



News Release

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COMMON OPERATING SYSTEM SOFTWARE DELIVERED TO THE JOINT UNMANNED COMBAT AIR SYSTEMS PROGRAM

The first components of the Joint Unmanned Combat Air Systems' (J-UCAS) Common Operating System (COS) software were delivered to the program this month. This initial release, called COS Build 0 Release 1.0, contains the "middleware" that provides the infrastructure to run the J-UCAS mission application software.

The objective of the J-UCAS program is to develop, demonstrate and transition an affordable, lethal, survivable, and supportable unmanned combat air system to meet the operational needs of the U.S. Air Force and Navy. In 2004, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency awarded Northrop Grumman Corp. and the Boeing Co., the program's air vehicle prime contractors, agreements to design, build and demonstrate full-scale, flight-worthy air vehicles, mission control elements, and integrate the COS into their respective air vehicles.

The Common Operating System is being developed in a consortium-like arrangement with the two J-UCAS prime contractors (Boeing and Northrop Grumman) and an Integrator/Broker (Johns Hopkins University Applied Research Laboratory). The Consortium members will cooperate to develop the COS and will evaluate a variety of promising technologies from diverse candidate industry sources in satisfying the COS requirements. This unique business model will allow other select technology contributors, ranging from small developers to other large defense contractors, to provide "best of breed" algorithms and software to the COS.

The first COS build delivery was achieved on schedule, allowing J-UCAS to maintain its integration timeline for a combined interoperability software demonstration with Boeing and Northrop Grumman later this year. There are three total builds that are planned in the development of the COS.

The software will be provided to both government and contractor organizations that are supporting J-UCAS. Continued updates to the COS software are planned in the coming months as the software matures.

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The J-UCAS is a joint Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency/U.S. Air Force/U.S. Navy effort to demonstrate the technical feasibility, military utility, and operational value of a networked system of high-

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performance, weaponized, unmanned air vehicles to effectively and affordably execute combat missions. The J-UCAS Common Operating System will allow unmanned aircraft systems to intra-operate with each other and with the Global Information Grid. The J-UCAS system-of-systems concept plans to demonstrate the military utility and operational value of airpower in the 21st century combat environment. More information on the J-UCAS program can be found at <http://www.darpa.mil/j-ucas>.

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