Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station (CROWS)

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

DESCRIPTION
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
In this Publication
None

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

PROGRAM STATUS
• 2QFY12: Initial CROWS Fixed Site fielding in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF)
• 2QFY12: Basis of Issue Plan (BOIP) approved for 11,269 systems
• 2QFY12: Program designated Acquisition Category IC
• 3QFY12: Full Materiel Release

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES
• Ongoing: Fielding against the BOIP
• Ongoing-1QFY14: Field and sustain CROWS in support of OEF
• 4QFY12: Full-rate production decision
• 2QFY13: Transition to organic field support
FOREIGN MILITARY SALES
United Arab Emirates

CONTRACTORS
Prime:
Kongsberg Defense & Aerospace
(Johnstown, PA)

Subcontractors:
Vingtech (Biddeford, ME)
BAE Systems (Austin, TX)
Smith’s Machine (Cottondale, AL)
JWF Defense Systems (Johnstown, PA)