Lockheed Martin's Record-Setting C-5M Redefines Strategic Airlift

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At the Air Force Association's 26th Annual Air Warfare Symposium, Lockheed Martinofficials provided details on how the C-5M is cost-effective, saves fuel and increases strategic airlift reliability for the warfighter.

"This is an exciting time for the C-5 program," said Lorraine Martin, Lockheed Martin's vice president, C-5 program. "The C-5M is a game-changer for the warfighter and strategic airlift by being able to complete missions sooner, conserve fuel and carry more than any other U.S. airlifter while saving more than $9 billion for the taxpayer over the lifetime of the aircraft."

The C-5M set 42 world records in September 2009 and established new benchmarks in carrying more cargo, faster and farther than any other military airlifter. In October 2009, three C-5Ms delivered 3.8 million pounds of cargo in 34 missions during a 30-day surge operation, averaging more than 110,000 pounds of cargo per aircraft. By eliminating an en route stop, the C-5M saved more than 4,000 gallons of fuel and reduced fuel consumed by 13 percent compared to legacy C-5s.

"During the surge, the C-5M avoided more than 2,000 tons of carbon dioxide emissions and was the first to meet stage four noise compliance and certification, making the M an environmentally friendly strategic airlifter," said Martin. "The RERP [Reliability Enhancement and Reengining Program] production is on-track and we look forward to continuing the partnership with the Air Force to sustain and modernize the C-5 fleet for the total force, including the Guard and Reserve."

Current Air Force plans call for Lockheed Martin to deliver 52 C-5Ms by 2016. Three C-5Ms have been delivered to the U.S. Air Force at Dover Air Force Base, Del., with a fourth scheduled for delivery in September 2010.

Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., Lockheed Martin is a global security company that 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. The Corporation reported 2009 sales of $45.2 billion.

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