

Air Warrior (AW)

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance

MISSION

To improve the survivability, mobility, and sustainability of the Army aircrew member through a new generation, modular, integrated Aviation Life Support Equipment ensemble. Enhance Soldier safety, comfort, crew synergy, and capability.

DESCRIPTION

Air Warrior (AW) integrates advanced situational awareness and environmental, ballistic, chemical and biological (CB) protection into a single system comprising rapidly tailorable, mission-configurable modules. Air Warrior addresses interoperability and leverages several joint-service technology efforts to effectively integrate survival, evasion, and escape capabilities. AW maximizes human performance and safety without encumbering the Soldier. Components include Microclimate Cooling System;

digital connectivity and threat and friendly forces situational awareness; wireless crew communications; aircraft platform interface; chemical-biological protection; body armor; survival and escape and evasion tools; and overwater survival items.

Improvements to the Air Warrior system are incrementally provided through an evolutionary acquisition program to solve equipment shortcomings. Components include the following:

- Survival Equipment Subsystem, which integrates first aid, survival, signaling, and communications equipment with body armor and overwater survival subsystems
- Microclimate Cooling System, which increases effective mission duration in heat-stress environments by more than 350 percent
- Aircrew Integrated Helmet System, a lighter helmet with increased head and hearing protection

- Electronic Data Manager (EDM), a portable digital mission planning device for over-the-horizon messaging and enhanced situational awareness capabilities through connectivity to Ble Force Tracking, Aviation
- Aircraft Wireless Intercom System (AWIS) for secure cordless, hands-free aircrew intercommunications
- Go-Bag Assembly & Tie-Down Strap
- Hydration System
- Portable Helicopter Oxygen Delivery System

The Air Warrior system is the key ingredient to closing the performance gap between the aircrew and the aircraft. Air Warrior is answering the aviation warfighter challenges of today and tomorrow by developing affordable, responsive, deployable, versatile, lethal, survivable, and sustainable aircrew equipment.

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES

FBCB2's Blue Force Tracking–Aviation system.

PROGRAM STATUS

- **2QFY07:** Fielding continues to units deploying to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom
- **2QFY08:** U.S. Navy adopts and procures the AW Microclimate Cooling System for its H-53 helicopter fleet
- **3QFY08:** The AW Portable Helicopter Oxygen Delivery System enters production; the Army's project managers for Bradley and Abrams adopt and procure the AW Microclimate Cooling System for their deployed crewmembers; first Spiral 3 EDM fielded to the 28th Combat Aviation Brigade's 1-137 Aviation Company
- **4QFY08:** PM Stryker adopts and procures the AW Microclimate Cooling System for its deployed crewmembers

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **1QFY11:** Begin fielding for the AW Go Bag and helmet external audio products
- **1QFY11:** Production decision for the encrypted Aircraft Wireless Intercom System

ACQUISITION PHASE

Technology Development

Engineering & Manufacturing Development

Production & Deployment

Operations & Support

Air Warrior (AW)

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

Australia, Canada, UAE

CONTRACTORS

Carleton Technologies, Inc. (Orchard Park, NY)

BAE Systems (Phoenix, AZ)

Aerial Machine and Tool, Inc. (Vesta, VA)

Westwind Technologies, Inc.
(Huntsville, AL)

Raytheon Technical Services, Inc.
(Indianapolis, IN)

Secure Communications Systems, Inc.
(Santa Ana, CA)

Telephonics Corp. (Farmingdale, NY)
General Dynamics C4 Systems, Inc.
(Scottsdale, AZ)

Science and Engineering Services, Inc.
(SESI) (Huntsville, AL)

Gibson and Barnes (Santa Clara, CA)

US Divers (Vista, CA)

Oxygen Generating Systems International
(Buffalo, NY)

Gentex Corporation (Rancho
Cucamonga, CA)

Mountain High Equipment and Supply Co.
(Redmond, OR)

Taylor-Wharton (Huntsville, AL)

