

Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) M270A1

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance



MISSION

Provides coalition ground forces with highly lethal, responsive, and precise long-range rocket and missile fires that defeat point and area targets in both urban/complex and open terrain with minimal collateral damage, via a highly mobile, responsive multiple launch system.

DESCRIPTION

The combat-proven Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) M270A1 is a mechanized artillery weapon system that provides the combat commander with round-the-clock, all-weather, lethal, close- and long-range precision rocket and missile fire support for Joint forces, early-entry expeditionary forces, contingency forces, and modular fire brigades supporting Brigade Combat Teams.

The M270A1 is an upgraded version of the M270 launcher. The program entailed the concurrent incorporation of the Improved Fire Control System (IFCS) and the Improved Launcher Mechanical System (ILMS) on a rebuilt M993 Carrier (derivative of the Bradley Fighting Vehicle). With the IFCS, the M270A1 can fire future munitions and

the ILMS reduces system load and reload times. The M270A1 provides responsive, highly accurate, and extremely lethal surface-to-surface, close- to long-range rocket and missile fires from 15 kilometers to a depth of 300 kilometers. It carries and fires either two launch pods containing six MLRS rockets each or two Army Tactical Missiles, and is capable of firing all current and future MLRS family of rockets and missiles. It operates with the same MLRS command, control, and communications structure and has the same size crew as the M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS).

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES

Other Major Interdependencies

M993 Bradley derivative chassis

PROGRAM STATUS

- **1QFY11:** Completed second M270A1 launcher overhaul
- **3QFY11:** Inducted third and fourth M270A1 launchers into overhaul program

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **Ramp up:** M270A1 launcher overhaul program

- **Continue:** Providing sustainment and support activities for MLRS strategic partners and foreign military sales customers
- **Continue:** Fielding Long-Range Communications, Driver-Vision Enhancement and Blue Force Tracker mods

ACQUISITION PHASE

Technology Development

Engineering and Manufacturing Development

Production and Deployment

Operations and Support

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FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

M270 and M270A1:

Bahrain, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea

M270 and M270B1:

Norway, Turkey, United Kingdom

CONTRACTORS

Prime and Launcher:

Lockheed Martin (Dallas, TX; Camden, AR)

Chassis:

BAE Systems (York, PA)

Improved Weapons Interface Unit:

Harris Corp. (Melbourne, FL)

Position Navigation Unit:

L-3 Communications Space & Navigation
(Budd Lake, NJ)

