

## Navy Chief Calls for Ready-to-Assemble Warships

By The Moscow Times

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ST. PETERSBURG — New warships for the Russian navy should be built from ready-to-assemble blocks, navy chief Admiral Viktor Chirkov said Wednesday.

"This is our demand as a customer because the modular principle of construction from ready-to-assembly blocks will not only speed up the designing of the vessels but will also reduce the cost of their construction," Chirkov said, summing up the results of a conference on the future of military shipbuilding through 2050.

"The Russian navy could receive the first such ship by 2018-2020," the naval commander said.

According to Chirkov, the modular principle envisions the installation of functional blocks of equipment, including power, communication and navigation units, as well as weapons systems, which could then be quickly replaced for any specific task.

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