Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station (CROWS)

MISSION
Enables Soldiers to acquire and engage targets with precision effects while protected inside an armored vehicle.

DESCRIPTION
The Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station (CROWS) is a stabilized mount that contains a sensor suite and fire control software, allowing on-the-move target acquisition and first-burst target engagement. Capable of target engagement under day and night conditions, the CROWS sensor suite includes a daytime video camera, thermal camera, and laser rangefinder. CROWS is designed to mount on any tactical vehicle and supports the MK19 Grenade Machine Gun, M2 .50 Caliber Machine Gun, M240B Machine Gun, and M249 Squad Automatic Weapon.

CROWS also features programmable target reference points for multiple locations, programmable sector surveillance scanning, automatic target ballistic lead, automatic target tracking, and programmable no-fire zones.

Potential enhancements include integration of other weapons, escalation-of-force systems, sniper detection, integrated 360-degree situational awareness, increased weapon elevation, Javelin integration, and commander’s display.

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES
Other Major Interdependencies
CROWS mounts the MK19, M2, M240B, or M249 machine guns

PROGRAM STATUS
• Current: Fielded over 5,000 CROWS under urgent materiel release in support of Operation New Dawn (OND) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF)
• Current: Integrated on multiple types of platforms
• 3QFY11: Type Classified

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES
• Continue: Field and sustain CROWS in support of OND and OEF
• 4QFY12: Full Materiel Release
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FOREIGN MILITARY SALES
None

CONTRACTORS
Kongsberg Defense & Aerospace (Johnstown, PA)