Air Soldier System (Air SS)

MISSION
Integrates aircrew protective clothing, electronics, and survival equipment to reduce body-worn bulk and weight by 25% and provides a helmet-mounted display with symbology to improve flight safety in conditions of poor visibility.

DESCRIPTION
The Air Soldier System (Air SS) is flight crew clothing and individual equipment that improves mission effectiveness and duration, and provides the aviation Soldier with the ability to survive, evade hostile forces, and safely return to friendly forces. It is a mission and survival gear carriage system with an integrated capability to sustain the Soldier in water immersion, extreme heat or cold, and protects the Soldier from flash fire, crash impact, and chemical and ballistic threats. Air SS reduces the bulk and weight borne by the aviation Soldier by eliminating layers of protective clothing without compromising protection, and combining functions of current standalone hardware components, batteries, and displays with a new body-mounted electronics and power management system for the physiological support, communications, and life support equipment worn by the aviation Soldier. Air SS provides Army pilots with a new day/night flight helmet-mounted display with enhanced symbology and head tracking to prevent aircraft mishaps in degraded visual environments such as darkness, fog, or blowing sand, dust, or snow. The Air SS reduces combat load and improves situational awareness and safety.

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES
In this Publication
None

Other Major Interdependencies
Core Soldier, Utility, Cargo, Recon and Attack Helicopter Systems

PROGRAM STATUS
• 1QFY12: Milestone B, entry into the Engineering and Manufacturing Development phase

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES
• 3QFY14: Milestone C, entry into the Production and Deployment phase
Air Soldier System (Air SS)

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES
None

CONTRACTORS
Government is prime integrator; various vendors provide components:
- Raytheon Corp. (Indianapolis, IN)
- Physical Optics Corp. (Torrance, CA)
- Flight Suits (El Cajon, CA)
- Switlik Parachute Co. (Trenton, NJ)
- Rini Corp. (Orlando, FL)