

Lockheed Martin Awarded \$12 Million Autonomous Wide Area Search Munition Contract

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The Air Force Research Laboratory at Eglin Air Force Base (AFB), FL awarded Lockheed Martin a \$12 million contract for the Autonomous Wide Area Search Munition (AWASM) program, focused on integrating a two-way data link capability into a wide area search miniature munition.

The contract launches a 30-month effort to conduct a proof-of-concept demonstration integrating a data link into a wide area search munition to transmit detected target information to a Command & Control (C2) authority and receive engagement authorization for one of the previously detected targets.

Lockheed Martin plans to leverage successes from predecessor programs such as the Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile (JASSM), currently in Low Rate Initial Production (LRIP), and the combat-proven Wind Corrected Munitions Dispenser (WCMD) to make AWASM highly accurate.

AWASM will feature a Laser Detection and Ranging (LADAR) seeker to automatically determine target aimpoints using demonstrated Automatic Target Acquisition algorithms. The munition will be compatible with F-16, F/A-22, Joint Strike Fighter, B-1 and B-2 aircraft. It will also be able to dispense from a Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) rocket or an Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS) missile.

"Through the AWASM program, we will provide the Air Force with critical strike capabilities in the early phases of a conflict," said Randy Bigum, vice president of Strike Weapons at Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control. "Our LOCAAS test successes underscore that we can provide the right AWASM system at the right time to do the job."

Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control develops, manufactures and integrates world-class air defense, fire support, strike weapon, naval munition, combat vision, anti-armor and advanced product solutions and systems for U.S. and international armed forces.

Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., Lockheed Martin employs about 125,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture and integration of advanced technology systems, products and services.

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