

Lockheed Martin Successfully Conducts Final MLRS M270A1 Developmental Flight Test

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Today, Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control - Dallas successfully conducted the final developmental flight test of the Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) upgraded M270A1 launcher at White Sands Missile Range, N.M. A total of 12 MLRS Reduced-Range Practice Rockets (RRPRs) were fired successfully from the M270A1 to four different aimpoints. Operational testing of the M270A1 is scheduled to begin at Fort Sill, Okla., in August.

"We look forward to getting the MLRS M270A1 system into the hands of the user, the U.S. Army soldier. The improvements made to this weapon system, will enable the warfighter to do his/her job faster and with greater precision," said Ron Abbott, Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control vice president of fire support programs.

The M270A1 program is a major upgrade to the MLRS launcher. It includes an Improved Fire Control System (IFCS) that features a Global Positioning System (GPS), as well as the ability to process large blocks of data from new smart munitions within tactical timelines. Operating and maintenance costs will be reduced because of greater reliability and ease of repair on IFCS parts.

The system also incorporates the Improved Launcher Mechanical System (ILMS) upgrade, which dramatically reduces the time needed to aim and reload the launcher. In a typical fire mission, the ILMS-equipped launcher is six times faster than the current M270 launcher. Reload time is decreased by more than 30 percent. Crew and launcher survivability will be greatly enhanced because total exposure time on the battlefield will be significantly reduced.

Located in Dallas and Orlando, Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control develops, manufactures and supports advanced combat, missile, rocket and space systems. The company is organized in seven program/mission areas: Strike Weapons, Air Defense, Anti-Armor, Naval Munitions, Fire Control and Sensors, Fire Support and Product Development.

Headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, Lockheed Martin is a global enterprise principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture and integration of advanced-technology systems, products and services. The Corporation's core businesses are systems integration, space, aeronautics, and technology services.

For additional information, visit the Company's website: <http://www.missilesandfirecontrol.com/>

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