

Russia Launches Fifth Nuclear-Powered Icebreaker

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Russia has made significant strides in its Arctic ambitions with the launch of the Chukotka, the fifth nuclear-powered icebreaker in its Project 22220 series. The ceremony, presided over by Russian President Vladimir Putin, took place at the Baltic Shipyard.

The Chukotka, a 173-meter-long vessel capable of breaking ice up to three meters thick, will join the ranks of the Artika, Sibir, Ural, and Yakutia, which are already operational in the Northern Sea Route. The project aims to enhance Russia's presence in the Arctic and facilitate year-round navigation in the region.

President Putin emphasized the importance of the project, stating, "Our entire domestic economy should be built on our own technologies and groundbreaking scientific solutions." He further highlighted the strategic significance of the Northern Sea Route, emphasizing the need to improve navigation safety and reliability.

The launch of the Chukotka marks a significant milestone for Russia's Arctic development. The vessel will play a crucial role in supporting economic activities in the region, including shipping, resource extraction, and scientific research.