



AEHF Low Cost Terminal Completes Information Assurance Critical Design Review

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REDONDO BEACH, Calif., July 22, 2015 /PRNewswire/ -- A Northrop Grumman Corporation (NYSE: NOC), Lockheed Martin (NYSE: LMT) and TeleCommunication Systems (TCS) (NASDAQ: TSYS) team has completed the Critical Design Review (CDR) for the information assurance elements of the Low Cost Terminal (LCT). Completion of the CDR clears the way for the team to build hardware and software for the information assurance element or end cryptographic unit.

The Northrop Grumman logo, featuring the company name in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below the text is a blue curved line that starts under the 'N' and sweeps upwards and to the right, ending under the 'M'.

LCT is an initiative to develop an affordable terminal for protected extremely high frequency (EHF) communications by leveraging existing commercial technologies and designs to minimize costs. The terminal is designed to provide protected communications via the Advanced Extremely High Frequency (AEHF) satellite system to highly mobile, tactical military forces at a cost significantly lower than currently fielded protected communication terminals.

"This milestone brings the LCT a major step closer to completion so assured connectivity can be affordably extended to tactical users," said Tim Frei, vice president, communication systems, Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems. "Developing this capability is critical because AEHF is the only available alternative that satisfies the compelling warfighting need for assured tactical communications in contested and anti-access/area denial environments."

The team is planning to test the terminal with an AEHF satellite by the end of 2015 and anticipates full certification in 2016.

"We recognize that the DOD has a significant unmet need for the type of protected communications that only the Milstar and AEHF satellites can provide," said Mike Bristol, TCS Government Solutions Group President. "The air, land and mobile variants of the LCT satisfy that need with a very cost-efficient solution."

An early prototype LCT designed for protected Comm-on-the-Move applications has been fully integrated and tested with the AEHF Payload Engineering Model, proving its interoperability with the AEHF anti-jam satellite systems.

"The call for innovation and productivity from the Defense Department's Better Buying Power initiative is driving the LCT development team," said Mark Calassa, vice president, Protected Communications Systems and AEHF program manager, Lockheed Martin. "Our goal is to deliver unprecedented, mobile access to tactical forces needing a truly protected communications network."

The LCT solution takes advantage of Northrop Grumman's and Lockheed Martin's knowledge and engineering experience in protected military satellite communications, builds on TCS's experience and products in deployable satellite communication systems for the military and leverages the strength of a commercial subcontractor team. The contractor team jointly funds the development and contractor portion of LCT certification. To date, LCT has been an industry-funded development.

Headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, Lockheed Martin is a global security and aerospace company that employs approximately 112,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products and services. The Corporation's net sales for 2014 were \$45.6 billion.

TeleCommunication Systems, headquartered in Annapolis, Maryland, is a world leader in secure and highly reliable wireless communications.

Northrop Grumman is a leading global security company providing innovative systems, products and solutions in unmanned systems, cyber, C4ISR, and logistics and modernization to government and commercial customers worldwide. Please visit www.northropgrumman.com for more information.

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