

BAE Systems Awarded Contract to Sustain F-35's Electronic Warfare System



An F-35C Lightning II assigned to the "Black Knights" from the Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 154 performs a touch-and-go on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) in July. *U.S. NAVY / Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Jeremiah Bartelt*

NASHUA, N.H. – BAE Systems has received a \$93 million Undefinitized Contract Action (UCA) to provide critical sustainment support for the F-35 electronic warfare (EW) system, the company said in an Aug. 4 release.

BAE Systems has received a \$93 million, five-year UCA from Lockheed Martin to provide critical sustainment support for the AN/ASQ-239 EW countermeasure system. The contract will ensure the mission readiness of the growing global fleet of F-35 aircraft.

"We have a strong track record of sustaining electronic warfare systems to support our customers' mission readiness," said Rob Dykema, F-35 Sustainment program director at BAE Systems. "This contract lays critical sustainment groundwork, establishing and optimizing the infrastructure to support the aircraft."

Under the contract, BAE Systems will provide software maintenance, depot test equipment support, logistics analysis, obsolescence monitoring, technical field support, and reach-back support for the F-35 U.S. Reprogramming Laboratory.

The contract complements the BAE Systems F-35 performance-based logistics (PBL) program, through which BAE Systems ensures EW material availability. Under the EW PBL, BAE

Systems has demonstrated a 60% improvement in supply support, delivering better than 85% EW material availability to the F-35 enterprise with reduced cost per flight hour using a cost-effective, outcome-based support strategy.

The AN/ASQ-239 electronic warfare suite provides real-time situational awareness and superior electronic warfare attack and countermeasure capabilities.