Lockheed Martin Awarded U.S. Navy Contract To Upgrade MH-60 Helicopter Communications Capabilities

Lockheed Martin [NYSE: LMT] has received a $50.8 million U.S. Navy contract to improve the communications capabilities of the MH-60R and MH-60S multimission helicopters.

Of the total contract amount, $47 million is for development, test and full-scale integration of a Link 16 command and control data link. Link 16 hardware and software integration will enable all future MH-60R aircraft, and armed versions of the MH-60S aircraft, to exchange situational awareness information and coordinate weapons engagement with other friendly forces.

With the remaining $3.8 million, Lockheed Martin will integrate a Personnel Location System for the MH-60S aircraft to support the helicopter's combat search and rescue role. Lockheed Martin also will upgrade the existing AN/ARC-210 radios on board both MH-60 helicopter types to support voice communication with U.S. Army radios.

"These communications improvements will continue to enhance the war fighting capabilities of the MH-60 aircraft, primarily in the littoral regions," said Jeff Bantle, vice president and general manager of Multi- Mission Solutions for Lockheed Martin Systems Integration -- Owego. "The enhancements also will enable MH-60 aircrews to operate seamlessly with other warfighters in the air and on the ground."

Lockheed Martin is the systems integrator for the MH-60R and provides the Common Cockpit(TM) avionics suite, which is common to all MH-60R and MH-60S helicopters. Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation designs and manufactures the MH-60R and MH-60S aircraft and is responsible for the mechanical and electrical modifications on the airframe.

Headquartered in Bethesda, MD, Lockheed Martin employs about 130,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture and integration of advanced technology systems, products and services.

Common Cockpit is a trademark of the Lockheed Martin Corporation

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