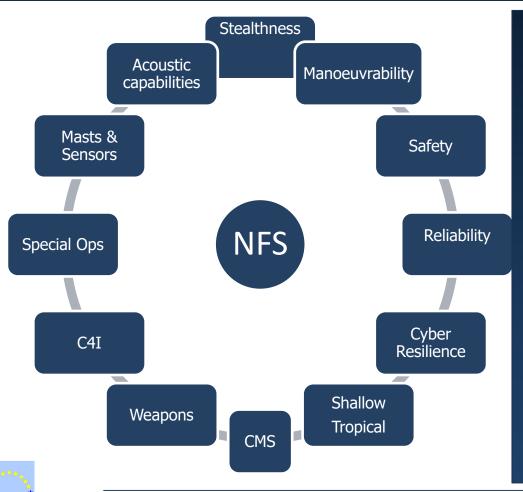
### NFS approach: evolution

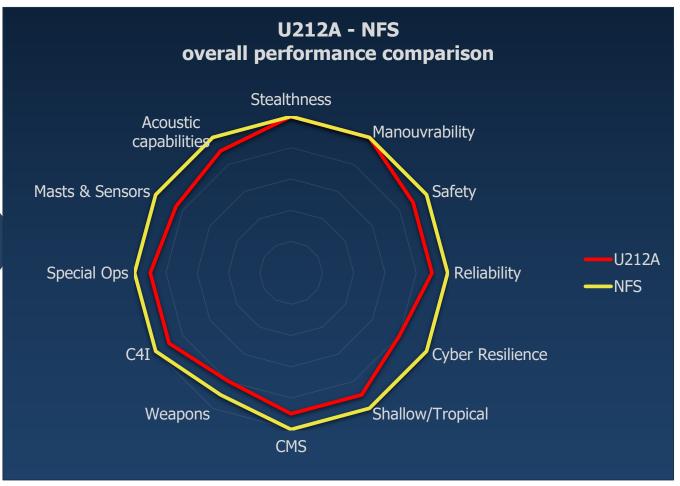




## U212 NFS Thecnical overview

#### **U212 DESIGN MODELS MAIN FEATURES COMPARISON**





## U212 NFS technical overview

#### **ENHANCE OPERATIONAL FLEXIBILITY AND OVERALL STATE OF THE ART CAPABILITIES**

#### Main Features

Length overall app	rox.	59
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❖ Height above sail approx. 12 m

Maximum diameter approx. 7 m

Surface Displacement approx. 1600 ton

Crew members approx. 29

Propulsion Engine Permasyn

Propeller7 blades

❖ Diesel Generator 970 kW

❖ Battery System Lead Acid/R&D Li-Ion

❖ Fuel Cell 8+1 modules

# Main Features Combat System Lithium Ion Battery E- Hoist CIC arrangement EW system Automation





### **Increased Underwater Capability - Technological Payload**

Remotely Operated Vehicles

Special Force

Autonomuos Underwater Vehicles

**New Power Generation** 

**New Communication Systems** 

Xtremely Large
Unmanned Underwater Vehicles

New Hydrodynamic Shape

New Propulsion System

Cyber Defence

**New Combat Systems** 



#### **Evolution - Increased Underwater Capability - Technological Payload**

#### **New Capability**

- Remotely Operated Vehicles
- Autonomous Underwater Vehicles
- New Power Generation
- New Communication Systems
- New Hydrodynamic Shape
- Special Force Systems
- New Propulsion System



#### Main Features

- Increase density of technological systems
- Saturation living space
- Numerous visual stimulus
- Numerous auditory stimulus
- High man-machine activity
- Microclimate
- Safety



#### What is Human Factors?

Human Factors Engineering is the science related to understanding the properties/work interaction/condition of human capability and their interaction with environmental around

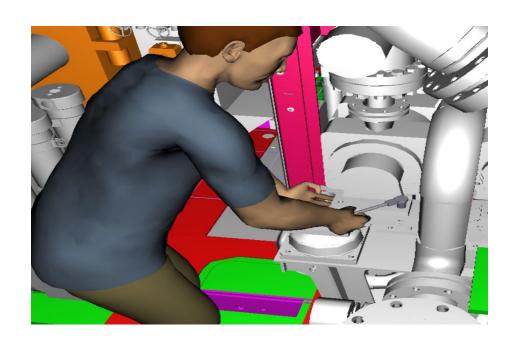
main factors about Human factors engineering and their interaction are:

- engineering design;
- psychology (clinical/experimental);
- environment (especially work);
- system design;
- anthropometry;
- R&D;
- statistical study applied to engineering design;



#### **Why Human Factors?**

- Increase crew comfort and wellness during the mission
- Improve operators' performance and safety
- Verify usability and the adequacy of the equipment
- Optimize communication and interactions with other crew members in operative rooms.
- Focalize the attention on the user in order to increase comfort onboard
- Propose a set of improvements to the on-board rooms aimed at increasing comfort
- Verify the biomechanical and postural load requirements of job tasks/demands on the neck, trunk and upper extremities.





