Spider

298

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance

MISSION

Provides the commander with a new capability to shape the battlefield, protect the force, and respond to changing battlefield environments in a graduated manner while minimizing risk to friendly troops and non-combatants.

DESCRIPTION

Anti-Personnel Landmine Alternatives (APL/A) Track I (Spider) is a handemplaced, remotely controlled, Manin-the-Loop (MITL), anti-personnel munition system. Spider provides munition field effectiveness, but it does so without residual life-threatening risks after hostilities end. The fielding of this system with its sensors, communications, and munitions changes the way Soldiers operate in an otherwise unpredictable battlefield.

Each munition is controlled by a remotely stationed Soldier who monitors its sensors, allowing for more precise (nonlethal to lethal) responses—a significant advancement and advantage. The Spider Networked Munitions System enables the MITL to detect, track, classify, count, and destroy the enemy. The Spider system contains three main components: the remote control unit, residing within a computer interface; the repeater, extending the remote control range; and a munition control unit for sending and receiving commands as well as activating the munitions. Spider can be used as a force-protection-reinforcing obstacle to delay, disrupt, and channel enemy forces as well as restrict their use of critical routes of terrain, thereby reducing civil casualties and the exposure of personnel to hostile fire. It can also be integrated into a base defense system, providing protection to Soldiers in forward operating bases and combat outposts.

The system's design allows for safe, flexible, and rapid deployment, reinforcement, and recovery as well as safe passage of friendly forces. Spider eliminates the possibility of an unintended detonation through early warning and selective engagement of enemy forces, and it has a self-destruct capability. Spider is designed for storage, transport, rough handling, and use in worldwide military environments.

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES

Other Major Interdependencies

Interface with Tactical Internet through Force XXI Battle Command Brigade and Below and obstacle positioning through Global Positioning System

PROGRAM STATUS

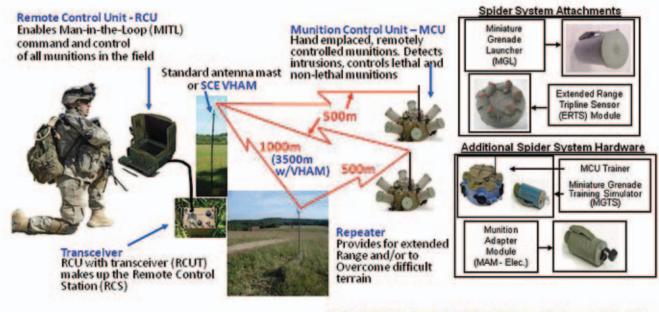
- 2QFY11: Award of LRIP 4 contract
- 2QFY11: Conditional Material Release
- 3QFY11: Limited User Test
- **3QFY11:** Network Integration Evaluation participation

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

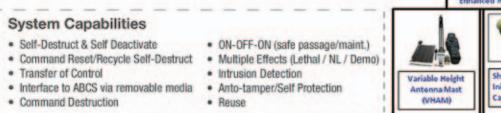
- **3QFY12:** Follow-on Operational Test #3
- **1QFY13:** Materiel Release/Type Classification Std.
- 1QFY13: Full-Rate Production Decision
- **3QFY13:** Full-Rate Production Contract Award

ACQUISITION PHASE

Technology Development



SCE Added Hardware/ Modified Software / Enhanced Capability



Enhanced RCU and MCU Software Non-Lethal Launcher (NLL) (2 variants) Shock Tube Initiation Capability (STIC)

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES None

CONTRACTORS

Prime:

Spider

Textron Defense Systems (Wilmington, MA)

Alliant Techsystems (Plymouth, MN) **Subcontractors:**

Alliant Techsystems (Rocket Center, WV) BAE Systems/Holston (Kingsport, TN) American Ordnance (Milan, TN)

WEAPON SYSTEMS 2012