



Northrop Grumman Team Completes First In-Flight AESA Communications

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BALTIMORE, June 13 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Northrop Grumman Corporation (NYSE: NOC) and its teammates L-3 Communications, Inc. (NYSE: LLL) and Lockheed Martin Corporation (NYSE: LMT) have successfully conducted the first in-flight communications link with an active electronically scanned array (AESA) radar.

"We took our targeting radar and turned it into a 'talking' radar by enabling it to transmit and receive unprecedented amounts of information," said Teri Marconi, vice president of Northrop Grumman's combat avionics business unit. "We're revolutionizing the way that data is collected, stored and distributed on the battlefield."

The Radar Common Data Link (R-CDL) represents the most advanced concept and approach in providing a high-speed pipeline to offload data and imagery from a tactical platform. R-CDL uses the AESA radar's fire control transmitter and antenna to perform high-data rate, two-way communications at long ranges.

Synthetic aperture radar map imagery and streaming video were relayed from a Northrop Grumman BAC 1-11 test aircraft to an L-3 Communications ground station. During the mission, the team transmitted and received in full duplex at 274-megabits per second burst rate. The airborne and ground terminals used off-the-shelf L-3 programmable modems with the addition of a new R-CDL waveform.

This capability complements tactical data links and supports potential future missions conducted by the Lockheed Martin fifth-generation fighter aircraft. This will allow pilots to relay important combat information to the global information grid (GIG) in seconds.

Marconi added that the flight test represents the beginning of new connectivity to the GIG and the next step in network-centric warfare.

Headquartered in New York City, L-3 Communications employs over 63,000 people worldwide and is a prime system contractor in aircraft modernization and maintenance, C3ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance) systems and government services. L-3 is also a leading provider of high technology products, subsystems and systems. The company reported 2006 sales of \$12.5 billion. To learn more about L-3, please visit the company's web site at <http://www.L-3Com.com>.

Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., Lockheed Martin employs about 140,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products, and services. The corporation reported 2006 sales of \$39.6 billion.

Northrop Grumman Corporation is a \$30 billion global defense and technology company whose 122,000 employees provide innovative systems, products, and solutions in information and services, electronics, aerospace and shipbuilding to government and commercial customers worldwide.

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