### **Main Objectives**

Describe/evaluate and manage the main interaction of crew with:

- Systems
- Equipment
- Facility
- Procedures
- Managements system
- Environment
- and each other





#### **Main Related Documentation**

MIL-DTL-16377H Lighting: Shipboard Use;

MIL-STD-882E System Safety

MIL-HDBK-759C Human Engineering Design Guideline

MIL-STD-46855A HFE Requirements for Military Systems

MIL-STD-1474E Design Criteria Noise Limits

MIL-STD-1472H Human Engineering

MIL-G-2874 Gloves, Anti-flush, Flame Resistant

MIL-STD-1473C Color and Marking of Army Material

MIL-DTL-7788 Integrally Illuminated Panels

NAVSEA T9640-AC-DSP-010/HAB Shipboard Habitability Design

DOD-HDBK-743A Anthropometry of US Military Personnel

NEHC-TM-OEM-6260.6 Prev &Treat of Heat & Cold Injury

EU Parliament Directive for Safety & Health at Work 2002/44/EC - Vibration



### Ergonomics and HMI guidelines - Habitability analysis

- The Ergonomics and Human Machine Interfaces
   (HMI) guidelines study purpose is to identify guidelines
   that can support the designer in a functional layout of the
   spaces, furnishings and equipment on board.
- Habitability studies analyzes the environment in which the crew lives and works in order to increase the comfort on board and to improve the design.

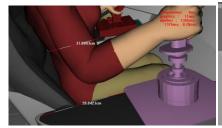




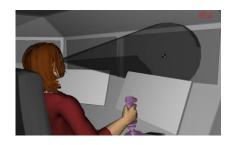


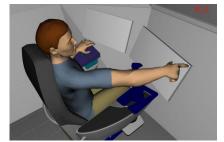
#### Reachability and Visibility analysis

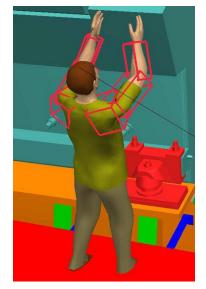
- Reachability analysis verify how and if the operator can reach the tools and if their position can create fatigue or incorrect postural position of the operator
- Visibility studies have a great relevance when designing consoles and rooms. The fields of view of the operator is important in the definition of optimal values combining eyes and head movement.







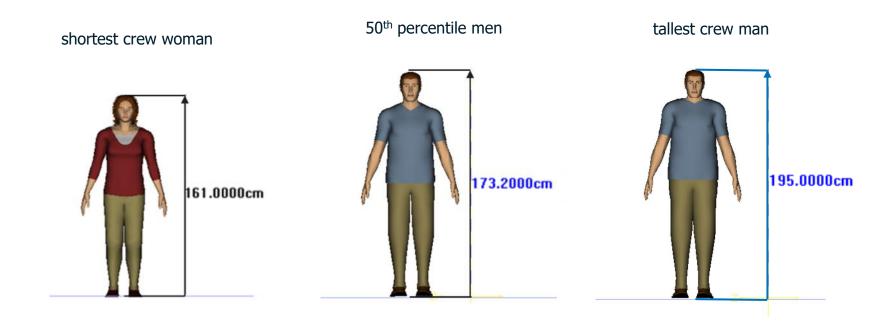






#### New Development System - Ergonomics analysis of Console

The measures of the shortest crew woman, the 50th percentile men and the tallest crew man have been considered for the studies.

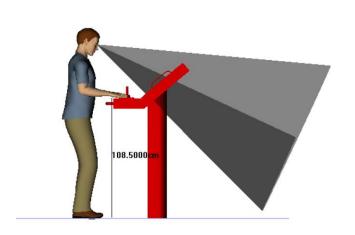




#### **New Development System - Commander Console**

#### **View Cones**

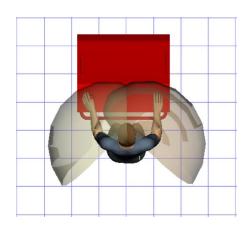
The 50th percentile man has his neck bent 24 degrees





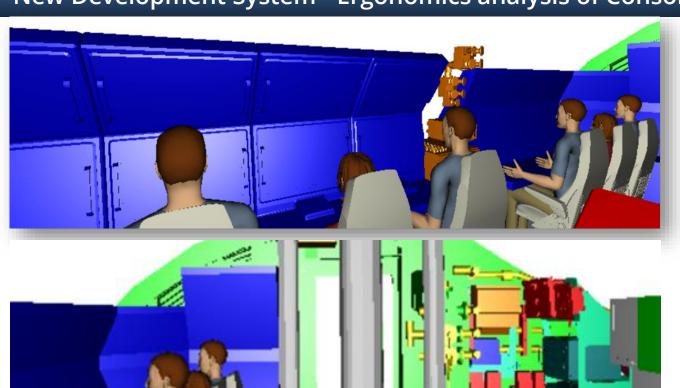
#### **Reach Zones**

the 50th percentile men has their elbow joint bent 87 degrees.





