Lockheed Martin Team Qualifies To Bid On First FAA 'NextGen' Program

A world-class team led by Lockheed Martin has been down selected by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to propose a solution for the Automatic Dependent Surveillance Broadcast (ADS-B) program, a cornerstone initiative for the next generation air transportation system.

ADS-B uses Global Positioning System (GPS) satellites and onboard technology, instead of ground-based radars, to help pilots and air traffic controllers keep aircraft in the sky safely separated. It is the enabling technology for future communications, navigation and surveillance capabilities.

"By moving surveillance from ground-based radar systems to space-based satellites, ADS-B will provide more precise automatic broadcast of position, altitude and velocity. We believe the FAA is on the correct path with this essential NextGen system procurement, and are proud to be given the opportunity to bid on this critical service," said Sue Corcoran, vice president of Aviation Solutions, Lockheed Martin Transportation and Security Solutions.

Considered a 'game changer' for the FAA, the agency expects to accelerate development and deployment and drive costs off government books by making ADS- B a service provision contract. "This approach minimizes FAA's risk and provides it with greater flexibility, because the agency will rely on private industry to install and maintain equipment," Corcoran added.

"Our Lockheed Martin team of experts is uniquely versed in the FAA's mission, culture and National Airspace System architecture. We understand the importance of successfully managing this program because, as an enabling technology, ADS-B will serve as the springboard for advanced communications, navigation and surveillance capabilities in the future."

The Lockheed Martin ADS-B core team includes Sensis Corporation, Harris Corporation and Honeywell International.

Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., Lockheed Martin employs about 140,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products and services.

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