

Small Arms—Individual Weapons

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance



MISSION

To enable warfighters and small units to engage targets with lethal fire to defeat or deter adversaries.

DESCRIPTION

The M4 Carbine is a compact version of the M16A2 rifle, with a collapsible stock, a flat-top upper receiver, accessory rails, and a detachable rear aperture sight assembly. The M4 achieves more than 85 percent commonality with the M16.

The M320 Grenade Launcher Module attaches to the M4 Carbine and M16A2/M16A4 rifle and fires all existing and improved 40mm low-velocity ammunition. It can also be configured as a standalone weapon.

The M26 Modular Accessory Shotgun System attaches to the M4 carbine rifles and fires all standard lethal, non-lethal, and door-breaching 12-gauge ammunition. It can also be configured as a stand alone weapon.

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES

None

PROGRAM STATUS

M4 Carbine:

- Army acquisition objective will be bought out in FY10

M320 Grenade Launcher Module:

- Milestone C, operational test, type classified standard, materiel released, full-rate production initiated.

M26 Modular Accessory Shotgun:

- Milestone C, limited user test completed

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

M4 Carbine: continue production and fielding

M320 Grenade Launcher Module:

- 2QFY09: First unit equipped

M26 Modular Accessory Shotgun System:

- 3QFY09: Production qualification test and operational test
- 1QFY10: Materiel release
- 2QFY10: First-unit equipped

ACQUISITION PHASE

Technology Development

Engineering & Manufacturing Development

Production & Deployment

Operations & Support



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FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

M4 Carbine: Afghanistan, Iraq, Colombia, Fiji, Philippines, Jordan, El Salvador, Panama, Bahrain, Tonga, Honduras, Belize, Suriname, and Kenya

CONTRACTORS

M4 Carbine:

Colt's Manufacturing (Hartford, CT)

M320 Grenade Launcher Module:

Heckler and Koch Defense Inc.

(Ashburn, VA)

M26 Modular Accessory Shotgun System:

Vertu Corp. (Manassas, VA)