## New Development System - Ergonomics analysis of Consoles - Maintenance - Living Space









## New Development System - Ergonomics analysis of Consoles - Maintenance - Living Space











# **Human Factor Analysis**

#### **New Procedures for systems**

### **Vigilance effect during watch performance (6 hours)**

during watch performance the submariner have to conduct systems and detect every anomalies;

assumed that human efficiency is in line with tasks in the first 45 minutes (about) of the watch especially when stay seated at consoles



investigating an active system in order to evaluate eye movement and create different (not repetitive procedure) to regenerate the nervous system activity and reset the time of best performance



#### **New Procedures for systems**

- Power Reverse Manoeuvre
- Former Procedure: need to press several times different buttons
- New Procedure: push one time PR AHEAD







# New Development System Cybersecure by design approach as part of Human Factor design

IT Navy cybersecurity guideline have been applied for all digital systems in the unclassified domain



- Assess cyber risks during the preliminary design phase
- **2** Evaluate residual cyber risks
- Verify the application of selected cybersecurity requirements
- Assess the cyber resilience via penetration test activities



# NFS Human Factor engineering

#### upcoming needs & technologies

Propulsion & Manouvrability

Structures & materials

Energy

AI & Computing

Modularity

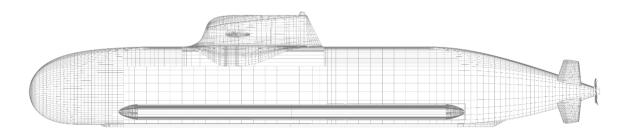
Unmanned & UW Comms

**Target Strenght** 

- Rim-Driven Prop.
- Electric actuators
- Positioning systems
- Composites
- Nano-Structure
- SMART Materials
- New Battery Sys
- Storage Sys.New FC
- Micro Genset
- Underwater grids
- Quantum computing
- Machine learning
- Modular sensor set
- Modular payload management
- UW Interfaces

- UUV
- UAV
- UW infrastructures
- SF support systems
- Hull design
- Smart Metamaterials
- Energy control

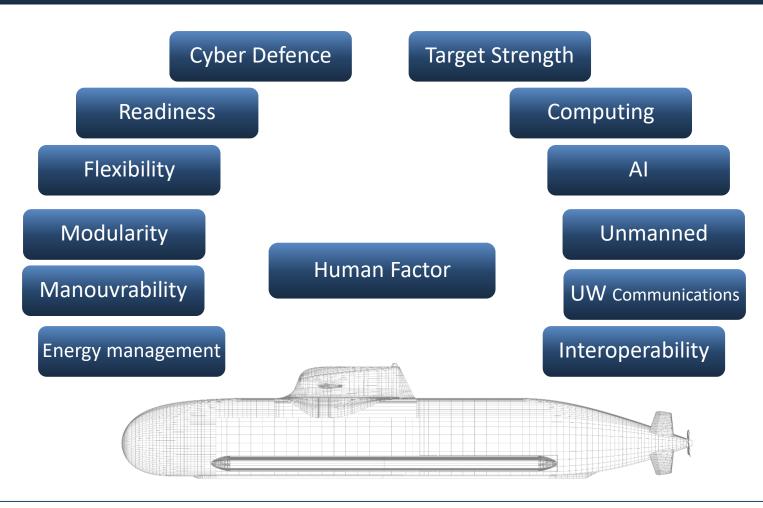
worldwide investments in those transversal R&D field can substantially impact Submarine technologies and Human machine interaction





# NFS Human Factor engineering

### upcoming needs & technologies





#### upcoming needs & technologies

### **Biodynamic lighting**

The use of **Biodynamic lighting**, in environments without natural lighting, would make possible to modify the light characteristics during the day/night hours in order to not alter the circadian rhythm and to improve the comfort and well-being on board.

#### **Benefits of biodynamic lighting on Submarine:**

#### **Circadian Rhythm Regulation**

It regulates the sleep-wake cycle and various biological functions.

#### **Enhanced Mood and Well-being**

It positively impact mood and overall well-being, leading to increase alertness, reduced stress and improved comfort.

#### **Increased Productivity and Performance**

Optimal lighting conditions provide enhance concentration, focus, and productivity.

#### **Support for Visual Comfort**

It adjust lighting parameters to provide optimal visual comfort and reducing eye fatigue.











# NFS Human Factor engineering

#### upcoming needs & technologies

## **Augmented Reality**

Innovative tool that supports the operational activities by making the technical assistance and training and easier and faster

- Increase the workforce
  - Efficiency
  - Productivity
  - Safety
- Reduce Human Errors
- Reduce Costs





# NFS Human Factor engineering

#### upcoming needs & technologies

#### Helmet

AR and MR supports

3D laser scanner

**Hand Tracking** 

**Eye Tracking** 

Safety compliance

Bone conduction audio

#### Wearable Application

Ordinary and extra ordinary maintenance management

#### Desktop App

Operators' management Helmets management Contents management





# Thank You





