

35,000ft Airdrop

Project Summary: The purpose of this project is to develop a suite of airdrop systems that are capable of being deployed from 35,000 feet (ft) mean sea level (MSL). Currently, there is no airdrop system in the Department of Defense (DoD) inventory capable of being deployed above 25,000 feet for resupply purposes; and, until recently, there was no



large fixed-wing air transport aircraft capable of reliably performing airdrop at altitudes above 25,000ft. The Air Force already solved the latter problem through the C-17 Mode 5 Plus upgrade program, this program aims to solve the former problem through technologies that have been matured to some extent by partnering programs.

Benefit: Air Force has investing \$25+M to provide to give the C-17 a high altitude capability, this investment will ensure the DoD has access to it in an Anti-Access/Aerial Denial environment

Duration of project: FY21 – FY22

Participants: Air Mobility Command (AMC), Air Force Research Lab (AFRL), Product Manager - Force Sustainment Systems PdM-FSS

Project advocacy (funding or otherwise): Combat Capabilities Development Command – Soldier Center