Lockheed Martin Completes Critical Milestone To Upgrade The Navy's Electronic Warfare Defenses

SYRACUSE, N.Y., Jan. 14, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- Lockheed Martin [NYSE: LMT] recently completed a milestone test on the U.S. Navy's evolutionary Surface Electronic Warfare Improvement Program (SEWIP) Block 2 system. This test further validated the system's ability to protect the Navy's fleet from evolving anti-ship missile threats.

Under SEWIP Block 2, Lockheed Martin will upgrade the AN/SLQ-32(V)2 system found on all U.S. aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers and other warships with key capabilities to determine if adversaries are using electronic sensors to track the ship.

Block 2 obtained a Milestone C decision inJanuary 2013, after which the system began 11 months of land-based testing in preparation for installation on a Navy warship. This test, which successfully completed earlier this month, demonstrated the maturity of the open architecture electronic warfare system by performing full system operation in multiple scenarios.

"We are very proud of the effort the SEWIP team has put into achieving these successes," saidJoseph Ottaviano, director of surface electronic warfare at Lockheed Martin's Mission Systems and Training division. "Milestone C is a critical step towards delivering these next generation systems to the Fleet, and we are extremely pleased with the progress and results."

Block 2 is the latest in an evolutionary succession of improvement "blocks" the Navy is pursuing for its shipboard electronic warfare system, which will incrementally add new technologies and functional capabilities. The Navy competitively awarded Lockheed Martin a contract in 2009 to develop SEWIP Block 2 to upgrade the passive detection capabilities of the current SLQ-32 systems. The company recently completed shore-based testing in preparation for ship installation.

Work on the SEWIP program is performed at the company'sSyracuse, N.Y. facility, which houses a new electronic warfare system test facility that simulates the complex environment submarines, surface ships and aircraft could operate in. By performing testing prior to delivery, the company is able to reduce risk and lower costs for the SEWIP program.

Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., Lockheed Martin is a global security and aerospace company that employs about 116,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration, and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products, and services. The Corporation's net sales for 2012 were $47.2 billion.

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