

Joint Precision Airdrop System (JPADS)

Provides the warfighter with precision airdrop ensuring accurate delivery of supplies to forward operating forces, reducing vehicular convoys, and allowing aircraft to drop cargo at safer altitudes and off-set distances.

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance



Description & Specifications

The Joint Precision Airdrop System (JPADS) integrates a cargo pallet, cargo net, tactical parachute, and precision guidance interface to create a system which can accurately drop air delivered supplies. The system is being developed in four weight classes; 2,000 pounds, 10,000 pounds, 30,000 pounds, and an objective system of 60,000 pounds. The guidance system uses global positioning and interfaces with a Mission Planning Module on board the aircraft to receive real-time weather data and compute aerial release points.

JPADS is being designed for aircraft to drop cargo from altitudes of up to 24,500 feet mean sea level. It will release cargo from a minimum off-set of 5 KM from the intended point of impact, with an objective capability of 25 KM off-set. This off-set allows aircraft to stay out of range of many anti-aircraft systems. It also allows for aircraft to drop systems from a single aerial release point and deliver them to

multiple locations. Once on the ground, the precise placement of the loads greatly reduces the time needed to recover the load. In turn, exposure to ground forces is minimized as well.

Program Status:

- **1QFY07:** Approval of the capabilities development document for the 2,000- and 10,000-pound variants
- **1QFY07:** Milestone B (permission to enter system development and demonstration) for the 2,000-pound variant
- **1QFY07:** Request for proposal for the 2,000-pound variant development phase

Projected Activities:

- **2QFY07:** Award contract for 2,000-pound variant development
- **2QFY07:** 10,000 pounds variant transfers from Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration to product manager's management
- **4QFY07:** Developmental testing of the 2,000-pound variant
- **2QFY07-3QFY08:** Developmental testing of the 10,000-pound variant
- **3QFY08:** Milestone C (entrance into Production Phase) for the 2,000-pound variant

ACQUISITION PHASE

Concept & Technology Development

System Development & Demonstration

Production & Deployment

Operations & Support

Joint Precision Airdrop System (JPADS)

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

None

CONTRACTORS

MMIST (Ontario, Canada)
Strong Enterprises (Orlando, FL)
Capewell (South Windsor, CT)

