High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS)

MISSION
Provides close- and long-range precision rocket and missile fire support for Army and Marine early-entry expeditionary forces, contingency forces, and Modular Fires Brigades supporting Brigade Combat Teams.

DESCRIPTION
The M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) is a combat-proven, wheeled artillery system, rapidly deployable via C-130 and operable 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 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 from 15 to 300 kilometers. HIMARS can fire all munitions in the current and planned suite of the MLRS Family of Munitions (MFOM), including Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS) missiles and Guided MLRS (GMLRS) rockets. HIMARS carries either six rockets or one missile, is self-loading and self-locating, and is operated by a three-man crew protected from launch exhaust/debris and ballistic threats by an armored man-rated cab. It operates within the MLRS command, control, and communications structure.

Ordnance options: All current and future MLRS rockets and ATACMS missiles, to include GMLRS DPICM and Unitary
Empty weight: 29,800 pounds
Max speed: 100 kilometers per hour
Max cruising range: 480 kilometers

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES
Other Major Interdependencies
C130/C-17, CNR (Combat Net Radio), GPS, JSTARS, MLRS MODS, PEO Integration, Q36/Q37 FIREFINDER, Sensor Suite, TBMCS (Air Space Clearance)

PROGRAM STATUS
• 1QFY11: Last Full-Rate Production VI contract award
• 2QFY11: Hot panel quick strike successfully demonstrated and fielded
• Fielded two Army National Guard (ARNG) battalions for total of 13 battalions fielded
• Continued Increased Crew Protection (ICP) and Universal Fire Control System (UFCS) fleet upgrades
• Provide support to fielded units/units in combat
• Field and provide sustainment and support activities for foreign military sales customers

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES
• Continue fielding to active and reserve components, with the last of 17 battalions fielded in FY13
• Continue ICP and UFCS fleet retrofit
• Field Long Range Communication, Blue Force Tracker, and Drivers Vision Enhancement (DVE) mods
FOREIGN MILITARY SALES
Jordan, Singapore, United Arab Emirates

CONTRACTORS
Prime: Lockheed Martin (Grand Prairie, TX; Camden, AR)
Increased Crew Protection (ICP) Cab: BAE Systems (Sealy, TX)
LIU, WIU, PSU: Harris Corp. (Melbourne, FL)
Chassis: BAE Systems (Sealy, TX)
PNU: L-3 Communications Space & Navigation (Budd Lake, NJ)
Universal Gun Display Unit: EFW (Ft. Worth, TX)
Controller Assembly, Ball Screw: R&D Electronics (Brownsboro, AL)
Pump, Reservoir, Motor: Eaton-Vickers (Jackson, MS)
ADU, Boom/Hydraulic Gear Box: Smiths Industries (Whippany, NJ)
Metal Parts: Beacon Industries (Dallas, TX)
Hydraulic Lines: Eaton Aeroquip (Jackson, MI)
Reloader Hoist: Breeze (Union, NJ)
Manifolds: Real Time Labs (Boca Raton, FL)
Geared Bearing: Kaydon (Muskegon, MI)
Fire Control System: Various vendors