

High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS)

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance



MISSION

To provide early entry and contingency 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 and deployable multiple launch system.

DESCRIPTION

The M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) is a wheeled artillery system that provides close- and long-range precision rocket and missile fire support for Army and Marine early-entry expeditionary forces, contingency forces, and modular fire support brigades supporting Brigade Combat Teams. The combat-proven HIMARS is rapidly deployable via C-130 and operates in all weather and visibility conditions. HIMARS is mounted on a five-ton modified Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles chassis. The wheeled chassis allows for faster road movement and lower operating costs, and requires far fewer strategic airlifts (via C-5 or C-17) to transport a firing battery than the current tracked

M270 Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) that it replaces. The M142 provides responsive, highly accurate, and extremely lethal surface-to-surface rocket and missile fires 15 to 300 kilometers. HIMARS can fire all current and planned suites of MLRS munitions, including Army Tactical Missile System missiles and guided MLRS rockets. HIMARS carries either six rockets or one missile, is self-loading and self-locating, and is operated by a three-man crew protected during firings in either a reinforced man-rated cab or an armored cab. It operates within the MLRS command, control, and communications structure.

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES

Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV) chassis, Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS)

PROGRAM STATUS

- **1QFY09:** Full-rate production IV contract award
- **2QFY09:** Fielded 1st Battalion, 94th Field Artillery Regiment, 17th Fires Brigade, the seventh battalion to be fielded
- **3QFY09:** Fielded 3rd Battalion, 197th Field Artillery Regiment, 197th Fires Brigade, the eighth battalion fielded

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- Continue fielding to active and reserve components
- Continue retrofit of Increased Crew Protection Armored Cab to fleet
- Begin fielding to Foreign Military Sales customers
- Provide support to fielded units in combat

ACQUISITION PHASE

Technology Development

Engineering & Manufacturing Development

Production & Deployment

Operations & Support

High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS)

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

United Arab Emirates, Singapore

CONTRACTORS

Prime and launcher:

Lockheed Martin (Dallas, TX; Camden, AR)

Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles:

BAE Systems (Sealy, TX)

Improved Weapons Interface Unit:

Harris Corp. (Melbourne, FL)

Position Navigation Unit:

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

Hydraulic pump and motor:

Vickers (Jackson, MS)

